LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INITIAL REASONS
Dear Sir—It is about time that the IEE Council reviewed its decision to forbid Associate Members of the IEE from describing themselves as "AMIEE." The original reason for the imposition of this restriction on this class of members was, I believe, to avoid the creation of a confusion in the minds of the general public concerning the categories of members enjoying corporate or noncorporate status, following the general change in membership designation.

The new membership titles have been in use for about six years now, and it is really about time we have reconsidered whether or not a restriction, such as that with the full professional qualification conferred by those bodies.—[Editor]

'Reverybody Down'
Dear Sir—In reading the interesting article 'Advances in marine-navigational aids' by D. G. Kielty (May 1972, E & P, p. 160) I was surprised to read that 'the berthing master aims to restrict the speed of approach to less than 2 m/s and, if the tanker hits the jetty at more than 6 m/s, very serious damage will be done'.

Surely these figures are too high by some large factor, perhaps 10 or 100 times? If so, may I suggest that this is indicative of some of the problems we shall have until metric units have been in use long enough for us to think in these terms. What I am suggesting, of course, is that, had the corresponding speeds of approach been given in knots, mile/h or ft/s, they would not have passed unnoticed into the final copy.—Yours faithfully,

D. J. ABERCROMBIE
42 Beresford Road, Stratfield
Newbury, Berkshire, England
30th June 1972

[Dr. Kielty writes: The figures 2 m/s and 6 m/s should, of course, have read 2 cm/s and 6 cm/s.]

FIGURING IT OUT
Dear Sir—On many occasions I find myself becoming irritated when reading illustrated articles in Electronics & Power. Frequently photographs and diagrams are not placed on the same, or facing, page as the text referring to them. This obviously causes the reader to thumb backwards or forwards in the Journal.

In the July issue there are 11 such examples. An even distribution of illustrations probably improves the appearance of the magazine but detracts from the prime function, which is to convey information.—Yours faithfully,

O. C. BORSAY
15 Hyde Park Avenue, North Petherton
Bridgwater, Somerset
6th July 1972

[In laying out articles for Electronics & Power, every effort is made to achieve a balance between good visual presentation and ease of reading. Inevitably, when several figures are referred to in a short text, then some turning of pages will be required.—Editor]

BAllot FORMS
Dear Sir—With reference to the recent ballot paper for the election to Council of Fellows and Members, how can one grade votes conscientiously for 14 out of 18 candidates when, with luck, one may have knowledge only of one or two candidates? One chooses on age, on experience, on application, geographically? Is a dedicated committee man, with half a column of references, going to be any better than a man with only two lines of commendation? Possibly the 2-line man should be encouraged to take some of the load from the purveyors of programmes to men who, all too often, is overloaded or has become a professional committee man.

Although the biographical details are of interest and are a measure of dedication, they are only history, whereas members are interested in the future direction of candidates' work and their aspirations.

I suggest that it would be more useful for prospective candidates to be given half a column to explain concisely their immediate

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