

re SU/ACME ✓

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COMP Program 4/6/63.

Very rapid developments in last weeks and months.

Initiative - gradual buildup since COMPSEF course last September; systems problems of office and bibliography work; student assigned to introductory computer course; survey of computer - input typesetting: decided eventually on 026 Key punch; started comp programme on bibliography.... All this involved familiar usage of the 7090 system in Balgob.

Concurrently, reorganization of strategy to acquire the appropriate staff to do it right. Via Al Collins, regular services of Fran Bates as a programmer. Best interviewed & hired? Mrs. Morris as keypuncher and book keeper. Correspondence with Mrs. Wightman. Own internal preoccupations with programme OK to learn the language, but must plan and organize, not tie down to technical level; though this has usual merits and fascinations of laboratory work.

An important turning point arose accidentally in re Bledsoe, from Wilson Stone's recommendations. It was after interviewing Davis, in seeking background insight that I met Mc Carthy (via Foray) and his proposals for Time-sharing via PDP1 have dominated our thinking since then. Principally (1) Regular, ~~and~~ personal, quasi-online access to the computer, (2) .. a more vital man/computer symbiosis. Emotionally all this interests closely with the issues of human evolution raised at the Ciba symposium. In many ways, I would admit this overrides the immediate applications.

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