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MEMORANDUM

TO: John Denniston

SUBJECT: Computer Committee Meeting

FROM: Simon O'Shea

DATE: 21 March 1967

Arrangements have been made to demonstrate the information storage and retrieval system to the members of the Computer Committee in Washington on Wednesday, March 29.

The computer is scheduled to be loaded with at least 50 documents on that date and the demonstration should involve the loading of additional documents as well as trial search questions.

Systems Science has informed me that the meeting date is firm but that they will now know the hour at which the computer will be available for demonstration until Monday, March 27. We will, therefore, call the members of the Committee on March 27 to tell them the exact hour and place of the demonstration.

Systems Science has provided us with a new verified printout which is arranged in a more compact foremat for purposes of convenience and proofreading by 3i. The printout and relevant documents are enclosed for distribution.

As to progress in the area of programming, we are now informed that Systems Science has completed the actual writing of all programs and that the search module is now being linked and tested. Loading of 50 documents in real data form is scheduled to take place in the next two to three days. Systems Science informs us that the speed of loading is, at this time, very slow (about 16 cards per minute) and that one of their programmers is devoting himself exclusively to the problem of increasing the speed of loading.

Several members of the Computer Committee have expressed concern that there will be no extensive loading of real data until April 7. Their concern is that serious invalidities in card punching might not come to light until this late date in our schedule. They have, therefore, recommended that 3i arrange for a utility punched card to magnetic tape run of real data now available. This run would detect invalidities and provide a machine printout for proofreading by 3i. Mr. Brodsky has been asked to develop an estimate on the cost of a utility card to tape run. When this estimate is available, it will be forwarded to you for decision.

S. O'S.