computer

Old Time Computing

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Oh the decimal system lingers Used for counting on your fingers Good for children and filk singers And it's good enough for me.

Charles Babbage got things started But he's long dead and departed Left poor Ada brokenhearted But he's good enough for me.

The machine designed by Turing Has a history quite stirring And it slowly keeps on whirring And it's good enough for me.

Oh we all adore Grace Hopper After COBOL you can't stop her There is no-one who can top her And she's good enough for me.

Herman Hollerith is cursed designed the punch card and what's worst he's Buried face down nine edge first he's Buried deep enough for me. Dear old FORTRAN's still among us Just keeps spreading like a fungus But for crunching jobs humungus It's still good enough for me.

Algol 60 had recursion And though some say it's subversion We've rejected the new version 60's good enough for me

LISP has deeply-nested EXPR's CONSes CADDAR's and FEXPR's So it's only used by experts But it's good enough for me.

Old computers dwarfed their makers With their tubes and circuit breakers And they sprawled about for acres But they're good enough for me.

Oh the IBM six-fifty Had a memory quite nifty On a drum revolving swiftly It was good enough for me.

Oh the sixteen-twenty's famous Couldn't add so who could blame us When we called it ignoramus It was good enough for me.

Well the B Fifty-Five Hundred Thought in Polish and we wondered Whether Burroughs might have blundered But it's good enough for me.

Though computers seem like magic We can think of other adjectives that border on the tragic And that's quite enough for me.

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