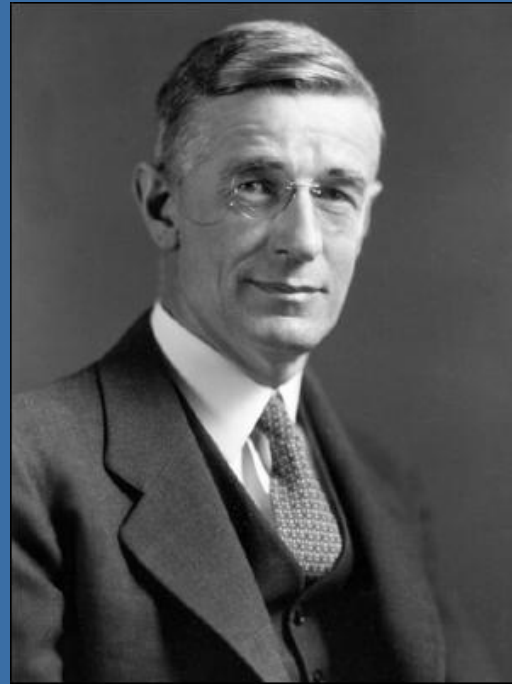


# From the World Brain to the World Wide Web

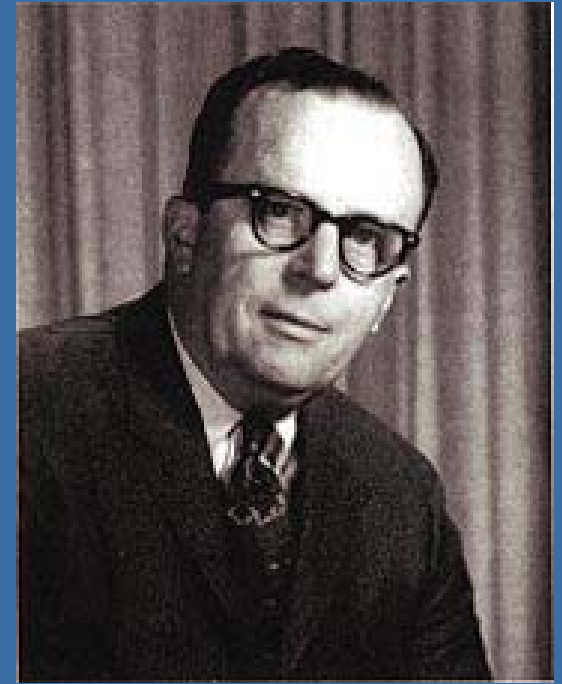
Martin Campbell-Kelly  
Warwick University



H. G. Wells, 1866 - 1946



Vannevar Bush, 1890 - 1971



J.C.R. Licklider, 1915 - 1990

FIFTEEN CENTS

# TIME

*The Weekly News-Magazine*



HERBERT GEORGE WELLS  
*"His future lived for centuries."*  
(See Page 38)

Vol. VIII, No. 12

SEPTEMBER 20, 1926



H. G. Wells, 1866 - 1946



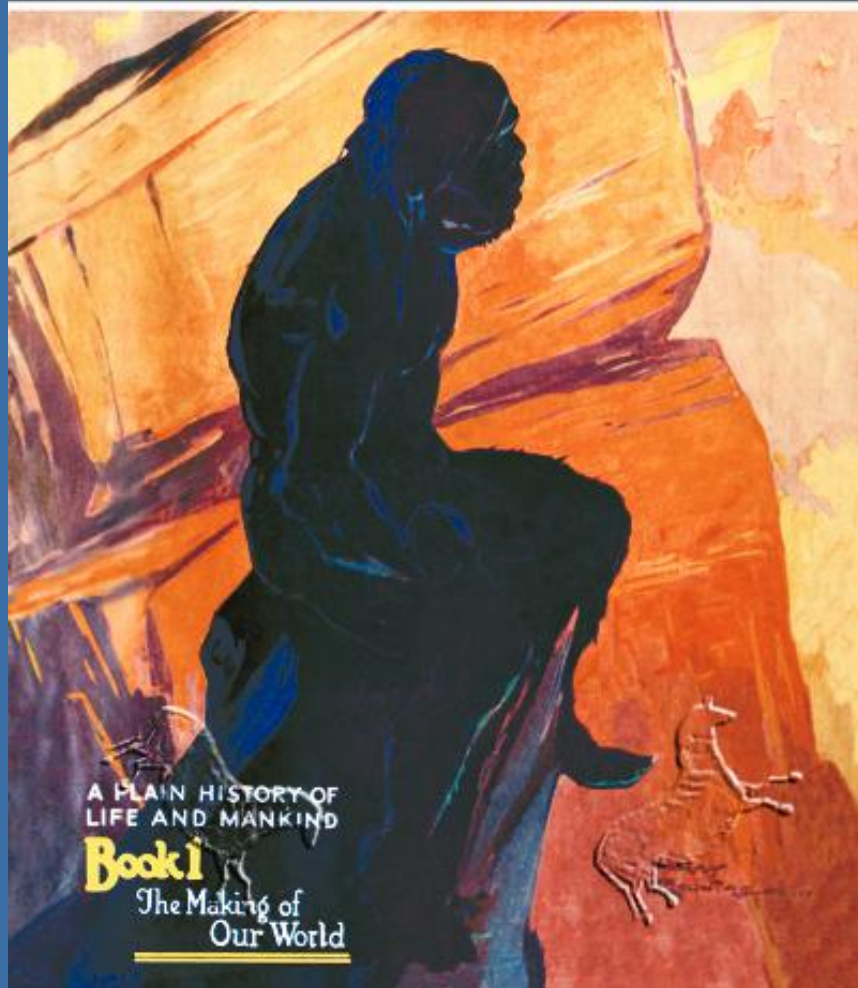
H. G. WELLS C. 1876

H. G. Wells, aged 10



No. 1 To be completed in about 20 Fortnightly Parts

The  
**OUTLINE of HISTORY**  
BY  
**H. G. WELLS.**

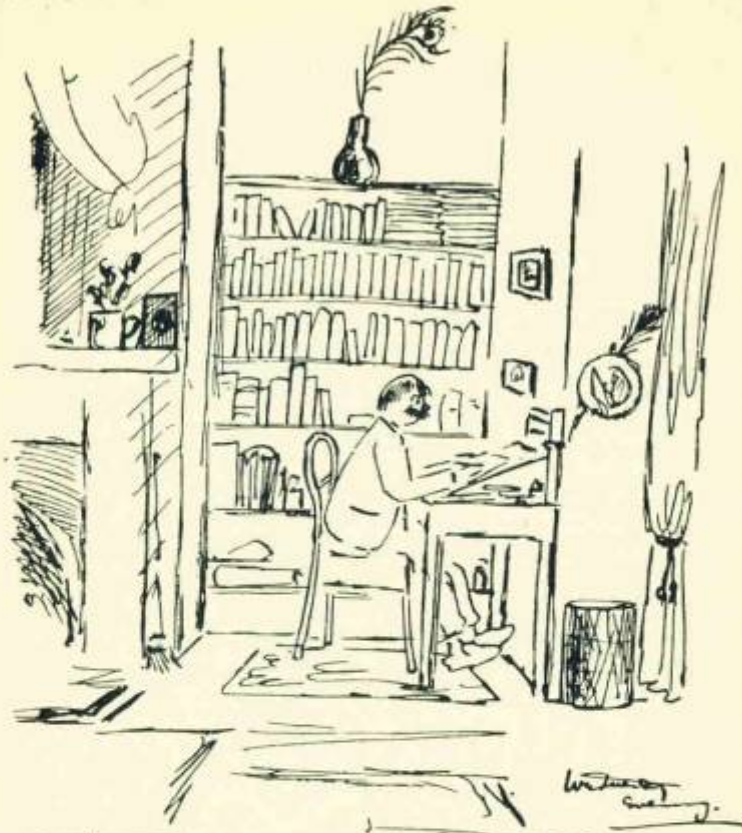


H. G. Wells, Outline of History, 1920

THE  
WORK WEALTH  
AND  
HAPPINESS OF MANKIND

H. G. WELLS





After that  
you have a  
volume, keeping his 26th letter  
bookshelves nearly covered to  
up here Thursday 6th  
that was since H

Before the present writer lie half a dozen books, and there are good indexes to three of them. He can pick up any one of these six books, refer quickly to a statement, verify a quotation, and go on writing. ... Close at hand are two encyclopedias, a biographical dictionary, and other books of reference.

Wells, *Outline of History*, 1920





*(By courtesy of the Trustees)*

A CELL OF THE WORLD'S BRAIN: THE CENTRAL READING ROOM OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY

341  
**ENCYCLOPÉDIE,**

OU

**DICTIONNAIRE RAISONNÉ  
DES SCIENCES,  
DES ARTS ET DES MÉTIERS,**

PAR UNE SOCIÉTÉ DE GENS DE LETTRES.

Mis en ordre & publié par M. *DIDEROT*, de l'Académie Royale des Sciences & des Belles-Lettres de Prusse; & quant à la PARTIE MATHÉMATIQUE, par M. *D'ALEMBERT*, de l'Académie Royale des Sciences de Paris, de celle de Prusse, & de la Société Royale de Londres.

*Tantum series juncturaque pollet,  
Tantum de medio sumptis accessit honoris HORAT.*

**TOME PREMIER.**

*Adi Bibliotheca et predicatorum Roviniensium*



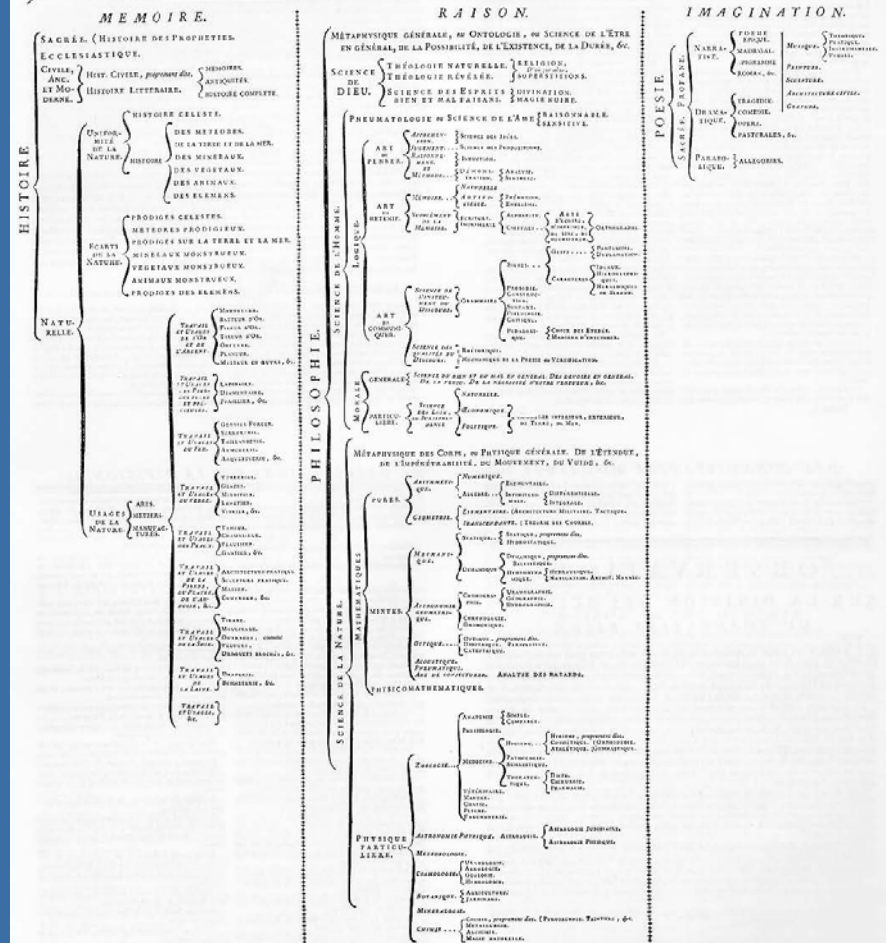
Chez { *BRIASSON*, au Salon de Peinture, & la Science.  
*DAVID l'aîné*, au Salon de Peinture, & la Plume d'Or.  
*LE BRETON*, Escrivain ordinaire du Roy, rue de la Harpe.  
*DURAND*, au Salon de Peinture, à Saint-Louis, & au Griffon.

M. DCC. LII.

AVEC APPROBATION ET PRIVILEGE DU ROY

**\*SYSTÈME FIGURÉ  
DES CONNOISSANCES HUMAINES.**

ENTENDEMENT.



Classification of knowledge in the *Encyclopédie*, c.1750



GRADE F. NEW KNOWLEDGE AND THOUGHT	ORIGINAL - STIM - FOR - SOURCE IN BUSINESS, LITERATURE, ART, INDUSTRIAL ADMINISTRATION, LAW, POLITICS, ETC.				CONSOLIDATED THROUGH A WORLD ENCYCLOPEDIA
GRADE E. ADULT LEARNING POSTGRADUATE OR ADULT SCHOOL WORK CERTIFICATE & RESEARCH UNDER DIRECTION.	SPECIAL COURSES FOR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS, E.G. RENEWAL & RECONVERSION - COURSES FOR PROFESSIONS				
GRADE D. UNDERGRADUATE OR COMPARISON SCHOOL WORK.	ALTERNATIVE SPECIALISED STUDIES, E.G. 1. HISTORY & SOCIOLOGY 2. BIOLOGY, PHYSIOLOGY & CHEMICO-PHYSICAL SCIENCE 3. PHYSICAL, GEOGRAPHICAL & SOCIAL SCIENCE 4. HISTORY OF ART. 5. LITERARY STUDIES. & 30 FORTH		IDEAS OF SOCIAL ORGANISATION SOCIALISM. RELATION TO DEMOCRACY & CHRISTIANITY. THE GROWTH OF GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF ECONOMIC LIFE IN GREAT BRITAIN, USA, ITALY, GERMANY, RUSSIA, ETC. MONETARY & FINANCIAL ORGANISATION OF THE WORLD.	QUICKENED WORLD - POLITICS. IMPERIALISM & CRITICAL STUDY OF THE GREAT POWERS. THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD FROM 1870 TO DATE. CONTEMPORARY WAR ORGANIZATION. STUDY OF PROPAGANDA & ADVERTISING METHODS AS A CORRECTIVE TO NEWSPAPER READING.	
	GRADE C. SCIENTIFIC STUDY WITH REPORT TO MUSEUM, LIBRARY & LABORATORY.	ALTERNATIVE COURSES ADVANCED PHYSICS, E.G. ADVANCED BIOLOGY & PHYSIOLOGY	PERSONAL SOCIOLOGY A SHORT HISTORY OF GENERAL IDEAS E.G. CORPORATIVE SYSTEMS STUDY OF SOCIAL TYPES, LEADING TO CHOICE OF A ROLE.	SOCIAL MECHANISM A SHORT HISTORY OF COMPLICATIONS & TRENDS. A HISTORY OF INNOVATIONS IN PRODUCTION & MANUFACTURE. THE BOLL OF PROSPERITY AND POVERTY IN ECONOMIC LIFE.	ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY OF THE WORLD.
GRADE B. INCREASING EXACTITUDE NOTE - BOOKS, TIME CHARTS, MAPS & RECAPITULATION	PSYCHOLOGY & ANATOMY BELLING CLEAR GENERAL IDEAS ANIMAL & PLANT INDEPENDENT ELEMENTARY PATHOLOGY	BIOLOGY ZOOLOGY & BOTANY BELLING CLEAR GENERAL IDEAS IN THE GEOLOGICAL AGES GENERAL IDEAS ABOUT ECOLOGY & EVOLUTION	PHYSICS & CHEMISTRY LEADING UP TO MODERN CONCEPTS OF MATTER. MECHANISM & ATOMISM. ELEMENTARY HISTORY OF INVENTION & DISCOVERY.	GEOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY. TYPES OF CLIMATE EFFECTS OF AGRICULTURE, MINING, & FORESTRY ON THE WORLD'S CLIMATE & SOILS & SOURCE OF POWER & WEALTH.	GENERAL HISTORY RACES OF MAN EARLY CIVILIZATIONS GENERAL SIGNIFICANCE OF INDIA, CHINA, ISLAM, CHRISTIANITY, & AMERICA IN HISTORY. GENERAL IDEA OF THE MAKING-UP OF CIVILIZATION & THE APPEARANCE OF MODERN SCIENTIFIC STATES. ELEMENTARY HISTORY OF GREAT BRITAIN & FRANCE.
GRADE A. DEFINITE TRAINING SCHEMES	DESCRIPTIVE ZOOLOGY DESCRIPTIVE BOTANY. ELEMENTARY PHYSIOLOGY OF PLANTS & ANIMALS. HEALTH.		STATES OF MATTER. COMPOSITION OF MATTER. ELEMENTARY PHYSIOGRAPHY		ELEMENTARY HISTORY. ELEMENTARY IDEAS ABOUT JAPANESE CULTURES & THEIR DEVELOPMENT IN TIME. Savage life - tools & weapons. Primitive homes, caves, shelters, huts, clothing agriculture & the domestication of animals. Trade - towns - ships PREDATORY PEOPLES & WARFARE [NO DAYS YET - NO DYNAMICS]
BASIS	ABOUT ANIMALS -- PLTS -- DAWN OF NATURAL HISTORY.		ABOUT THINGS & WHAT CAN BE DONE TO THEM. -- TOYS - BRICKS ETC - DAWN OF PHYSICAL SCIENCE.		ABOUT SHelters ACTIVITIES & WAYS OF LIVING -- CLAY TOYS - ETC - DAWN OF HUMAN HISTORY & ECONOMICS.

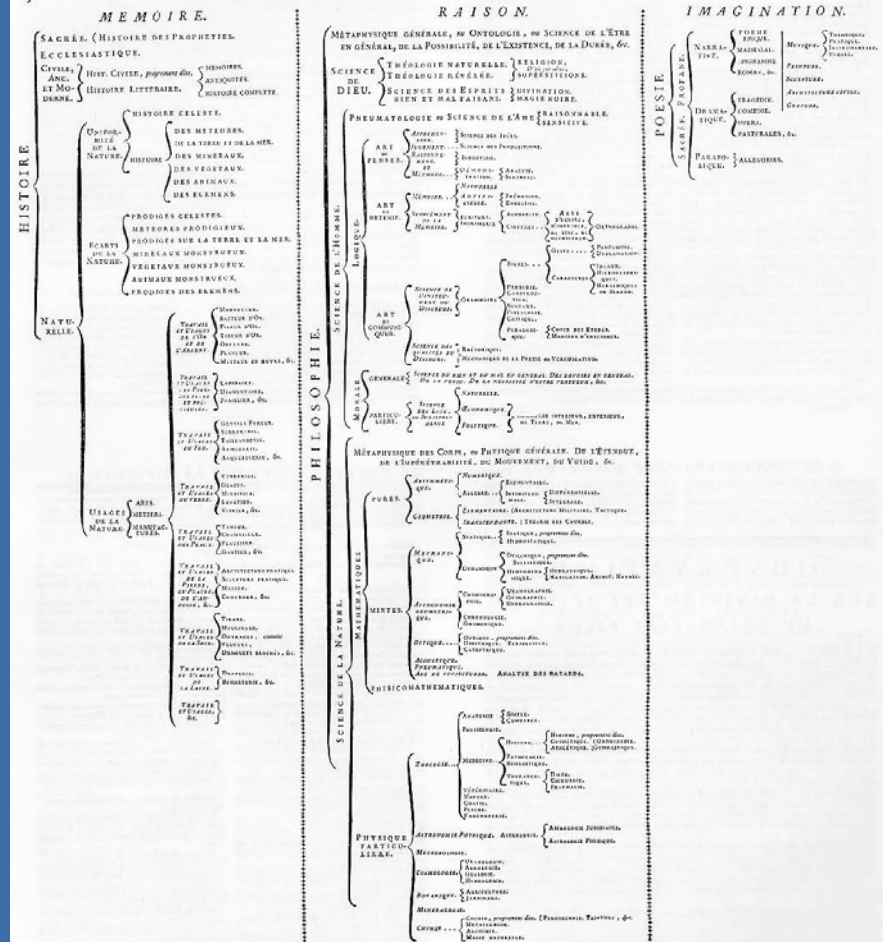
THE NATURAL CURIOSITY OF THE CHILD.

THE INFORMATIVE CONTENT OF EDUCATION.

Languages and symbols (mathematics), skills, music, moral, manual and physical training are not considered here.

# \* SYSTEME FIGURE DES CONNOISSANCES HUMAINES.

ENTENDEMENT.



# WORLD BRAIN

by  
H. G. WELLS

1938



METHUEN & CO. LIMITED  
36 Essex Street, Strand, London, W.C.2

The general public has still to realize how much has been done in this field and how many competent and disinterested men and women are giving themselves to this task. The time is close at hand when any student, in any part of the world, will be able to sit with his projector in his own study at his or her own convenience to examine *any* book, *any* document, in an exact replica.

- *World Brain*, 1938



Burning of the Library of  
Alexandria

The Palace of Green Porcelain  
-- The Time Machine, 1895





# TIME

THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE



VANNEVAR BUSH: GENERAL OF PHYSICS

In this war, Science is G-5.

(Science)

Vannevar Bush, 1890 - 1971



As a boy in Chelsea, Bush had his own workshop, with shelves in a Quaker Oats box for chemicals and odd treasures in salt-cod box. On the bench is what looks like a dry cell hooked up to a clock. (*MIT*)

Vannevar Bush, c.1905

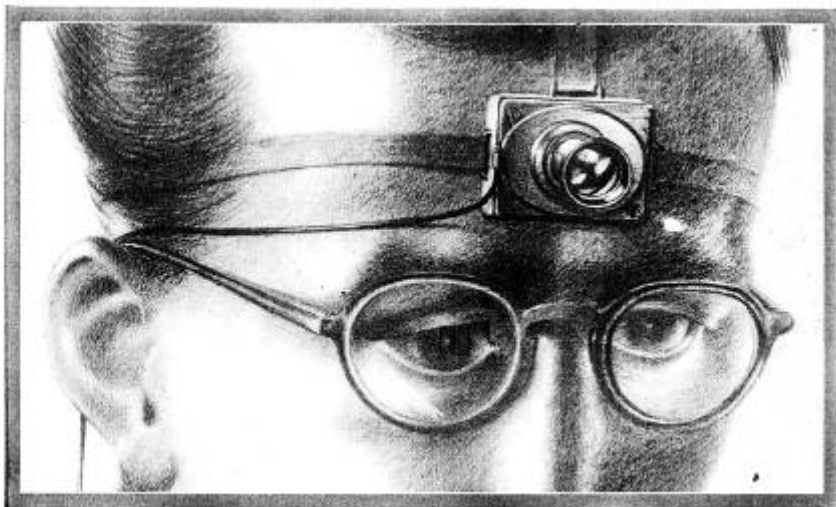




Bush's profile tracer. Mounted between two bicycle wheels, the mechanism automatically plotted the change in elevation versus horizontal distance traveled as the vehicle was pushed along a terrain.







A SCIENTIST OF THE FUTURE RECORDS EXPERIMENTS WITH A TRY CAMERA. FITTED WITH UNIVERSAL-FOCUS LENS, THE SMALL SQUARE IN THE EYEGLASS AT THE LEFT POINTS THE OBJECT

# AS WE MAY THINK

A TOP U. S. SCIENTIST FORESEES A POSSIBLE FUTURE WORLD IN WHICH MAN-MADE MACHINES WILL START TO THINK

by VANNEVAR BUSH

DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT  
 Quoted from the Atlantic Monthly, July 1945

There has not been a scientific war; it has been a war in which all have had a part. The scientists, leaving their old professional competition in the demand of a common cause, have shared greatly and learned much. It has been exhilarating to work in effective partnership. What are the scientists to do now?

For the biologist, and particularly for the medical scientists, there can be little relaxation, for their war work has hardly required them to leave the old paths. Many indeed have been able to carry on their war research in their familiar private laboratories. Their objectives remain much the same.

It is the physicists who have been thrown most violently off stride, who have left academic pursuits for the making of strange derivative gadgets, who have had to devise new methods for their unanticipated assignments. They have done their part on the devices that made it possible to turn back the enemy. They have worked in combined effort with the physicists of our allies. They have felt within themselves the stir of achievement. They have been part of a great team. Now we see where they will find objectives worthy of their best.

\* \* \*

There is a growing momentum of research. But there is increased evidence that we are being bogged down today as specialization expands. The overemphasis is exaggerated by the findings and convictions of thousands of other workers—scientists which for constant had time to grasp, much less to remember, as they appear. Yet specialization becomes increasingly necessary for prog-

ress, and the effort to bridge between disciplines is correspondingly superficial.

Professionally our methods of summarizing and reviewing the results of research are generations old and by now are totally inadequate for their purpose. If the aggregate mass spent in writing scholarly works and in reading them could be evaluated, the ratio between these amounts of time might well be startling. Those who conscientiously attempt to keep abreast of current thought, even in restricted fields, by close and occasional reading might well shy away from an examination calculated to show how much of the previous month's efforts could be produced or recalled.

Mendel's concept of the laws of genetics was lost to the world for a generation because his publication did not reach the few who were capable of grasping and carrying it on. This sort of catastrophe is undoubtedly being repeated all about us as truly significant statements become lost in the mass of the inconsequential.

Publications has been extended far beyond our present ability to make real use of the record. The summation of human experience is being exposed in a prodigious rate, and the means no one for threading through the consequent mass to the momentarily important item is the same as was used in the days of square-rigged ships.

But there are signs of a change as new and powerful instrumentalities come into use. Photocells capable of seeing things in a physical sense, advanced photography which can record what is seen or even what is heard, electronic tubes capable of controlling potent forces under the guidance of

his power than a telephone uses to show us, weight, cathode-ray tubes sending visible an occurrence as brief that by comparison a microsecond a long time, relay combinations which will carry out involved sequences of movement more reliably than any human operator and thousands of times as fast—there are plenty of mechanical aids with which to effect a monumental in scientific records.

Machines with interchangeable parts can now be constructed with great economy of effort. In spite of such complexity, they perform reliably. Witness the humble typewriter, or the motor car, or the automobile. Theoretical concepts have ceased to stick when thoroughly understood. Here the automatic telephone exchange, which has hundreds of thousands of such contacts, and yet is reliable. A spider web of metal, naked in a thin glass container, a wire heated to brilliant glow—in short, the chemist's tube of radio sets is made by the hundred million, tossed about in packages, plugged into sockets—and it works! Its gossamer parts, the precise location and alignment involved in its construction, would have occupied a master craftsman of the guild for months, now it is built for you. The world has arrived at an age of cheap, complex devices of great reliability, and something is bound to come of it.

A record, if it is to be useful to science, must be continuously extended, it must be moved and, above all, it must be consulted. Today we make the record conventionally by writing and photography, followed by printing; but we also record on film, on wax disks and on magnetic wires. Even if utterly new recording procedures do not appear, these present ones are certainly in the process of modification and extension.

## NEW WAYS TO EXTEND THE RECORD— THE CYCLOPS CAMERA AND DRY PHOTOGRAPHY

Certainly progress in photography is not going to stop. Faster material and lenses, more-automatic cameras, finer-grained sensitive compounds to allow an extension of the view-camera idea are all imminent. Let us project the trend ahead to a logical, if not inevitable, outcome. The camera known of the future wears on its forehead a bump a little larger than a wart. It takes a picture three millimeters square, large to be projected or enlarged. The lens is of universal focus, does to any distance accommodated by the angled eye, simply because it is of short focal length. There is a built-in photo-cell on the waist such as we now have on at least one camera which automatically adjusts exposure for a wide range of illumination. There is film in the waist for a hundred exposures and the spring for operating its shutter and shifting its film is moved once for all when the film clip is inserted. It produces its results in full color. It may well be stereoscopic and record with two spaced glass eyes, for nothing improves in stereoscopic technique are just around the corner.

The card which slips in the shutter may reach down a man's sleeve within easy reach of his fingers. A quick squeeze, and the picture is taken. On a pair of ordinary glasses is a square of tin lives near the top of one lens, where it is set of the way of ordinary vision. When an object appears in that square, it is lined up for its picture. As the subject of the future moves about the laboratory or the field, every time he looks at something worthy of the record, he trips the shutter and in it goes, without even an audible click, in this all fantastic? The only fantastic thing about it is the idea of making as many pictures as would result from its use.

Will there be dry photography? It is already here in two forms. There have long been films impregnated with diam dyes which form a picture without development, so that it is already there as soon as the camera has been exposed. An exposure to ammonia gas develops the unexposed dye, and the picture can then be taken out into the light and examined. The process is slow, but someone may speed it up, and it has no great drawbacks such as some keep photographs' researchers have.

## REDUCING THE WRITTEN RECORD TO MANAGEABLE SIZE—MICROPHOTOGRAPHY

Like dry photography, microphotography still has a long way to go. The basic scheme of reducing the size of the record, and examining it by projection rather than directly, has possibilities too great to be ignored. The combination of optical projection and photographic reduction is already producing some results in microfilm for scholars' purposes, and the potentialities are highly suggestive. Today, with microfilm, reductions by a linear factor of 10 can be employed and still produce full clarity when the material is re-enlarged for examination.

Assume a linear ratio of 100 for future use. Gamma film of the same thickness on paper, although thicker film will certainly be usable. Even under these conditions there would be a total factor of 10,000 between the bulk of the ordinary record on books, and its microfilm replica. The *Cyclopaedia Britannica* could be reduced to the volume of a notebook. A library of a million volumes could be compressed into one end of a desk. If the Bureau has produced since the invention of movable type a total record, in the form of magazines, newspapers, books, maps, advertising blots, correspond-

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



Dr. Vannevar Bush is head of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, which monopolized the scientific brains of the U. S. in the service of the war. As such he has performed one of the greatest, though most secret, jobs of the war, as important in its sphere as that of the Army chief of staff. Under his direction 6,000 scientists worked on such projects as the development of radar and the atomic bomb.

In the July issue of the Atlantic Monthly Dr. Bush published an article in which he set a grand task for men of science in the peacetime world. Men has piled up a staggering hoard of knowledge—so staggering, in fact, that few of learning have great difficulty in finding and using the parts they want. It is the task of science, Dr. Bush says, to make the store of knowledge more available, to add to the human memory. Says the Atlantic, "Like Erasmus's famous address of 1837 on 'The American Scholar,' this paper by Dr. Bush calls for a new relationship between thinking man and the sum of our knowledge."

LIFE is indebted to the editors of the Atlantic Monthly for permission to bring a condensed version of this important article to its larger audience.

## WHAT DR. BUSH PROPOSES

### Cyclops Camera

Worn on forehead, it would photograph anything you see and want to record. Film would be developed at once by dry photography.

### Microfilm

It would reduce *Cyclopaedia Britannica* to volume of a notebook. Material cost \$1. Two or three libraries could be kept in a desk.

### Ward

A machine which could type when talked to. For you might have to talk a special phonic language to this mechanical supersecretary.

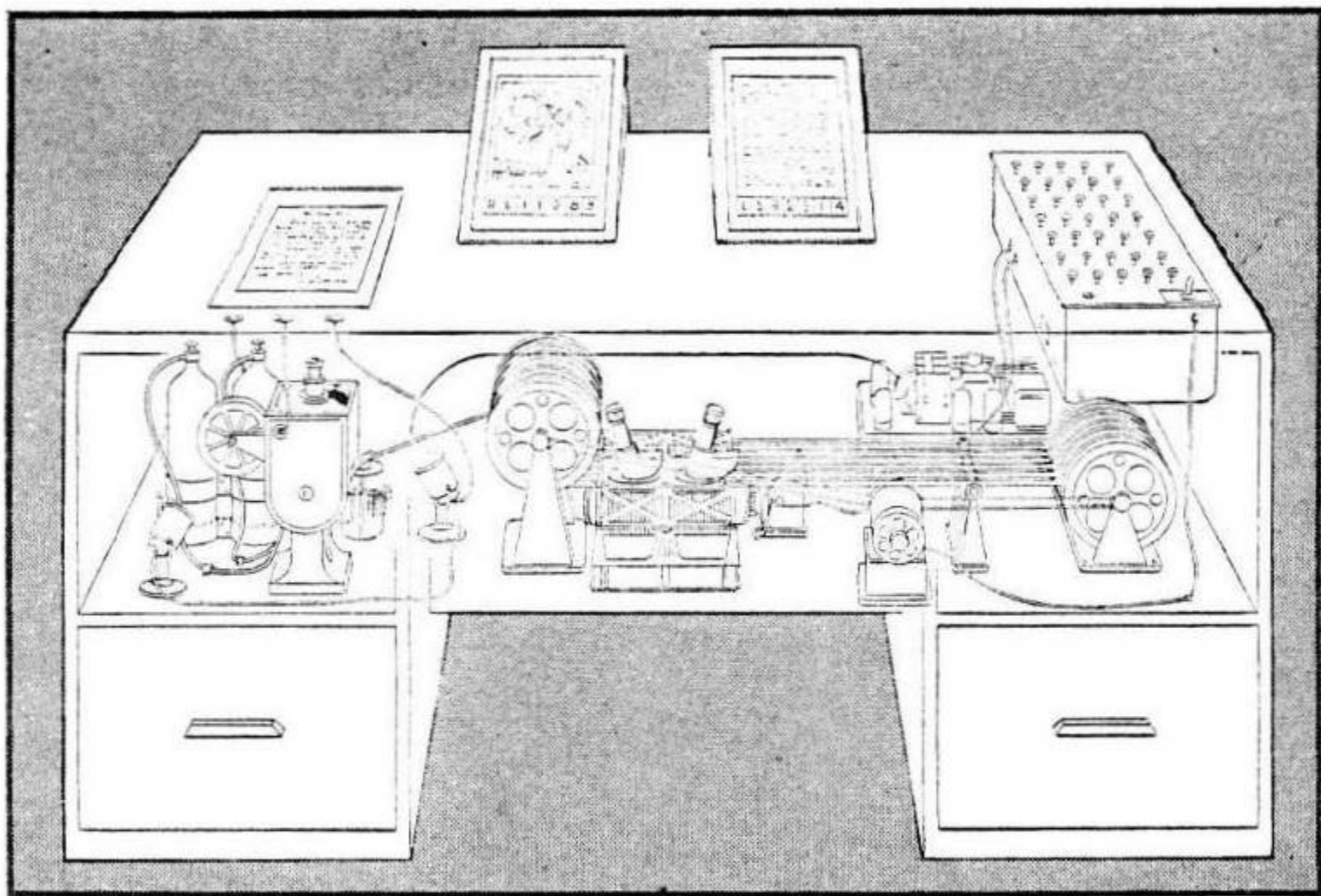
### Thinking machine

A development of the mathematical calculator. One it premises and it would pose out conclusions, all in accordance with logic.

### Memory

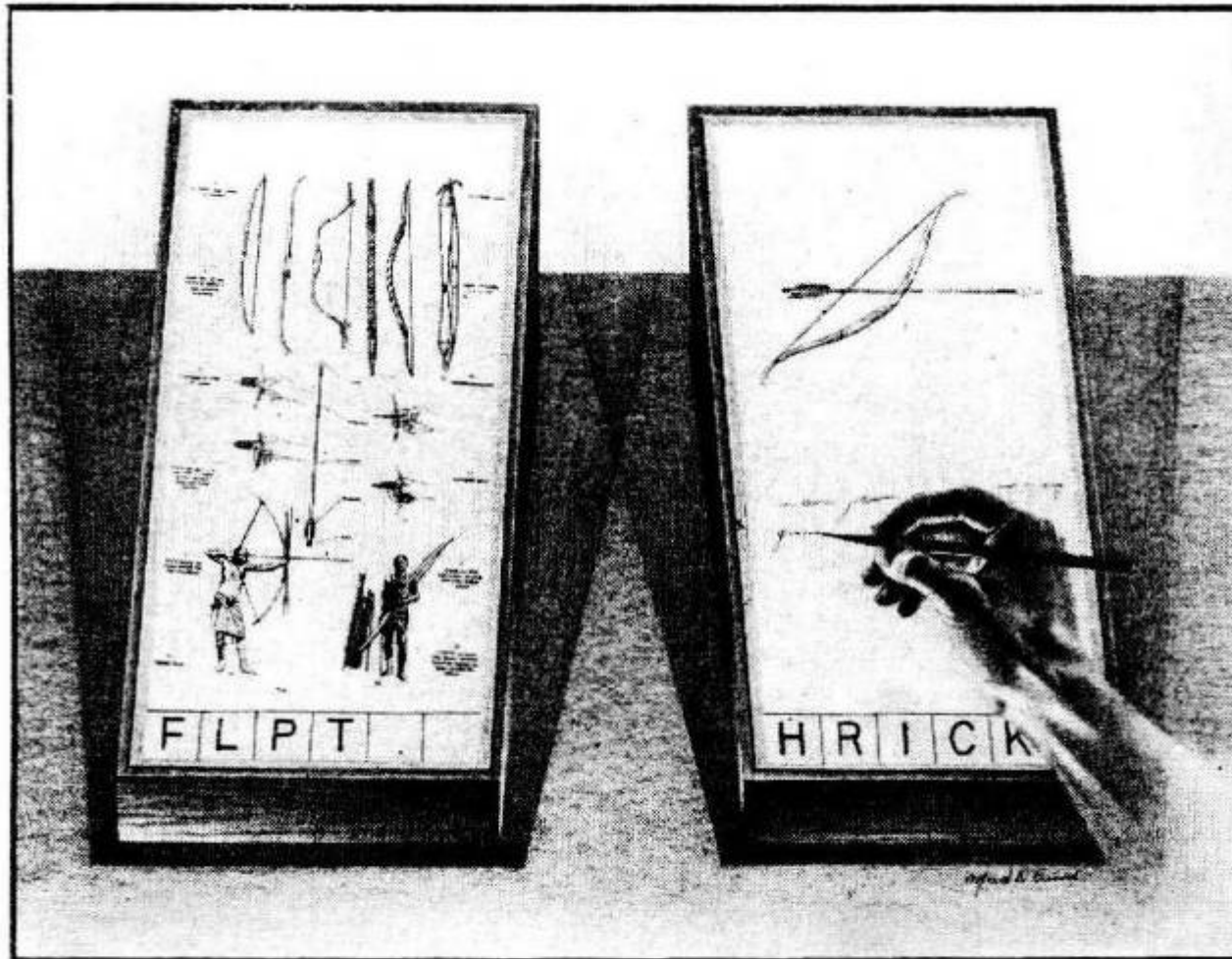
As aid to memory. Use the brain, memory would file material by association. Press a key and it would run through a "trail" of facts.





**MEMEX** in the form of a desk would instantly bring files and material on any subject to the operator's fingertips. Slanting translucent viewing screens magnify supermicrofilm filed by code numbers. At left is a mechanism which automatically photographs longhand notes, pictures and letters, then files them in the desk for future reference.





**MEMEX IN USE** is shown here. On one transparent screen the operator of the future writes notes and commentary dealing with reference material which is projected on the screen at left. Insertion of the proper code symbols at the bottom of right-hand screen will tie the new item to the earlier one after notes are photographed on supermicrofilm.

# THE BUSH RAPID SELECTOR

by PHIL HIRSCH

A high-speed microfilm retrieval system that adds some new wrinkles to the state of the art has been operating for about a year at the U. S. Navy's Bureau of Ships in Washington. Known as the "Bush Rapid Selector" (after Dr. Vannevar Bush, formerly of MIT, who developed the basic concept and built the first model), the equipment scans a 6,000-ft., 60,000-frame reel of microfilm in 12 minutes and automatically reproduces on a second film those frames containing desired information.

There is a series of dots above each frame on the source microfilm; they identify the title, subject, author, and other indexing facts about the adjacent document. Material is retrieved by feeding into the Rapid Selector a dot pattern which contains the indexing information describing the item wanted. The equipment then scans each frame and when it finds a similar dot pattern, copies the image of the corresponding document onto the output film.

Like other retrieval systems, this one provides a means of locating documents automatically when the searcher has only a few clues. He may, for example, want information on a certain subject, but lack a specific bibliographic reference. The retrieval system, when fed the proper subject codes, will search the documents stored in the library, then locate and reproduce all those that fit the subject specifications.

The Rapid Selector at the Bureau of Ships is installed in the Publications Division; it was developed, under Navy sponsorship, at The National Bureau of Standards.

The Rapid Selector's microfilm library accommodates 1 x 5-inch cards, blueprints measuring up to 2 x 3 ft., and just about any document in between capable of being photographed. This is one feature that distinguishes the device from two commercially available microfilm retrieval systems—Recordak's "MiniCode" and FMA's "FileSearch." Both of the latter are designed for legal-size documents.

There is one other important difference. The Rapid Selector re-photographs "on the fly." No matter how many documents it locates and copies, the scanning operation

doesn't slow down. MiniCode and FileSearch, by comparison, stop scanning when they have found a desired document. They provide a "leostop" capability which isn't built into the Bush machine.

Actually, although all three systems operate in basically the same way, they aren't competitive because they're designed for different kinds of retrieval work. The significance of the Rapid Selector installation at BuShips is that it expands the potential application of the microfilm concept, for government as well as commercial use.

The documents being put into the Rapid Selector microfilm library include R&D reports, ship plans, drawings, specifications, and technical manuals. All of this material is photographed by a Photo Devices planetary camera. Normally, the film image is 1/4th the size of the original, but a maximum 20x reduction is possible. The microfilm picture provides a resolution of 120 lines per millimeter.

Code area of film for the Rapid Selector



DATAMATIC

microfilm —

Before being photographed, each document is read by an information specialist, who then codes the significant facts on a mimeographed form. The coding operation consists essentially of assigning numbers to the document that stand for its date of issuance, security classification (e.g., classified, unclassified, secret), author, subject matter, and so on. The numeric equivalents for each item in this bibliographic profile are listed in pre-prepared guidebooks.

The codes are punched into an IBM card, which is then placed in a reading device connected to a set of lights located behind the microfilm camera. Essentially, the lookup converts the holes in the card into dots on the film. After the code has been recorded, the document itself is photographed.

A standard 35-mm acetate-cellulose base film is used in the camera. After processing, it is put through a Kalbe printer-processor and a second generation film copy is made on Mylar. The original becomes a master record copy and the Mylar copy is used for document searching.

Documents are retrieved by punching the identifying codes into an IBM card. The code card is fed into a reader which controls a photocell array in the Rapid Selector's search unit. The holes in the card produce a distinctive electronic pattern in the photocell complex. Any microfilm frame that has a similar dot pattern is automatically re-photographed onto the output film. This latter image is a third-generation (negative copy) of the original document.

A conventional 35-mm film, stored in 100 ft. lengths on daylight reels, holds the output. This film usually is processed by a commercial firm to obtain better control, although the Bureau of Ships has equipment to do the job itself. The copy film, after being processed, can be viewed directly, or reproduced onto paper, with the help of a microfilm reader printer.

The Rapid Selector scans about 10 ft. of film—approximately 100 frames—per second. When a match is made, it takes about 12 milliseconds for the frame containing the desired document to travel from the reading head to the photo head. During this interval, the output film is accelerated from zero to a speed of 10 ft. per second. Then, when the zero is reproduced, although both films are moving, they are stationary with respect to each other.

Being able to copy a picture on the fly represents an important advance in the development of microfilm retrieval systems. With a large library of documents, used frequently, it could make possible increased utilization of equipment and film, and reduce capital and operating expenses.

It takes about 20 minutes for the information analyst to read, code, and photograph a document going into the Rapid Selector's microfilm library. The time required to search a 6,000-ft. reel is about 12 minutes. According to an estimate made a few years ago by the National Bureau of Standards, the total cost of the Rapid Selector's hardware is about \$85,000. Operational costs were estimated at 10 cents per page for film input and three cents for each page retrieved.

The big data-storage capacity of the Bush machine may turn out to be its most important advantage. 77 characters, recorded in binary-coded digit (BCD) form, can be accommodated on a section of 35-mm film 1/8th-inch long. By comparison, the typical microfilm aperture card holds only 55 characters, and it measures 3 1/2 x 7 1/2 inches.

Actually, there's no limit to the Rapid Selector's storage capacity. If the amount of indexing information related to a particular document is too much for one 1/8th-inch code frame, it's a simple matter to appropriate additional frames when the document is under the planetary camera.

Abstracts, as well as entire documents, can be coded, microfilmed, and then retrieved by the Rapid Selector. The search can be programmed so that either abstracts, or documents, or both together, can be photo-copied on a single pass of the source film. This feature may make the Rapid Selector a more efficient retrieval system for many applications that now require a computer.

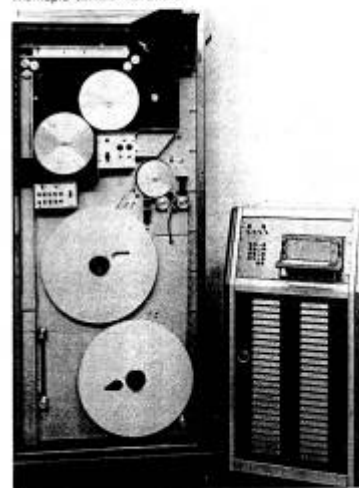
For example, various specialized libraries around the country have computers which can produce technical abstracts automatically. The data needed for the abstract is coded from the original document, translated into machine language, then stored on magnetic tape. When a request is made for information on a particular subject, the tape cycles through a computer and the pertinent abstracts are printed out on a high-speed typewriter.

The Rapid Selector probably could handle this job much more economically. Far less coding would be required because only a relatively few index terms, rather than every word of the abstract, would have to be put into machine language. The Rapid Selector equipment also costs far less than the computers now being used for information retrieval operations.

Another conceivable application involves commercial documents—such as invoices, business correspondence, freight manifests, and inventory forms. Now, many companies store such forms on microfilm and put the pertinent figures from each document on punched cards, paper or magnetic tape. The latter media provide the input for data processing. The Rapid Selector offers a way of telescoping these two kinds of storage into one.

In such a system, the input to the data-processing equipment would consist of microfilm, rather than punched cards or tape. The data needed for accounting operations would be in the code adjacent to each document. There would be a substantial space saving, possibly a considerable increase in data processing speed. ■

The Rapid Selector hardware

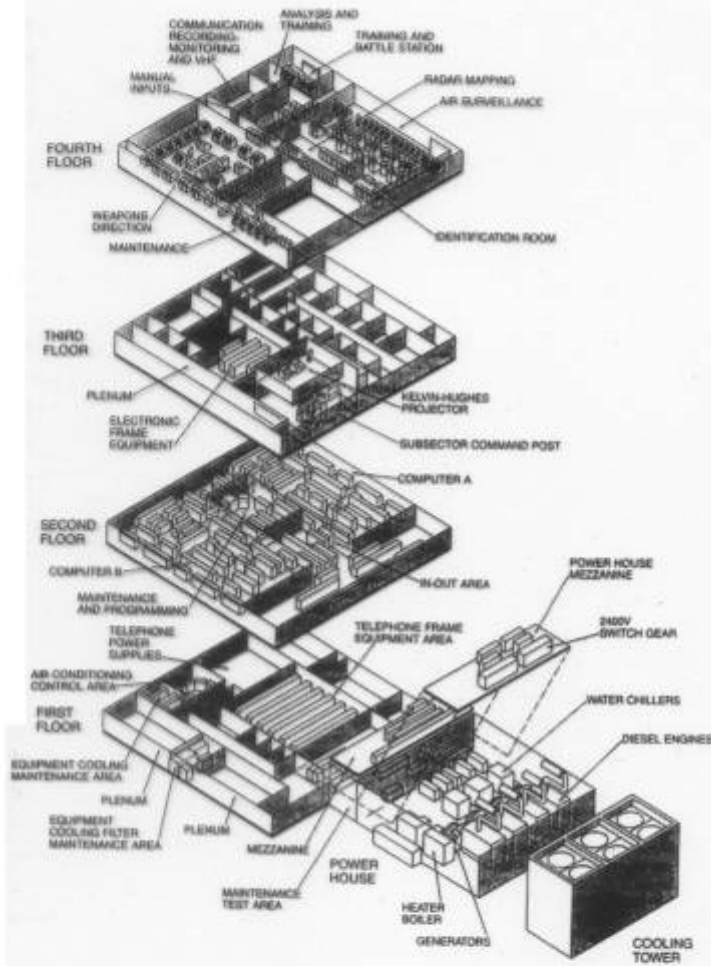




Scanned at the American  
Institute of Physics

J.C.R. Licklider, 1915 - 1990





**Figure 3.1**  
 Interior of a typical SAGE direction center. Two IBM FSQ-7 computers filled the entire second floor. Drawing by Bernard Shuman, courtesy MITRE Corporation Archives.



*The SAGE center at McGuire Air Force Base*

The SAGE Project, 1949-62

Direction Center at McGuire Air Force Base, New York



034 | 035

A FEW MEMBERS OF THE 4000-MAN SAGE TEAM WATCHING OVER AMERICAN AIRSPACE ON THEIR CRT SCREENS AND ANALYSING ALL THE SIGNALS IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO DIRECT DEFENCE WEAPONS AGAINST AN ENEMY INTRUDER. 1955







# Man-Computer Symbiosis

## Summary

Man-computer symbiosis is an expected development in cooperative interaction between men and electronic computers. It will involve very close coupling between the human and the electronic members of the partnership. The main aims are 1) to let computers facilitate formulative thinking as they now facilitate the solution of formulated problems, and 2) to enable men and computers to cooperate in making decisions and controlling complex situations without inflexible dependence on predetermined programs. In the anticipated symbiotic partnership, men will set the goals, formulate the hypotheses, determine the criteria, and perform the evaluations. Computing machines will do the routinizable work that must be done to prepare the way for insights and decisions in technical and scientific thinking. Preliminary analyses indicate that the symbiotic partnership will perform intellectual operations much more effectively than man alone can perform them. Prerequisites for the achievement of the effective, cooperative association include developments in computer time sharing, in memory components, in memory organization, in programming languages, and in input and output equipment.

## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Symbiosis

The fig tree is pollinated only by the insect *Blastophaga grossorum*. The larva of the insect lives in the ovary of the fig tree, and there it gets its food. The tree and the insect are thus heavily interdependent: the tree cannot reproduce without the insect; the insect cannot eat without the tree; together, they constitute not only a viable but a productive and thriving partnership. This cooperative "living together in intimate association, or even close union, of two dissimilar organisms" is called symbiosis [27].

"Man-computer symbiosis" is a subclass of man-machine systems. There are many man-machine systems. At present, however, there are no man-computer symbioses. The purposes of this paper are to present the concept and, hopefully, to foster the development of man-computer symbiosis by analyzing some problems of interaction between men and computing machines, calling attention to applicable principles of man-machine engineering, and

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October 9, 1957

MEMORANDUM OF CONFERENCE WITH THE PRESIDENT  
October 8, 1957, 8:30 AM

Others present: Secretary Quarles  
Dr. Waterman  
Mr. Hagen  
Mr. Holaday  
Governor Adams  
General Persons  
Mr. Hagerty  
Governor Pyle  
Mr. Harlow  
General Cutler  
General Goodpaster



Secretary Quarles began by reviewing a memorandum prepared in Defense for the President on the subject of the earth satellite (dated October 7, 1957). He left a copy with the President. He reported that the Soviet launching on October 4th had apparently been highly successful.

The President asked Secretary Quarles about the report that had come to his attention to the effect that Redstone could have been used and could have placed a satellite in orbit many months ago. Secretary Quarles said there was no doubt that the Redstone, had it been used, could have orbited a satellite a year or more ago. The Science Advisory Committee had felt, however, that it was better to have the earth satellite proceed separately from military development. One reason was to stress the peaceful character of the effort, and a second was to avoid the inclusion of materiel, to which foreign scientists might be given access, which is used in our own military rockets. He said that the Army feels it could erect a satellite four months from now if given the order -- this would still be one month prior to the estimated date for the Vanguard. The President said that when this information reaches the Congress, they are bound to ask why this action was not taken. He recalled,

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MR 76-49 DOCUMENT # 65  
By J.W. Date 11-17-76

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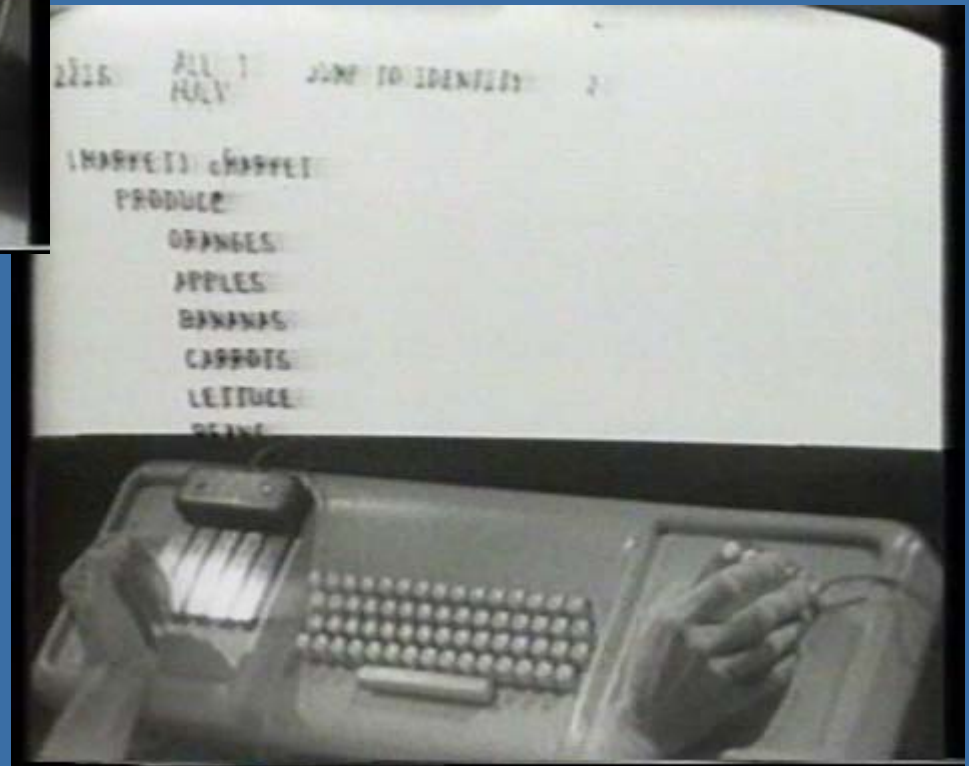
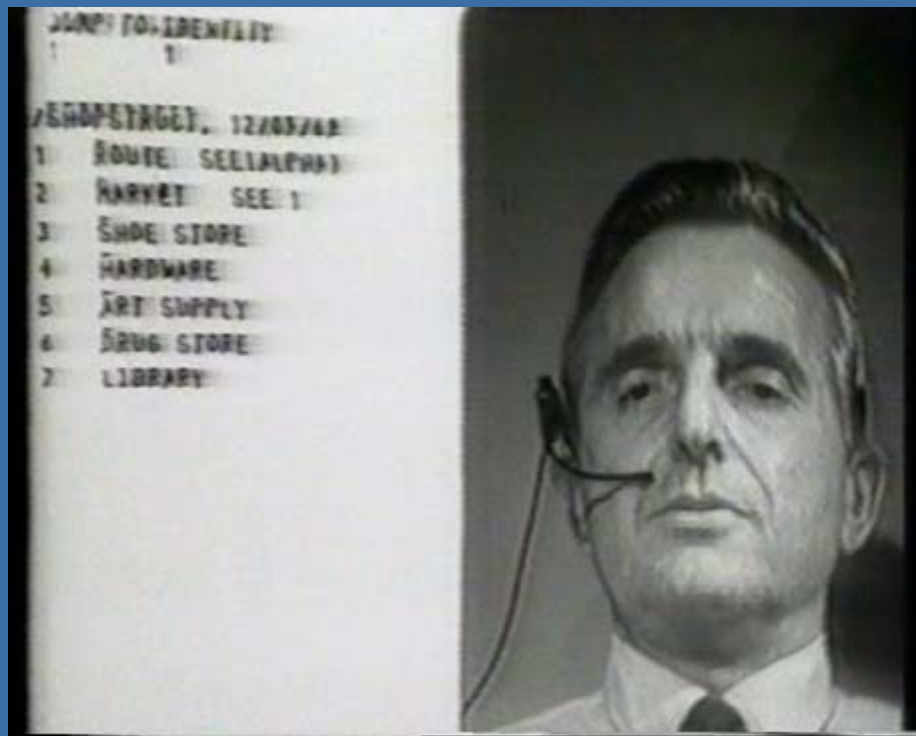


4. Project MAC time-sharing system at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology has 160 terminals on the M.I.T. campus and nearby and is also available from distant terminals. As many as 30 terminals can be connected at one time, with each user carrying on a direct and in effect uninterrupted dialogue with the computer. The terminals are for the most part simple teletypewriters such as the MM 1050 (6) and Teletype models 33 (19), 35 (5) or 37 (10). Some are in offices, some in large "pool" rooms, some in laboratories and a few in private homes (1). In addition to students and staff members doing their own research, the users shown here include secretaries preparing papers for publication (13), authors Fano (8) and Corbató (24) and a psychiatrist at the Massachusetts General Hospital (18).

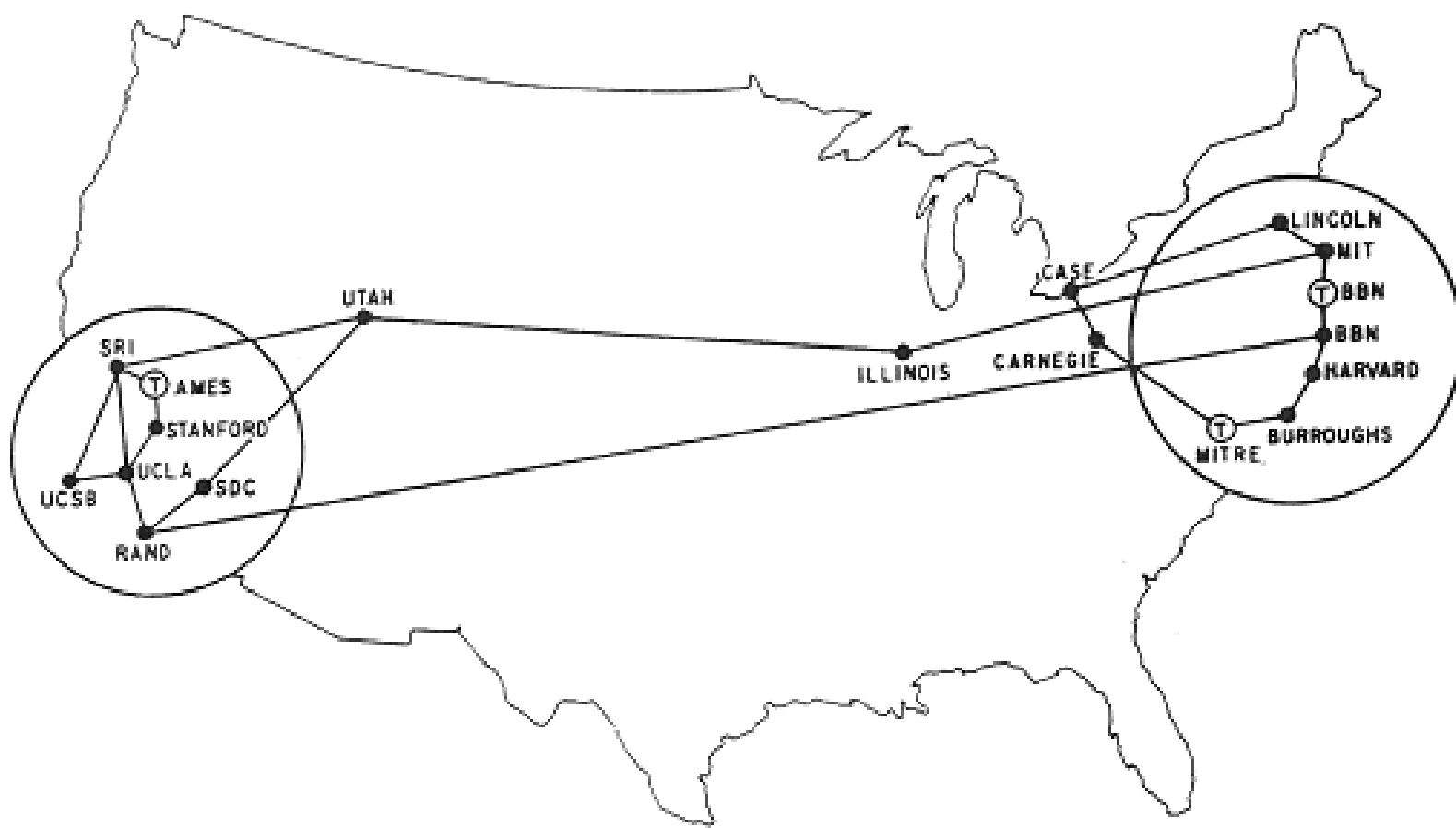
## Project MAC at MIT

- *Scientific American*, 1966





Douglas Engelbart at the National Computer Conference, San Francisco, 1965



MAP 4 September 1971

Arpanet in 1971



Grolier Encyclopedia on CD-ROM, c.1985



# World Wide Web

The WorldWideWeb (W3) is a wide-area [hypermedia](#) information retrieval initiative aiming to give universal access to a large universe of documents.

Everything there is online about W3 is linked directly or indirectly to this document, including an [executive summary](#) of the project, [Mailing lists](#), [Policy](#), November's [W3 news](#), [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

## [What's out there?](#)

Pointers to the world's online information, [subjects](#), [W3 servers](#), etc.

## [Help](#)

on the browser you are using

## [Software Products](#)

A list of W3 project components and their current state. (e.g. [Line Mode](#), [X11 Viola](#), [NeXTStep](#), [Servers](#), [Tools](#), [Mail robot](#), [Library](#))

## [Technical](#)

Details of protocols, formats, program internals etc.

## [Bibliography](#)

Paper documentation on W3 and references.

## [People](#)

A list of some people involved in the project.

## [History](#)

A summary of the history of the project.

## [How can I help?](#)

If you would like to support the web.

## [Getting code](#)

Getting the code by [anonymous FTP](#), etc.

The first web page, CERN 1991



The humans behind the Yahoo! index. These tireless staffers work day and night to keep the Yahoo! directory up and running and up to date.

... and into the World

next edition of this book should Don't bet on it.

Despite their headlong leap from academia to Corporate America, David and Jerry are still intent on maintaining the Yahoo!-ness of Yahoo!. The two have a simple and elegant way of telling you what would be acceptable to you, the Yahoo! user: "If we don't like it, we figure you won't like it." Remember: They do this for their own amusement, and

David and Jerry seem to be a core part of a business that takes some getting used to. "It's changed in my life," says Jerry, "but I'm an old guy who dress badly at

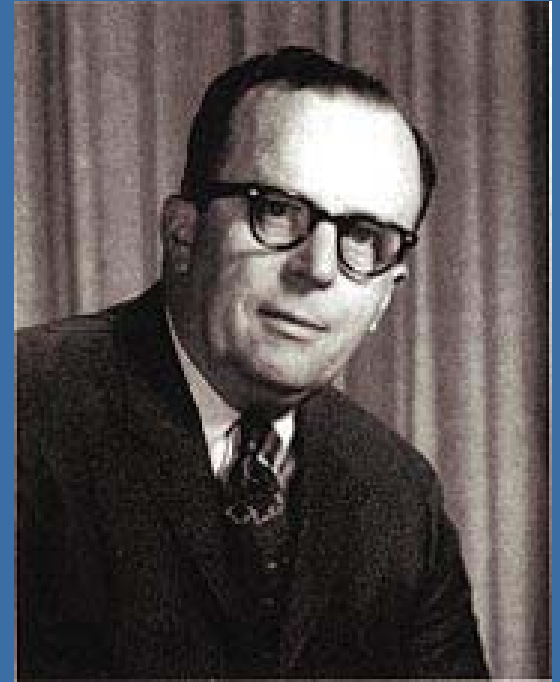




H. G. Wells, 1866 - 1946



Vannevar Bush, 1890 - 1971



J.C.R. Licklider, 1915 - 1990