

COMPARISON OF SIX INTERACTIVE TEXT EDITORS

by

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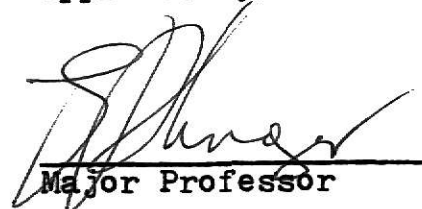
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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The Important Role of Interactive Text Editors

In a class recently conducted at Kansas State University in automated office systems it was revealed that a recent survey indicated that between 1970 and 1980 the number of white collar workers in the United States increased to a point where white collar workers outnumber blue collar workers in the total work force. Additionally, the rate of increase in the number of white collar workers exceeds the rate of increase in blue collar workers. By 1985, it is estimated that two thirds of the United States work force will be composed of white collar or office workers.

Vincent Giuliano asserts in a recent Scientific American article that "In 1955 the odds were overwhelming that someone working at an alphabetic keyboard device was female and either a typist or a key punch operator. No longer. The keyboard workers are both female and male and the typewriterlike devices now accomplish an astonishing variety of tasks." (Giul82, p. 150) In this article he suggests that in the future office workers will operate from a "virtual office." Offices will not be defined as geographic locations in a building with a desk across which papers constantly flow. The office will be identified directly with the worker; the office can be where the worker