

Reports and Communications

The Classification Society, North American Branch (NAB)

According to a briefing of March 30, 1984 by the Secretary/Treasurer to the membership, the Society is entering a major new phase reflected in the following: (1) New By-Laws have been formulated including incorporation as The Classification Society of North America, now distributed for voting; and (2) the new Journal of Classification (JOC) has been launched beginning in 1984. It is published by Springer-Verlag, New York, edited by Prof. Phipps Arabie of the University of Illinois at Champaign and available to members for the membership fee, which was raised to \$ 30.-

The annual meeting of the NAB was took place in Santa Barbara, Calif., June 25-27, 1984. Next year's meeting will be in St. John's, Newfoundland, July 11-13, 1985 with Prof. William H. Day as the organizer.

Annual elections resulted in the following changes: Prof. Lawrence J. Hubert, School of Education, University of California at Santa Barbara, President; Dr. George William Furnas, Bell Communications Research Inc., Murray Hill, NJ, Secretary/Treasurer; and new members of the Executive Committee are: Prof. P. Green and Prof. J. Rohlf.

The Classification Society, European Branch

At the general meeting on June 1, 1984 four main decisions were taken: (1) to change the name of the Branch to British Classification Society; (2) to change the name of the office of chairman to president; (3) to revise the constitution to take account of changed conditions; (4) to consider the matter of the planned Federation of Classification Societies.

The next international conference will be held at Cambridge University, in Cambridge, UK, July 3-5, 1985, with Prof. John Gower as organizer. It will again be a joint meeting with the 4th European Meeting of the Psychometric Society.

International Classification of Diseases (ICD).

Results of WHO Meetings 1983

The results of the 1983 meetings concerned with the 10th revision of the ICD have been published in ICD-Mitteilungen No.2, March 15, 1984 by Deutsches Institut für Medizinische Dokumentation und Information, Köln. Among the revisions are the following:

- an alphanumeric 3-position code should be used containing two letters and two numbers;
- the conceptual contents of the old categories should be maintained; the sequence and the order of chapters and categories should be maintained as far as possible;
- possible future extensions should be taken into account by empty positions in the numbering system;

- the number of 3-position categories should be increased by employing often used 4-position categories of the 9th revision (instead of 1037 there are now ca 2300 3-position categories available).

In addition the publication gives some details of the ICD-Core, some so-called Supplementary Classifications, rules for the selection and change of the coding of mortality causes and some changes in the definitions of 8 relevant concepts. The sources are listed and an outline of the ICD-10 Plan is given in the Annex.

Announcements of Forest Press, Albany, NY

Forest Press, the Publisher of the Dewey Decimal Classification, is pleased to announce that it has awarded a research grant to Professor Wayne A. Weigand, College of Library and Information Science, University of Kentucky, to prepare a comprehensive biography of Melvil Dewey. This biography should increase our knowledge of Dewey's life and should shed new light on his many contributions to education and librarianship. Professor Weigand expects to complete the manuscript by the summer of 1987.

A new issue of DC& - Dewey Decimal Classification, Additions, Notes and Decisions, Vol.4(1983/4)No.4 has been published by Forest Press. It contains first of all an obituary for Donald J. Lehnus, Assoc. Prof. of Library Science at the University of Mississippi who died at the age of 48 on Jan.8, 1983. In the news section, information is given on the various publications of 1983 and the planned ones, among which the abridged edition in Arabic of the DDC, on conference exhibits and meetings, on automation projects, on DDC19 workshops of which 8 have taken place between June 24 and Nov.21, 1983, on the application of DDC numbers to MARC tapes, on the proposed revisions of 780 Music and on the ones for Data Processing and Computer Science. The Forest Press office in Lake Placid has been closed as of Dec.31, 1983.

The Annual Report of the Decimal Classification Editorial Policy Committee is given by its chairperson Margaret E. Cockshutt. The Subject Analysis Committee (SAC) Hearing on Dewey Classification at the Amer. Libr. Assoc. Meeting, Los Angeles, June 28, 1983 comprises a report by J.A. Humphry, "Forest Press Policy on Continuous Revision" and one by J.P. Comaromi on the "Dewey Hearing".

The issue contains also changes and expansions to appear in future DC&s and information on the procedures and major revisions currently under review. Corrections, changes and new numbers for Ed.19 and Abridged Ed.11 form the longest section of the issue (pp.30-61).

The following two publications may be ordered at Forest Press (85 Watervliet Ave., Albany, NY 12206 USA) or -in case of special countries at appropriate agents:

- (1) *Manual on the use of the Dewey Decimal Classification, Ed.19.* 1982. XXVII+551 p., \$ 20.- + postage. ISBN 0-910608-32-6 and (2) Stevenson, G., Kramer-Greene, J.(Eds.): *Melvil Dewey: the Man and the Classification.* 1983. 210 p., \$ 10.- + postage, ISBN 0-910608-34-2 (Papers presented at a Seminar held Dec.10-11, 1981 at the New York State Library, Albany, NY.)