

In the course of the meal I do not remember just how it came up, but there was some mention about word processors, and I spoke of my battlement with mine. I mentioned that I have ~~feel~~ feel I am learning a good bit about it and making some progress just about every day. I do not feel that it ~~x~~ is really a help as yet; ~~in~~ in fact, up to the present it is taking much more time than it is saving. It is really a very complicated thing. The actual matter of editing with it I ~~am~~ have found very easy to get on to. I have not difficulty at all with that thought it is a bit complicated. However, the putting it in and getting it started and stopping it and various other parts of it have really puzzled me. As I was speaking of it I forgot for the moment the fact that Mrs. Davidson is supposed to be quite an expert on computers. However And she did, in the course of the conversation, say one thing that was worth a great deal to me for it greatly relieved me of one at one ~~point~~ point about the computer. However, I have come to realize that there are many ~~com~~ computers and many systems of using them (they call these "soft-ware" "software") and there is tremendous variety among them. Most of the small computers use diskettes. However, the a great many of those who work with ~~com~~ computers work with what they call "terminals" which are connected either on the telephone or a shorter distance by direct wire to one bit computer. Thus there are particular problems with the small computer that are different from those of people using the big computer. One particular problem with the small computer that has bothered me is the fact that one can easily exceed the area that is available in the computer. IN fact, the impression Dr. Bloom told me, when I talked with him the other day, that he had had much trouble with his word processor when he first got it (I don't know how long ago tat was). His word processor is quite a bit larger than mine I understand, though I have never seen it, and also that it has a number of attachments that mine does not have, and it is a different system, but there is much similarity between the two. He felt that I should not actually to fill more than a third of the computer each diskette else you are apt to lose material. I had learned that one could write stat "stat" for status "status", and then that the computer would tell how much of the diskette