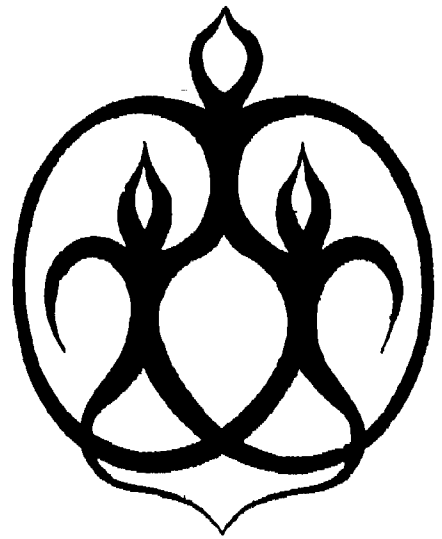# American Journal of Computational Linguistics

M A N I F E S T O   THE PRESS at Twin Willows

DAVID G HAYS, PUBLISHER
5048 Lakeshore Road
Hamburg, New York 14075

An Idea and a Problem

Contrary to a famous opinion, linearity came in with speech,
printing just let us see what we had been saying all the time
But thought is nonlinear, and conversation flows as print ,
cannot With electronic publication, we will be able to move
through a permanent record of collective knowledge with some
of the flexibility that conversation has always allowed

But why a permanent record? Science is forever changing, and
so is art ,Kuhnian revolutions, small or large, are frequent
Electronic media do not impose artificial stasis off the flux
of ideas that gradually eliminates errors from science and
yields pleasure in art

However, none of us have much experience in the new modes of
communication Since all need help, we must--in the famous
phrase--explain to each other what none of us understand

A Method

THE PRESS at Twin Willows is mostly a method

The method is to use printed paper, familiar to us all, and
microfiches, familiar to many, in shifting combination with
the unfamiliar electronic media

A computer will be installed in the office of THE PRESS, and
used from the beginning for administration and text prepara-
tion Editors of books and journals that come to THE PRESS
can submit on floppy disk, on casette, or by telephone, but
they can also submit on paper Publication can be by photo-
reproduction, rapid printing, high-quality offset, magnetic
recording to drive a computer, or through the telephone net
Microfiches will be suggested for many publications

As editors and readers gradually become familiar with the
new systems, teaching each other as they learn, we can expect
the contents of publications to become more and more suitable
to the new media, and less and less suitable to the old

Services

THE PRESS at Twin Willows will offer services at every step from the author's conceptualization through advertising of the finished work.

Editorial. For its clients, THE PRESS will help if necessary to find expert readers who can submit opinions and suggestions about the content of proposed articles and books. THE PRESS will provide counsel on readability. THE PRESS will mark up copy for typographic form, lay out pages, and otherwise give traditional redactory services.

Administrative. For its clients, THE PRESS will maintain tickler files and issue reminders to contributors and readers when their submissions are due. It will prepare budgets and keep accounts. It will maintain mailing lists, membership lists, and consultation lists. It will conduct membership surveys and elections of officers.

Bibliographic As support can be obtained, THE PRESS will draw on existing collections and add its own classifications and subject labels to make bibliography available to clients. Thus the preparation of a bibliography for a work in progress can be assigned to THE PRESS, and a book buyer can follow up references or ask for selective dissemination.

Educational. THE PRESS will shortly begin publication of a newsletter for clients and prospects: Services and how to use them, the competition, new products in hardware and software, publications and courses for authors and editors, and personal notes from the field of electronic publication.

Conferences, workshops, and courses will be organized as the field needs them and can support them.

Handbooks, manuals, and other materials for editors will be written or collected as feasible, catalogued, and offered for sale or gift.

Pricing Policy

Methods and materials will be designed for each client initially; later, a catalogue of components of the publication process will be prepared so that the client can do the design work.

Beyond the direct cost of labor performed and materials consumed at THE PRESS and of services purchased for the client, the equipment used will be billed at a rate intended to give rapid amortization, and a management fee of 15% added.

This policy should bring the cost of information--books, journals, and electronic access--within the limits of anyone's purse.

R E V I E W S: MICRO HARDWARE, SOFTWARE

P U B L I S H E R: THE PRESS AT TWIN WILLOWS
May 23, 1978

To help hobbyists, householders. businesses, and government keep up with the countless vendors who offer hardware and software in the microcomputer market, THE PRESS at Twin Willows will begin immediately to collect and publish evaluative, analytic reviews, according to David G. Hays, Publisher.

"When the computing market was dominated by just a few big companies," Hays says, "it was fairly easy to decide how to handle a computing problem. Once a buyer had settled on a computing budget, the market might offer only two or three main frames big enough and cheap enough to do the job. Now the buyer can design a machine to fit a purpose, and has to choose components out of lists that run up to dozens of alternatives. The worst part is, no one publishes the list!"

THE PRESS intends to correct part of the problem by making useful information about the market available in easy language and inexpensive format. "Before long," Hays expects the hardware and software reviews will be accessible online for clients to dial in."

Where will the reviews come from? THE PRESS invites any user of any microhardware or software to write it up; the
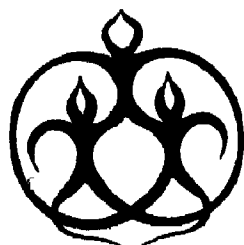
- more -

editors at THE PRESS will rewrite if necessary, make sure that the evaluations are not illegally harsh, and eliminate the most obvious errors. No fees are offered to reviewers at present, but a change is contemplated. "Everyone who helps should be paid," as Hays puts it.

Manufacturers and software houses can send their lists and item descriptions to be included with the evaluations.

THE PRESS, which will also publish original material in whatever technical fields need its services, is "mostly a method," Hays says. Its purpose is to teach information users how to cooperate with each other, making central publishing less relevant.

Hays, who is setting up THE PRESS, is a professor of linguistics and of computer science in the State University of New York at Buffalo. He moved to Buffalo from The RAND Corporation in 1968 after 13 years of research on language and computing. Hays is honorary member of the International Committee on Computational Linguistics, editor (1974-78) of the American Journal of Computational Linguistics, and former chairman of NSF's Social Science Advisory Committee.

THE PRESS offers no free literature, but is preparing to issue a Newsletter. A $1 deposit will bring the first few issues, including more about the hardware reviews. THE PRESS is located at Twin Willows, 5048 Lake Shore Road, Hamburg, New York 14075; the telephone number is 716-627-5571.

PUBLISHING AJCL

DAVID G. HAYS
THE PRESS, at Twin Willows
May 20, 1978

A letter to: ACL Executive Committee, AJCL Editorial Board

Dear Colleague:

My term as Editor expires, by my definition. at the end of
the present calendar year. The Association will choose a
new Editor; at the same time, I think that some changes in
operations are appropriate'.

In the 1960s, I proposed the use of ultramicrofiches for
library development; but I said, if I did not write, that
photographic storage had a time limit; and the predicted
time is now up.

To supplement my University salary, I am organizing The Press
at Twin Willows. The enclosure describes the earliest form
of the venture; I hope for rapid evolution.

It would be to my commercial advantage to act as publisher.
for AJCL. I believe that if ACL adopts the word-processing
and lexicographic businesses as areas of applied computa-
tional linguistics the Association can grow and serve' a sig-
nificant role in improvement of the common weal; and for The
Press to help would be very pleasant and profitable.

As Editor, I have contributed the use of space and equipment
that I paid for myself, and some small help that the Univer-
sity gave. The new Editor may have more to offer, making The
Press redundant; in that case, I should like to open negotia-
tions for secondary publications extracted from AJCL.

The Press cannot offer quite so much; it will be necessary to
bill the Association for machine time and personnel costs.
But only out-of-pocket costs will appear on invoices if the
Association decides to deal with The Press.

As for member services, we can continue microfiches; offer
hard copy; move up quickly or slowly to typographic quality;
issue newsletters along with quarterly journal; and give
online access to computer files. Most of that can be done
immediately, but some of it may have to wait a few months.

It is up to the Association to say what it needs, if anything

Sincerely

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PERSPECTIVES AND DIRECTIONS FOR RESEARCH

DONALD E. WALKER, HANS KARLGREN, MARTIN KAY. EDS.

SKRIPTOR, Stockholm, Sweden, 1977

FID Publication 551

This book presents the results of a Workshop on Linguistics and Information Science organized by the Committee on Linguistics in Documentation of the International Federation for Documentation (FID/LD) and by the KVAL Institute for Information Science. It contains a series of papers that provide perspectives on linguistics and information science from the vantage points of information science (F. W. Lancaster, University of Illinois), library science (Derek Austin, The British Library), quantitative linguistics (Wolf Moskovich, Hebrew University of Jerusalem), computational linguistics (Naomi Sager, New York University), linguistics (Petr Sgall, Charles University), complex semantic information processing (Teun A. van Dijk, University of Amsterdam), and terminology (J. Goetschalckz, Commission of the European Communities). The book also features a challenge paper on the linguistics of information science (Hans Karlgren, KVAL Institute for Information Science) that delineates major issues in this area. These papers are bracketed by an overview of the Workshop (Donald E. Walker, SRI International) and by a review of the field (Karen Sparck Jones, Cambridge University, and Martin Kay, Xerox Palo Alto Research Center) that updates the book Linguistics in Information Science, a comprehensive survey prepared several years ago by Sparck Jones and Kay under the auspices of FID/LD (Academic Press, New York, 1973).

Natural Language in Information Science will be of interest to specialists in the areas referenced above and to anyone who wants to know more about the potential of natural language processing for information science. The price is $10.00 (U.S.) plus postage and handling. Order as follows:

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> SRI International
> Menlo Park, California 94025, USA

a̶f̶i̶p̶s̶ **Washington Report**

* *

Vol. IV, No. 6   June, 1978

AFIPS IN WASHINGTON

AFIPS CONVENES CONFERENCE ON WHITE HOUSE, CONGRESSIONAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS; SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ADDRESS AFIPS AUDIENCE ,

High-level Government officials last month addressed senior members of
AFIPS in a special Washington briefing on White House and Congressional
information systems. The AFIPS Conference on White House and Congressional
Information systems, held May 2nd in the Presidential Press Conference
Room of the Old Executive Office Building, was attended by: Mr. Richard
Harden, special assistant to the President; Mr. Carl Calo, assistant
director for Information Systems, Office of Administration, Executive
Office of the President (EOP); Mr. Edward Zimmerman, special assistant
to the director, Office of Administration, EOP; Rep. Charlie Rose (D-
N.C.), chairman, House Policy Group on Information and Computers; Mr.
John Swearingen, director of Information Systems, U.S. Senate; Mr. Neal
Gregory, staff director, House Policy Group on Information and Computers;
and Mr. Boyd Alexander, director, House Information Systems. About 70
AFIPS' individuals attended the special briefing, including officers,
members of the Board of Directors, presidents of the constituent societies,
and committee chairmen.

WHITE HOUSE, CONGRESSIONAL OFFICIALS ADDRESS AFIPS AUDIENCE (AFIPS/T.C. White)

Special Assistant, to the President Richard Harden told the audience
that there are "long-range plans" for developing computer communications
between the White House and Capitol Hill. (Previous reports have indicated
that such communications could include sharing of budget information.) A
minicomputer in every Congressman's office (or at least clusters of
minis shared by Congressmen) were possibilities discussed by Congressional
participants in the conference.

Opening the White House presentation, Mr. Harden outlined the need for
improved information management within the EOP! He noted that the typical
Presidential adviser may be considering 30 to 40 issues with five to 10
issues of major importance being considered at a given moment. For each
issue, Harden said, several Federal agencies may be involved, as well as
a number of Congressional committees, and other groups.

Carl Calo outlined plans for the Executive Office systems as follows:

Access to various nonconfidential systems, both public and
private. These might include (1) publicly available information from
Executive Branch systems, such as: FAPRS, the Federal Assistance
Program Retrieval System, developed by the Department of Agriculture;
and the Department of Justice's JURIS, the Justice Retrieval System; (2)
Capitol Hill systems, such as: LEGIS, the Legislative Information and
Status System; SOPAD, Summary of Proceedings and Debate; and SCORPIO,
Subject/Content-Oriented Retriever for Processing Information On-Line;
and (3) commercial resources, such as: the New York Times Information Bank,
Lockheed's Dialog, and Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates' (EFA)
economic modeling and data services.

A series of information processing utilities available to all
users. These might include correspondence control, word processing and
text editing, project tracking, and a document filing and retrieval system.

Various special-purpose systems to meet specific needs of
individual offices. Examples of present systems are: the Office of
Management and Budget's (OMB) Budget Preparation System; the White House's
Congressional Vote Analyses System; and the Office of the Vice-President's
Time Analysis System.

A request for proposal for development of this system is expected to be
issued early in July, following review by the General Services Administration,
it was announced at the AFIPS Conference. Until July, Mr. Calo said that
a "temporary upgrade" would be accomplished "with little or no increase in
present expenditures." He stressed that the upgrade would be replaced at
the time of the final procurement. [Ed.: At press time, it was learned
that Interdata, Inc., Oceanport, New Jersey, performed the temporary upgrade.]

Ed Zimmerman noted that in developing the plans for the White House systems,
the EOP has talked with the National Telecommunications and Information
Administration (NTIA), the new unit within the Commerce Department; and is
considering the recommendations of the Paperwork Commission. Mr. Zimmerman
also announced that a demonstration of an advanced communications information
retrieval system, accessing demographic information from the Census Bureau,
is scheduled in June on Capitol Hill, and in the Old Executive Office Building.

In the question-and-answer session on White House information systems that followed, several individuals in the audience asked how privacy requirements will be met in the new systems. While there will be direct access of public data, Harden noted that private information will only be available to the White House in summarized form, and will not include individual records. Other questioners asked how the quality of information retrieved by the systems would be safeguarded. Zimmerman said that EOP would be selective in using data, and would constantly monitor its quality, as is done in maintaining the quality of a good library, he said.

In response to a question about the use of the systems at the very highest levels of the White House, Harden replied that the President might eventually use a CRT screen in his office.

Opening the presentation on Congressional information systems, Rep. Charlie Rose noted that two-way cable has already been installed in all Congressmen's offices and will permit video as well as data communication. (The House has recently authorized members to purchase, out of their office budgets, color televisions which could be used as display terminals.) In addition, Mr. Rose cited the improved communications with constituents through the use of word processing equipment. He also discussed the importance of computerized mailing lists for Congressmen in countering inaccurate mailings by lobby groups.

Neal Gregory stated that some 230 Congressmen now use terminals to access LEGIS, SOPAD, SCORPIO and JURIS. LEGIS provides information on bill status in both the House and Senate; SOPAD gives an on-going account of proceedings in both Houses; and JURIS contains numerous Justice Department legal briefs. (Some 300 members will have terminals by the end of the year.) Mr. Gregory cited the need for even more advanced word processing equipment to handle at least some of the eight million letters received each month in the House.

Boyd Alexander noted that a detailed, three-month study of members is being initiated to determine the need for additional information systems in the House. He announced that an Amdahl 470V5 had just been purchased to expand the scope of information services. [*Ed.*: An Amdahl spokesman said delivery was expected May 15th.] According to Mr. Alexander, a list of members' recorded votes will be added to LEGIS around July.

John Swearingen announced a new Senate study released in May, entitled *Information Systems for the United States* (#). Mr. Swearingen also noted the need for separate House and Senate groups to oversee information systems, stating that the situation in the two Houses is comparable to different companies with varying rules and procedures. He added that computer usage in the Senate is less than that in the House. According to Swearingen, the Senate receives up to two million letters per month, or 600 letters per week that could be handled (at least in part) by word processing equipment.

In the ensuing question and answer session on Congressional systems, Mr. Rose announced that the House Administration Committee is close to adopting a rule forbidding the use of members' computerized mailing lists by campaign committees. (An ethics rule of the Senate incorporates a similar provision.)

AFIPS President Dr. Theodore J. Williams introduced the participants and moderated the discussions. Washington Activities Committee Chairman Keith W. Uncapher complimented AFIPS volunteers for objectivity in providing technical information to the Government. Mr. Uncapher noted that differing views can be extremely valuable to high-level policymakers who must consider all options. The Washington Activities Committee chairman also introduced Alexander D. Roth, recently named to head the AFIPS Washington Office.

WASHINGTON DEVELOPMENTS

APPEALS COURT ORDERS AT&T, FCC TO IMPLEMENT PREVIOUS EXECUNET RULING, REFUSES TO RECONSIDER DECISION; AT&T SEEKS STAY WHILE ASKING SUPREME COURT TO PONDER CASE

The Bell system operating companies have begun processing requests by MCI Communications Corp., a Washington-based specialized carrier, for local telephone connections allowing MCI to expand its long-distance phone service, Execunet, to 12 additional cities. In April, the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington ordered AT&T and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to implement the court's July, 1977, ruling which authorized the Execunet service. In May, the court refused to reconsider its earlier decision as requested by AT&T and the FCC. At press time, AT&T is seeking a stay while it asks the Supreme Court to consider the case.

Despite the 1977 appeals court ruling (which the Supreme Court would not overrule last January), the Federal Communications Commission, in February (see *Washington Report*, 4/78, p. 3), held that AT&T was not required to make the additional local connections required to implement Execunet. At that time, only Commissioner Joseph Fogarty dissented from the FCC, ruling, stating that the commission's action nullified the 1977 appeals court ruling. In its April ruling the court agreed, arguing that "MCI is in effect no better off than it was during the entire course of the litigation in this court. Notwithstanding our favorable decision, it is unable to expand Execunet."

The appeals court contended that AT&T and the FCC "twisted the issues we contemplated in this case beyond recognition." AT&T had argued that it would have to raise long-distance telephone rates if competition was introduced by MCI into densely populated areas with Execunet. The FCC held that the local connections should be denied, contingent on its study into the effects of competition on AT&T.

The Execunet service, which provides voice and data communications, involves calling a local number, then giving a code number to be connected through MCI's network with another telephone in one of 18 cities now served by Execunet. The appeals court decision is also expected to affect Southern Pacific Communications Co.'s plans to market a service similar to Execunet, called Sprint.

The Federal Reserve Board has issued final approval for a nationwide interconnection of automated (check) clearing houses (ACHs) which, by the end of this year, could permit the Fed's corporate customers to debit or credit their private customers' accounts using the Federal Reserve Communications System (FRCS) (see *Washington Report*, 3/78, p. 8). In the past, the Fed has provided ACH check processing, check settlement, and check delivery services on a strictly regional basis.

The April decision follows a 1976 pilot program undertaken by the Fed which was criticized by a former White House Office of Telecommunications Policy (OTP) official as a "surreptitious development of an'on-line capability." In the interregional pilot program, some of the Fed's corporate customers filed debit or credit instructions on magnetic tape with their local ACHs. These instructions were then transmitted with FCRS to other regional ACHs and eventually to the corporate customers' banks.

In January, seeking comment on the proposed nationwide program, the Fed's Board of Governors said that "the probable long-run efficiencies resulting from interconnection of all operating ACH facilities justify the Board's action at this time to provide these services . . . Moreover, the Board regards its action to interconnect the current regional ACH facilities as a research and development program that will provide technical data and experience in the operation of the nationwide ACH facilities. The Federal Reserve System intends to make this information available to those in the private sector interested in the development of alternative systems."

The Fed also cited recommendations of the National Commission on Electronic Fund Transfers (NCEFT) (see *Washington Report*, 11/77, p. 2) which urged the Fed to continue development of "ACH-like services,"·while also encouraging private sector development in the same area. However, the Privacy Protection Study Commission (see *Washington Report*, 8/77, p. 2) recommended that "no Government entity be allowed to own, operate, or otherwise manage any part of an electronic payments mechanism that involves.transactions among private parties." The Fed has recently implemented procedures which mandate removal of most all individual names held in a data base after 30 days.
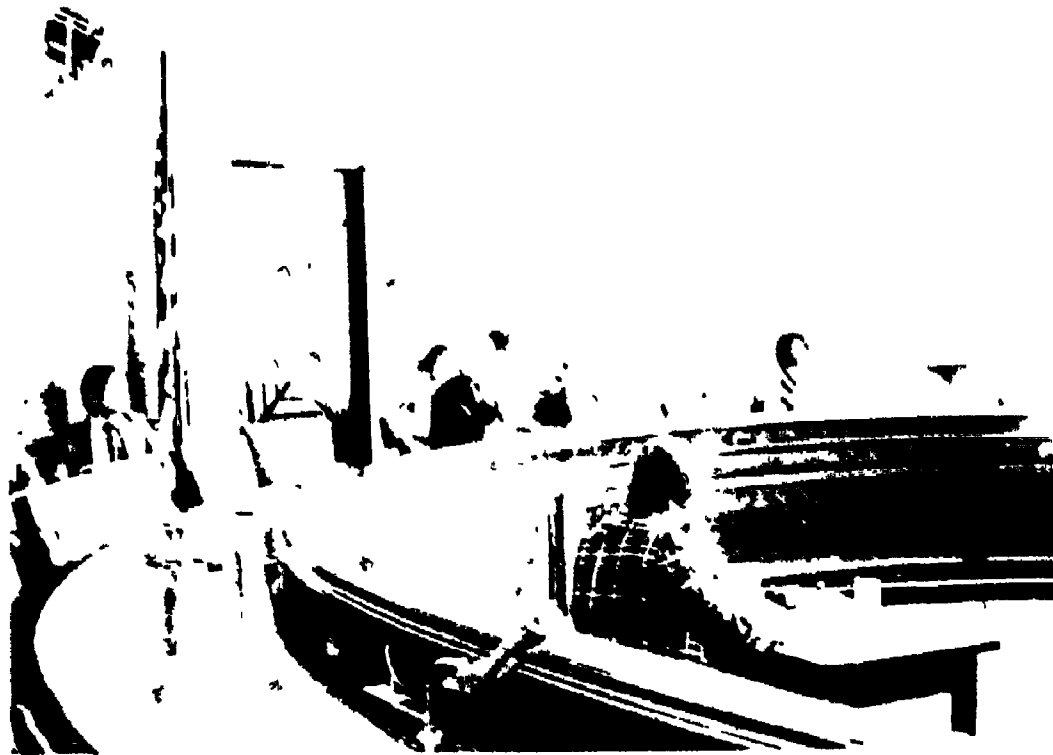
According to the Fed, 95 out of 121 sets of comments received since last January endorsed the interregional ACH connection. Among those critical of the program, the Department of Justice noted that Federal Reserve involvement would discourage the private sector from developing similar systems because the Fed does not charge for its program.

In its January announcement, the Fed added that provision of the "inter-bank service" should also "enhance the opportunities open to depository institutions for developing improved 'retail' payments services for the public." Although not provided for in this nationwide ACH interconnection, a point-of-sale (POS) switch could conceivably link consumers and retailers with ACHs and the Fed. The NCEFT urged the Federal government not to become involved "operationally" in POS switches "at present or in the foreseeable future."

POLICYMAKING REPORTEDLY BEING CENTRALIZED IN WHITE HOUSE AS GELLER HEARING HELD ON NEW ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE NOMINATION

Generally recognized as the Carter Administration's chief potential spokesman on telecommunication policy, Henry Geller appeared before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation to answer questions about his nomination by the President as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information. Although receiving a friendly welcome from the Senate committee, Geller's appearance on April 14th was overshadowed by a controversy over the failure of Barry Jagoda, special assistant to the President for Media and Public Affairs, to appear before the committee as requested on the same day.

Presidential Adviser Said to Exceed Role in Telecommunications. Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.) invited Jagoda to appear before the committee to respond to allegations that Mr. Carter's special assistant might be exceeding his authority as adviser to the President, thus detracting from Geller's presumed status as chief spokesman for telecommunications policy. In declining to appear, Jagoda wrote Hollings that (as special assistant) his role is "advisory, and I have no decisionmaking authority in tele-communications policy." It appears, at press time, that until Jagoda's status is resolved to the committee's satisfaction, the Geller nomination will be delayed.

HOLLINGS, COMMERCE COMMITTEE GIVE FRIENDLY RECEPTION TO GELLER (AFIPS/P. McCarter)

Policymaking Said Being Centralized in White House. Although the President's reorganization of computer-related bodies stressed the need for combining the functions of the White House Office of Telecommunications Policy with the Commerce Department's Office of Telecommunications in order to strengthen Cabinet government, recent developments (including the Jagoda controversy) indicate that the President may be centralizing policymaking in the White House.

Mr. Carter's aides and Cabinet met in April at Camp David reportedly to determine procedures for centralizing long-range decisionmaking in the White House. The apparent shift in emphasis from Cabinet government to an increase in White House responsibility is further dramatized by the recent appointment of Anne Wexler as special assistant to the President. Ms. Wexler was formerly deputy undersecretary for Regional Affairs in the Department of Commerce.

Geller Describes Working Relationship With Commerce Secretary, President.
At his Senate confirmation hearing, Assistant Secretary of Commerce-designate Geller described his relationship with the Secretary of Commerce, Juanita M. Kreps, and to the President. According to the nominee, he would bring "important decisions" such as those concerned with common carriers and Execunet to Secretary Kreps, with whom Geller says he has "ready access." Prior to meeting with Carter, Geller indicated he would talk first with Mrs. Kreps. Asked how he would react on a disagreement with the Secretary, Geller replied, simply: "She wins."

NTIA to Formulate Position on Bell Bill.' According to the nominee, the new National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), which Geller will head at Commerce, is formulating a position on the *Consumer and Communications Reform Act*, the "Bell Bill," which F called the "most important issue in telecommunications." Geller said failure to study this issue would make NTIA "an advocate." He added that NTIA is beginning its own studies on subsidies in the Bell System (*i.e.*, whether revenues flow primarily from the private line services to the public line services, as Bell claims, or vice versa). Geller also said that NTIA will participate in the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rulemaking on message toll service (MTS) and wide-area toll service (WATS).

Electronic Mail. Privacy Issues, Transborder Data Flow Take Precedence Over EFTS. In the nominee's March interview with the AFIPS Washington Office (see *Washington Report*, 4/78, Supplement), Geller noted that NTIA is studying electronic mail, e.g., "Should the U.S. Postal Service go into electronic mail? . . . Are you going to give them [a] monopoly, not likely. Will there be an advantage if they start competing with Bell or Satellite Business Systems?" According to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce-designate, electronic mail, privacy issues and transborder data flow are "proceeding in a faster track" than electronic funds transfer (EFTS). He told AFIPS Research Associate Pender M. McCarter: "We have those ahead of EFTS. We are doing electronic mail right now, looking at what should be done. We are deeply in the midst of privacy and will continue. And, we have made a commitment of resources to the international transborder data flow issue." Geller described NTIA as a "focal point" on transborder data flow, saying: "We ought to be doing the digging and supplying the information to the State Department, to the Congress, and others, as may be necessary."

Geller's Nomination Endorsed. Also appearing before the Senate Committee, in support of Geller's nomination, were: Rep. Herbert E. Harris II (D-Va.); Ms. Valeri Byrd, staff director, National Black Media Coalition; and Mr. Paul G. Zurkowski, president, Information Industry Association. Following Mr. Zurkowski's presentation, Sen. Hollings solicited "help from your organization and others, on the convergence of computer and communications."