FROM THE PRESIDENT

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NCC '78—the greatest ever

The menu in Anaheim will range from artificial intelligence to Disneyland. Lest some of you think those two areas are not too far apart, I shall elucidate further. Approximately 100 sessions are planned in applications, methodology, systems, and people and society. Twelve professional development seminars complement the regular program. Personal computing will be big—a festival of papers, tutorials, vendor exhibits, and a "home brew" contest. Add to this the IEEE Micromouse Maze contest.

Accompanying these papers will be the largest array of computer wares ever exhibited—350 organizations, 1400 booths, 4000 industry representations—and you will like some of the industry representatives.

Why talk about it here? The NCC is unique in a spectrum of many conferences and exhibitions. We believe every computer professional should experience this view of our profession. And we take special pride in the fact that IEEE-CS antecedents initiated the series some 27 years ago. We've continually supported the conferences, as an organization, and by the personal efforts of many of our members. This year we make a special note of the major achievements of General Chairman Steve Miller and Co-Program Chairman Sakti Ghosh—both accomplished Computer Society volunteers. Along with Co-Program Chairman Leonard Liu they have developed a comprehensive and timely educational program for the full range of computer professionals. DP management, program methodology, software tools, and performance evaluations get special treatment. Some 10 application areas receive extra attention, including energy, electronic funds transfer, and office automation. Microprocessor applications will be represented consistent with the industry revolution it is creating.
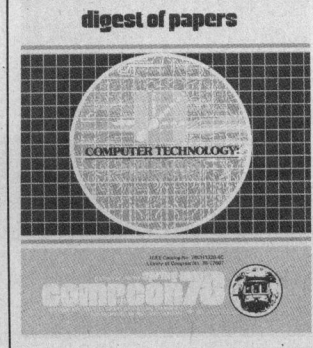
Other areas important to our future include data base management, data networks, distributed systems, and image processing. And in a broader social context, there are computing careers, education, computer and communication policies and legislation, and computer hobbying. The orientations are education and pespective in the "new frontiers in information processing."

And then there really *is* Disneyland. NCC always makes attractive arrangements for conference attendees. I expect to see you there—except during technical sessions, of course.

It's time to take advantage of advance registration (see registration information included in this issue). And if you're one of the few not on the NCC mailing for an advance program, write directly to NCC, c/o AFIPS, 210 Summit Avenue, Montvale, N.J. 07645.

NCC '78 is June 5-8 in Anaheim, California. You're cordially invited.

Merlin G. Smith
President