Examining the outline of topics in Part Six, which has two divisions, one dealing with art in general, then by the outline itself. If he desires to go by the introductory essay, then by the headnotes, the other with particular arts. He will be guided for example, the entire subject of Art by further in his study of the subject that interests we know about the sciences or other disciplines about the knowable universe, Part Ten covers what Where the first nine parts cover what we know

The outlines, and the articles and parts of articles referred to, in the sections of Part One are concerned with the work of all the physical sciences. The subject matter of the several Earth sciences is dealt with in Part Two, and that of the biological sciences is treated in Parts Three and Four.

Three further points should be noted about the scope of Part One and its relations to other parts. The sciences of physics, chemistry, and astronomy have themselves been the object of historical and analytical studies regarding their nature, scope, methods, and interrelations. Part Ten, on the frontiers of knowledge, is concerned with each study of the intellectual disciplines. The outline and the articles referred to in Section 10/32 of Part Ten deal with the sciences of physics, chemistry, and astronomy and trace their history, their nature and scope, and their principal problems and interrelations.

The systematic human knowledge: Matter and Energy, The Earth, Life on Earth, Man, Human Society, Art, Technology, Religion, Human History, and The Branches of Knowledge. Whereas the first nine parts cover what we know about the knowable universe, part 10 covers what we know about the sciences or other disciplines whereby we know what we know.

The Propaedia enables the reader to explore, for example, the entire subject of Art by examining the outline of topics in part six, which has two divisions, one dealing with art in general, the other with particular arts. He will be guided by the introductory essay, then by the headnotes, then by the outline itself. If he desires to go further in his study of the subject that interests

The 15th edition of Encyclopaedia Britannica, known as Britannica 3, is composed of three parts: the Micropaedia (10 volumes containing 102,000 entries) for ready reference, the Macropaedia (19 volumes containing 4,207 articles) for knowledge in depth, and the Propaedia (a single, 1,000-page volume of one million words) for an outline of knowledge. The Micropaedia, arranged alphabetically, serves as an index to the Macropaedia; the Propaedia, arranged by topic (not alphabetically) serves as a guide to 15,000 topics in Britannica 3, and offers a total outline of man’s knowledge, systematically arranged according to 10 major fields of knowledge and inquiry, which are in turn divided and sub-divided. These 10 fields of inquiry indicate the content of the whole of systematic human knowledge: Matter and Energy, The Earth, Life on Earth, Man, Human Society, Art, Technology, Religion, Human History, and The Branches of Knowledge. Whereas the first nine parts cover what we know about the knowable universe, part 10 covers what we know about the sciences or other disciplines whereby we know what we know.

The outline and the articles referred to in the two sections of Division I deal with modern advances in subatomic and atomic physics. The outlines and the articles referred to in the eight sections of Division I treat chemical elements; chemical compounds; chemical reactions; heat, thermodynamics, and the solid state of matter; the solid state of matter; the mechanics of particles, rigid bodies, and deformable bodies; electricity and magnetism; and waves and wave motions--both in general and with regard to particular waves, such as light waves and sound waves.

The outlines and the articles referred to in the three sections of Division III treat the solar system, galaxies and stars, and the solar system.

Division I. Matter and energy

H. Energy, reaction, and the state of matter

III. The universe: galaxies and stars, the solar system

Encyclopaedia Britannica: Propaedia

him, the outline guides him to the major articles in the Macropaedia that provide him with knowledge in depth.

Using the Propaedia as a map or chart, the

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Section 111. The atomic dens; elementary particle

The articles and parts of articles referred to in Section 111 deal with nine main subjects: A, the structure of the atomic nucleus and general nuclear phenomena; B, isotopes; C, radioactive nuclei; D, the neutron; E, nuclear reactions; F, nuclear fission; G, nuclear fusion; H, subatomic particles; and I, the effects of radiation on matter.

The outline of subject A begins with the general properties and the components of all atomic nuclei. It then covers the relationships between nuclear masses and nuclear binding energies; the properties of nuclear states; the theories of nuclear structure and binding force; and general nuclear phenomena and reactions. At the end, it treats the formation and evolution of the atomic nuclei in the universe.

Subject B is isotopes, an isotope being one of two or more atomic species of the same chemical element that have different nuclear properties. It next treats the energy relationships of nuclear reactions and the theories and models of nuclear reactions.

Subject F is the splitting of atomic nuclei by nuclear fission. The outline deals first with the general phenomena of nuclear fission, covering the spontaneous and induced fission reactions, the products of nuclear fission, and the energy released in fission. It next deals with fission chain reactions and their control. Finally, it treats the different models used in theories of nuclear fission.

Subject G is nuclear fusion. The outline begins with the general phenomena of fusion, the process in which two or more atomic nuclei combine to form a heavier atomic nucleus. It deals next with fusion reactions, covering their general types and energy yield and their occurrence in the Sun, stars, and hydrogen atom.
reader can gain an understanding of the inter-
relationships among the various areas of
knowledge.

Syntopicon

The 74 authors whose 443 works have been
chosen for the Great Books of the Western World
are those whose writings throw light upon the
human problems of living which face us all. In
the 54-volume set, a unique key is provided which
identifies the 102 most important themes, the
great ideas, and indicates where these ideas are
referred to in the 443 works, and also in the Bible.

This key is the two-volume Syntopicon, which
operates in the field of ideas as the dictionary
operates in the field of words and the en-
cyclopaedia in the field of facts. It records the
102 Great Ideas, discusses each of them in an
essay, and identifies the pages and paragraphs of
the Great Books where the authors express their
views about those concepts.

Instead of reading each book in the usual way
starting at the beginning and hoping interest will
be sustained long enough to finish it, a reader
may use the Syntopicon to select a subject that
interests him and go directly to what the great
authors wrote about that subject.

The chapters of the Syntopicon are arranged in
the alphabetical order of the 102 terms
representing concepts, from ANGEL to LOVE
in Volume I, and from MAN to WORLD in
Volume II. The references (about 163,000 altogether) are arranged in the
order in which the authors and their works ap-
pear in Great Books of the Western World.
Where there is a reference to the Bible, it is
always placed first. Reading the materials in
chronological order enables the reader to follow
the actual development of thought on a topic.

The list of Additional Readings in the last part
of each chapter shows books recommended as
companions to the works and passages cited in
the reference section. (2,600 such books are listed in the Bibliography of Additional Readings.)

An essay entitled The Principles and Methods
of Syntopical Construction appears as Appendix
II in Volume II, pages 1,219-1,299 of the Great
Books. This gives a detailed account of the
problems that had to be dealt with in constructing the Syntopicon.

The essay points out that the great books and
the great ideas were chosen to represent the unity
and continuity of the tradition of western
thought. In a somewhat circular fashion, the
great books were chosen because they deal
imaginatively or intellectually with the 102 great
ideas. The 102 great ideas were chosen because
they receive extensive and elaborate treatment in
the great books.

The work of compiling The Great Ideas began
with a list much longer than the 102 chapter titles of the Syntopicon in its final form. During the
first two years of preliminary work, the editorial
staff operated with a list of about 700 possible
terms, progressively reducing the number to the
102 that were finally selected.

An Inventory of Terms listing 1,800 concepts is
provided to direct the reader to the relevant topics in the 102 chapters. There are 2,987 topics in the
Syntopicon.

Not all the 102 great ideas are equally great,
and the number could have been made smaller by
subordinating certain terms to others among the
102. For example, all the forms of government,
which are treated separately, could have been
treated as topics in the chapter on Government,
but this would have led to excessive complexity
and unwieldy length for that chapter, so, for
convenience, each notion is treated separately.

Since the tradition of western thought contains
a variety of doctrines, many of them conflicting,
this was regarded as essential to remain detached
and avoid a systematic order of concepts which
would have implied that one idea was related to
another in some fixed way. The alphabetical
ordering of the great ideas admits as well as
conceals all possible orderings.

Almost all the great books contain passages
which, even when originally written in English,
are difficult to interpret and are the subject of
scholarly disagreement. More than half of the
works included in the Great Books are trans-
lations. Problems of interpretation arose
therefore since certain passages, especially in the
Greek texts, lost some of their original meaning
when translated, even to the point where the topic
they related to was changed. It was decided that
the English text, not the original, should be used
as the basis for topic references as the primary
purpose of the Syntopicon was to serve the
general reader of the great books rather than the
scholar.

For the same reason, where a passage could be interpreted in several different ways, and so
could relate to more than one topic, more than

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REFERENCES

To find the passages cited, use the numbers in heavy type, which are the volume and page numbers of the passages referred to. For example, in Homer: Iliad, bk vii [265-283] 12d, the number 4 is the number of the volume in the set; the number 12d indicates that the passage is in section d of page 12.

Pace Sections: When the text is printed in one column, the letters a and b refer to the upper and lower halves of the page. For example, in Socrates: Psychology, 116a-119b, the passage begins in the upper half of page 116 and ends in the lower half of page 119. When the text is printed in two columns, the letters a and b refer to the upper and lower halves of the left-hand side of the page, the letters c and d to the upper and lower halves of the right-hand side of the page. For example, in Plato: Symposium, 163b-164c, the passage begins in the lower half of the left-hand side of page 163 and ends in the upper half of the right-hand side of page 164.

Author's Divisions: One or more of the main divisions of a work (such as part, bk, ch, sect) are sometimes included in the reference; line numbers, in brackets, are given in certain cases; e.g., Homer: Iliad, bk vii [265-283] 12d.

Bible References: The references are to book, chapter, and verse. When the King James and Douay versions differ in title of books or in the numbering of chapters or verses, the King James version is cited first and the Douay, indicated by a (D), follows; e.g., Old Testament: Nehemiah, 7:45—(D) // Esdras, 7:46.

Symbols: The abbreviation "esp" calls the reader's attention to one or more especially relevant parts of a whole reference; "passim" signifies that the topic is discussed intermittently rather than continuously in the work or passage cited.

For additional information concerning the style of the references and the expansion of the abbreviations, see the Introduction. For the reading of the text, see the Guide to the Texts. For other important information about the Great Ideas, see the Glossary and the Index.

For additional details of great ideas in popular books, see the Authors.

THE GREAT IDEAS

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one topic reference was used. This method was adopted also for referring to topics in the Bible. Historical scholarship in its extreme form may regard each great author as the creator of his own intellectual world—expressing himself in isolation rather than joining in a conversation with other great minds as the Syntopicon suggests. The creators of the Syntopicon, for their purpose, took the view that the authors should be seen as more in communion than in isolation. The risk of distortion through this approach was knowingly undertaken in the interest of showing that the great authors can be read as though in conversation on the same question or topic, even when their positions and language are so disparate that more cautious scholars would hesitate to ascribe unity to the topic, or coherence to the conversation. These and many other such problems discussed in the essay provide fascinating reading.

Both the Propedia and the Syntopicon represent advances in thinking that will certainly capture the imagination of anyone interested in the construction of indexes.

S A contributor to the French journal on information handling Documentaliste (15 (3) mai 1978, 3-7), G. Pierson, has had the curiosity to look in general French dictionaries for the date of first appearance ascribed to the word documentaliste. While the sense given to the word—"a person who collects, arranges, preserves, uses and disseminates documents on behalf of some organization—remains generally the same, its use is dated variously from 'around 1932' onwards. Early in its history it was challenged by the word documentiste, which had the blessing of the Office de la langue française, but which did not gain currency. At the Congrès de la Documentation Universelle in 1937, documentaliste was formally adopted for use in French, English and German.

M. P.

S An index is a necessary implement, and no impediment, of a book, except in the same sense wherein the carriages of an army are termed impediments. Without this, a large author is but a labyrinth, without a clue to direct the reader therein. —Thomas Fuller, Worthies of England (1662).

Journal of Documentation

Cumulative Index

A retrospective index has been compiled by L. J. Anthony to volumes one to thirty of the Journal of Documentation, covering the years 1945-1974. The seventy-one-page index is in three parts: 1. alphabetical author and title index to articles, letters and contributions to the section of the journal reporting progress in documentation; 2. index to books, reports and conferences reviewed in the journal, arranged under author followed by title and numbered sequentially; 3. subject index to items covered in parts 1 and 2. In the subject index there are two columns of references. The first gives volume and page number in the journal, the second the number in the index to reviews, thus permitting the index alone to serve in the compilation of bibliographies when the run of the journal is not at hand.

Although the first column of subject references in the subject index may have a 'string' of references under some headings, this is not necessarily unhelpful. 'Co-ordinate indexing', for example, has twenty-seven page references. It is itself a quite specific term. The volume numbers indicate which mentions referred to early stages, which to later, and at what period interest in the subject was at its height (which I deduce to have been in 1966 and 1967).

In his introduction the compiler refers to 'the chaotic condition' of terminology in this field, which leads him to impose his own choice, rather than the author's, in indexing many articles. Where terminology has changed, as from 'mechanization' to 'automation', he has generally preferred the latter term. He notes a difference in emphasis on such terms as 'librarianship', 'information science', 'documentation' as one moves from one country to another, particularly in the United Kingdom, the United States, and Western Europe; and also a most inexact use of terms among contributors. The term 'documentation' itself he has used as an entry word to designate the whole field, as a subheading to mean the literature of a subject and its exploitation.