

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”.

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