

I criticize Berman (especially in the polemical and bullying attitude and the sophomorphism of his own work and that of many of his followers), he does aim at an essential point: *much that is done "for" us by national agencies such as the Library of Congress must be done right, even if that means it has to be done over, by ourselves.* He is (unfortunately) right to expect non-acceptance by many:

This "do-it-yourself" approach may strike some as tedious and even sinful, since it indisputably violates the holy canons of standardization and "follow-the-leader." (p. 185)

— but *he* is right, not those who follow the leader: what good are we or our libraries unless we *can retrieve what our users need?* and how can we expect to retrieve what they need unless we *store what they need* with those needs in mind?

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#### Notes:

- 1 See Perreault, J.M.: Some Perils of the 'User-Friendly' Attitude in Cataloguing. In: Simonton, W. (Ed.): *Advantages in Librarianship* 14 (1985) (Orlando, Fla.: Academic Press 1985) [in press].
- 2 See the paper cited in fn. 1.
- 3 *Int. Classif.* 5 (1978) p. 120.

HARROD, Leonard Montague: **Harrod's Librarians' Glossary** of terms used in librarianship, documentation and the book crafts and **Reference Book**. 5th ed. Revised and updated by Ray Prytherch. Aldershot, Hants. Gower Publ. Co. 1984. 861 p. £ 37.50, ISBN 0-566-03460-3

Five editions within less than half a century of its existence bear witness to the striking popularity of this one volumed multipurpose reference book. Its successive editions demonstrate a success story of a book which is more than a "Librarian's glossary . . . and reference book".

Harrod has deservedly become a household name in librarianship. Successive generations of librarians have learned on this work. Over the years it has secured a niche of its own and every serious student of Library and Information science (LIS) desires this book to be at her/his elbow and makes this the first port of call. This dependence has increased ever the more since Thomas Landau's encyclopaedia became dated and non-extant. To be brief, it pervades our works and thoughts and is a part of the librarian's lore in the real sense of the word. It has survived many upheavals both in the LIS field and in its publishing history. This is due to its abiding intrinsic merit.

The first edition of 1938 contained only 1600 terms and aimed at meeting "the requirements of Library Association's examination". But it proved to be of much more value to many shades of librarians, as it still does. The second edition of 1959 with a total of 2800 terms had 75% more entries than the first. The third edition (1971) of about 5650 entries registered a 100% growth; in many ways is still considered the best and revolutionary edition. The fourth edition (1977, reprinted 1982) had about 6750 terms. All these edi-

tions are based on the immediately preceding ones respectively. They are the product of the labour, knowledge, organization, skill, and imagination of one man; Mr. Leonard Montague Harrod. It is his mentefact and it is he who created and established it as an institution of LIS. As Mr. Harrod is now in his eighth decade of life, the responsibility of updating and perpetuating of his work has fallen on Mr. Ray J. Prytherch, an experienced teacher, educationist, and a prolific writer, who has at his disposal one of the richest collections in the field of LIS embodied in the school library of Leeds Polytechnic.

The fifth edition in question has been revised by Prytherch in consultation with Mr. Harrod. This edition in line with the previous edition has affected about 1000 terms of which 300 are newly added, while 700 have been retouched or expanded. The new additions are inevitably in the area of information science and technology. The attached supplement (p. 849–861) to the fifth edition updates the entries to 1983.

The field of purview of this dictionary is very large and has widened with successive editions. The lengthy title succinctly indicates its scope. Now it has taken in its fold new areas involving new information equipment and technology. It also includes some terms concerned neither with LIS nor bookcrafts but deemed useful for the librarians. The major entries are of terms which concern concepts, institutions, associations, equipment, library and information systems and services. Some such terms have also been included which ordinarily defy definitions. This widened scope is not without its disadvantages. The included topics, though once related, are now so disparagedly apart that to straddle them is a futile exercise in all intents. It is a rendezvous not for two lovers but for strangers. Each field prevents the other from fully expressing itself. This has led in some entries to not more than expanding the abbreviations. On the average, length of an entry varies from one line to half a page.

Alphabetization is word by word. Entries have been entered under acronyms or abbreviations, if the latter are widely known. However, there are some inconsistencies, e.g., "International Conference on Cataloguing Principles" (Paris, 1961: a Conference also equally known by ICCP) has been entered as such, while for a relatively lesser known "International Meeting of Cataloguing Experts" (Copenhagen, 1969) one is cross referred to IMCE. Copious use of cross references and connectives has been made to direct the readers from a synonymous or abbreviated term not used to the term used, and to interlink the related terms. To test the efficacy of the terminology some terms were consulted at random by the reviewer. The recall ratio came out to be hundred percent.

In spite of its international use in the English speaking world, the unpronounced British bias is apparent and at times the work appears to be emphatically British. Perhaps the editors have the confidence in the capability of American librarianship to take its own care; and God is there for the developing countries. Some of Ranganathan's terms included are mostly from classification. His terminology for other fields does not find place here. Not only this, his famous Classified Code has no entry. There is no mention of the Soviet classification BBK; Ranganathan's chain indexing has been mentioned

without his name. There is no reference to POPSI – a subject indexing system which is gaining ground. And the Bangladesh Library Association still passes as East Pakistan Library Association.

Shifting our attention from regional issues, one draws a blank at Segmentation (in DC) and the starvation principle (of UDC). Dorking Conference (1957) has been entered under “International Conference on Classification for Information Retrieval” but its successive conferences in Elsinore (1964), Bombay (1975) and Augsburg (1982) are not there. The FID/CR definition of the term “classification” (p.160) has been dated as 1973, though it goes back to 1965. “Depth classification” has been entered under “close classification”. There is a little description of “information” while “knowledge” has no entry. Certainly these omissions are venial and in no way subtract any greatness from this work; let us hope that these lapses and omissions will get rectified at the first opportunity.

The third edition contained as one of its three appendices a classified checklist of all the terms. This valuable feature has been discontinued since the 4th edition. Though with the growth of the terms in numbers and in complexity the classification of terms is not that simple, even then it is felt that revival of this feature is many times worth the labour. It may have different and various uses for the different users. Unlike previous editions, sources of information have also been dispensed with. One also bemoans the disregard in the concern for the “purse of the average library assistant”. With so much of a price, it may be out of the reach of small, even average libraries in developing countries. One pines for a pocket or some other cheap edition so that it provides the best reading that it is, to the largest number at the least cost. This glossary, too, should practically contribute to the motto, which every librarian worth the salt, strives for.

Prytherch informs “that in the middle to late 1980’s a fundamental reappraisal of the glossary will take place and this new fifth edition is a transitional step on the way to a radical revision. It is the inevitable result of advancing technology and professional development that the Glossary must so change to retain its value” (Preface p. viii). The nature of revision has not been insinuated. However, it is suggested that terms exclusively concerned with publishing bookcrafts, paper etc. be put in a separate part if they are not extracted from the work altogether. It will provide more space and freedom of expression to LIS terms as such. Nevertheless, the Glossary is assured of a continued and renewed life, and we of a sumptuous, nourishing and wholesome mental food.

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**SATIJA, Mohinder Partap: Manual of Practical Colon Classification.** New Delhi-Bangalore-Jalandhar: Sterling Publ. 1984. 224p.

Since 1983 Sterling Publishers have issued four books on Colon Classification: in 1983 the 2nd ed. of M.S. Sach-

deva’s “Colon Classification” (278p.), in 1984 another 2nd and enl.ed. of the programmed text of M.P.Chand: “Colon Classification: Its Structure and Working” (155p.) and M.P.Satija’s “Manual of Practical Colon Classification”. Finally, in 1985, they added P.N.Kaula’s “Treatise on Colon Classification” to this series. The latter was reviewed by Mr.Satija in the last issue of this journal.

Mr.Satija’s Manual seems in some way to have been a kind of forerunner for the Treatise of Prof.Kaula. However, Satija meant to serve another clientele. He states in his preface that “the best guide (and authentic too) to learn CC, is CC itself. No other guide can equal its clarity and depth. But some students, perhaps psychologically, depend upon secondary explanatory material”. For them this booklet was written, but not only to help them understand and apply those rules of the Colon Classification which still seem rather obscure.

The Manual comes in the form of a handy paperback and is so well done – in my opinion – that I should like to propose that it be translated into other languages, especially into German.

It consists of two parts: Pt.1 “Theoretical principles” has 12 chapters on the following topics: Structure; Common Schedules; Common Isolates; Devices for “Self-perpetuation”; Main Class, Canonical Class, and Amplified Main Class; Complex Classes (Phase Relation); Parallel Schedules; Differential Facets; Book Numbers; Filing Sequence; CC Index; Sources of Readymade CC Class Numbers.

Pt.2 gives examples for each one of the 31 main classes of the 6th edition, usually starting with a short introduction, the facet formula and a great number of examples. In an Annex, a Table is given of various facets of different main classes. The volume concludes with a short index.

Satija has attempted to interpret every rule of Ranganathan’s classification theory. His examples are imaginative to the point of perfection; the reader has the feeling that he is in direct communication with his “teacher”; for Satija has the almost uncanny gift of anticipating questions before they are asked.

Also, he does not lack humor. He elegantly rounds off his Manual by stating: “There is nothing beyond the Law!” – this sentence following on the very last example of the Law class Z of Colon Classification: “President of the Supreme Court Bar Association of India”: Z44,81,5,g,9N,1.

There is one minor error: the definition of subject mistakenly cited as the definition of “main class” (p.3). Otherwise the book is very well edited, I did not encounter a single misprint. Several mistakes in grammar and oddities in the use of vocabulary may be found in the preface and in the general comments to the individual chapters, but not when dealing with the scientific subject. Mr.Satija shows, nevertheless, an amazing proficiency in his use of the English language, especially in the wide range of his vocabulary. His book, compared with others in this field, makes pleasant reading, is clear and explicit in its examples and easily understandable – even for the layman without background knowledge. It is a joy to read, use – and recommend his “manual”.

I. Dahlberg