

UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY  
COURSES IN PROGRAMMING FOR IBM 1620 COMPUTER

Dear

Following his introductory seminar given in February, Mr Bruce Moon, IBM Applied Science Representative for New Zealand, is to conduct two comprehensive programming courses for the 1620 computer in the May vacation.

Course 1

This will cover programming in the 1620 basic machine language and will deal fully with the 1620 symbolic programming system, SPS. It will occupy four and a half days (about 27 hours) from Monday, May 8 to Friday, May 12.

Course 2

This will be concerned exclusively with the simplified programming system known as FORTRAN and will be held from Monday, May 15 to Friday, May 19 occupying only half each day (about 15 hours total).

The courses will be independent and either or both may be attended. Course 2 alone would suffice for those whose problems are not too big and for which the same type of computation is unlikely to be repeated many times. The FORTRAN method is relatively very quick but does not produce the most efficient programs. Course 1 would be necessary for those with large or long term computing programs or for those who require a fairly intimate knowledge of the logic of this machine. The two recommended alternatives are (a) both courses, (b) course 2 only.

Mr Moon feels it would be desirable to limit the number of participants to about 20. It is suggested, therefore, that the courses are for those who have definite computing problems in view, say within the next 18 months and that they should in the main be limited to staff and senior research students. Similar courses will be available in the University early in 1962.

Intending participants for either or both courses are asked to advise either of the undersigned as soon as possible and not later than April 20. It would be appreciated if you would circulate this notice among your staff.

B.R. Penfold  
Chemistry Department

F.M. Henderson  
Civil Engineering Department