

## Editorial Preview

This issue continues the DSS series started in our December issue. The series editor, Ralph H. Sprague, Jr., has invited an article from one of the initiators of the DSS movement, Professor Peter G. W. Keen of Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This article focuses upon the very difficult issue of deciding whether or not to invest the time and money necessary to develop a DSS.

The Application Section contains three articles. The first is a very provocative piece written by Dr. Franz Edelman who has just retired from RCA Corporation and has entered private consulting. The article takes an historical approach to information processing and looks to the future of managing information resources. All MIS managers should read this article and take Dr. Edelman's message seriously. The second article in the section deals with a much more detailed and well defined subject, online computer auditing. Harvey S. Koch, from the University of Rochester, describes a simulation procedure for auditing internal controls. The section's third article describes a technique for information analysis with which most of us are probably unfamiliar, *mise-en-scène* analysis. The authors, Ken and Julie Kendall of the University of Nebraska, present an approach which can broaden the scope of thinking in the systems analysis process.

The article in the Theory and Research Section is by Professor Mary Lippitt Nichols of the University of Minnesota's Department of Management. This article is of special relevance since it describes a procedure for predicting and assessing potential systems implementation problems. A case study describing the procedure is included.

**GARY W. DICKSON**  
**SENIOR EDITOR**