

Period	Number of Items	%
Up to 1949	9	30.0
1950-1959	7	23.3
1960-1969	10	33.3
1970-1979	3	10.0
1980-1982	1	3.4
	30	100.0

The editors' idea of obscurity in respect to time or parent sources of three writings is hardly borne out by these two tables. Nevertheless, this source book has its own numerous advantages. It is highly welcome of its own: its beauty justifies its existence. Instant accessibility and historical value are two other major advantages.

The arrangement of material is chronological. It is both easy and helpful. Subject approach has been provided through a meticulous subject index given at the end along with an equally valuable name index. Chronological arrangement allows the reader "to explore the genesis and development of some of the most significant ideas in the field". In the above chronological split we see that the 1960's decade (10% of the period covered) is alone responsible for one third of the total contributions. This was the decade of the Elsinore Conference (1965) when classification studies per se were in their heydays. The Elsinore Conference and the *Sayers Memorial Volume* (1961) have made two contributions each for this highly select anthology. This speaks of the importance of these two sources as well as of their period. Some of the other writings are papers presented at Conferences such as Dorking (1957), Ottawa (1972), and Augsburg (1982). One wonders if there was no enduring and worthwhile paper at the Bombay Conference (1975)?

Every chapter is prefaced by a succinct and encapsulating note on the life and work of each of the authors presenting very lucidly the essence of the essay that follows. The editors have not exhibited equal familiarity with every author. Nevertheless, it remains a very valuable feature of the book. It is ventured to suggest that these prefatory essays be expanded and published as a separate book on the lives and works of subject analysts. The suggested byproduct work may add another dimension to the literature on subject analysis, as does this present work.

There is no question of reviewing the contents - a cross section of the best in the field. All the authors are big wigs, safe in the citadel of their beliefs. And like Caesar's wife they are above criticism (suspicion). All these writings have had indelible influence on the theory and practice of subject analysis. "These illuminate the past and point towards the future trends." This documentary book portrays the picture of the subject in its various developments, stages, and ramifications. However, the editors have not given their own assessment of the development of the subject. They have not drawn any overview from the book. It seems left to the chroniclers and scholars of the field to draw their own picture and conclusions. The editors, some of the noted U.S. luminaries in the field, have fruitfully joined hands to produce a document of enduring value. It is likely to facilitate and stimulate further research in the field. Speaking from the production angle it seems one of the

best books published anywhere in our discipline. Will anyone from the Western World confirm my limited experience from a Third World Country?

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COCHRANE, Pauline A.: *Redesign of Catalogs and Indexes for Improved Online Subject Access: Selected Papers of Pauline A.Cochrane*. Phoenix, AZ: Oryx Press 1985. XII,484p., ISBN 0-89774-158-7

In 1986 Pauline A. Cochrane received for this book and "because of her many contributions to the field of classification throughout the last 25 years" the "Ranganathan Award for Classification Research" from the Committee on Classification Research of the International Federation for Documentation (FID/CR).

The book contains 30 contributions. 13 are journal articles, two are chapters from books, and the remaining are conference papers, parts of reports, and previously unpublished papers, written between 1961 and 1984.

The book is organized in five parts. The first part is on the design of catalogues and indexes. It starts with a contribution (written in 1965) on the question of compatibility of authority files for known-item searches and for subject access, a problem that still is not solved for subject access. The other contributions in this part all deal with the question which characteristics a good online catalogue should have. Cochrane always has stressed the point that subject access is important, not only for information retrieval systems, but for catalogues too. The emphasis in catalogue automation should not be on duplication of the methods used in the good old card catalogue, with its main entries and authority lists of personal and corporate names and subject headings. They are important and should not be abandoned, but for the online catalogue "subject access and retrieval of information" should be a child of "library automation and computerized information retrieval". For Cochrane this means that the structure of library catalogue records has to be redesigned for searching. The best features of the card catalogue and the printed indexes, combined with many new features made possible by the new technologies, will make online catalogues that attract users and satisfy their needs. In 1983 Cochrane wrote the last paragraph of this part: "The challenge for the library profession now is not how to convert card catalogs to online catalogs, but how to convert unifunctional catalogs into multifunctional catalogs where known-item and topical-subject searches can both be successfully completed".

The second part of the book deals with the user. The main theme is: let designers of online catalogues listen to the researchers who have found out how library catalogues are used and who tell us which problems users have. The part starts with 50 pages taken from Cochrane's lectures in India in 1973 on catalogue use studies, followed by two review articles on the same topic. The main finding of the research on online catalogues is, that with an online catalogue (or interactive catalogue, the

term Cochrane prefers) far more users are doing subject searching than with the card catalog. Probably the reason for this finding is not that the users in the sixties did not want to make subject searches, but that the interactive catalogue is better equipped for this type of searches. The possibility alone to search on all words of the title and not on the first only, has improved subject access.

The third part of the book deals with the central theme of the work of Pauline Cochrane: what can be done to improve subject access. Subject access is defined as "The approaches to subject matter in a collection. The approach may be systematic (as in the classified arrangement of books on a library shelf) or the approach may be topical (as in the subject headings in the card catalog) or the approach may be "natural or free" (as in the title words or words in an abstract or subject description if they are for matching with query words online)" (p.223-4). Both subject cataloguing and retrieval by subject are part of subject access! This part contains nine contributions written between 1963 and 1984. Much of what is said in the older ones was revolutionary in the time it was written, but those ideas are now widely accepted. In an article published in 1982 she argues in favour of automatic interaction between searcher and computer system to find the best search terms. Finding the right search terms is still the most difficult problem for the users of interactive catalogues (as it was with the card catalogue). In the last article of this part (written in 1984) Cochrane shows by the example of Papua New Guinea, that the question is not free text vs. controlled vocabulary, nor Boolean vs. non-Boolean searches. The question remains how to design a catalogue that for each question shows the relevant books and hides the non-relevant without much effort from the user. In my personal view we are still far

from an easy-to-use interactive catalogue that gives excellent results: high recall and high precision.

The fourth part deals with the question whether classification has a use online. It contains excerpts of the reports on the project AUDACIOUS, published in 1967 and 1968. This project (done with Robert R. Freeman) studied the question whether the UDC could be used in an automated catalogue. Still very interesting! In another paper (from 1982) Cochrane shows how classification can help the user who wants to browse in an interactive catalogue. Why not use the classmarks present in many records of the catalogue, together with a possibility to find the right classmark through an online search in the classification tables?

The last part of this book gives three contributions from the project "Books are for use" (1976-1978) using an interactive catalogue in which the records were augmented with terms taken from the table of contents or the index of the book. The augmented catalogue performed impressively better than the catalogue without augmentation.

The publication of this book makes again clear, how important the ideas of Pauline Cochrane were and are for the development of the modern interactive catalogue. Not only has she always been a supporter of better subject access in catalogues, but she also did a lot of research that support her ideas.

This collection of articles, etc. should be read by everyone engaged in the development of interactive catalogues and by the students of courses on information science.

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