Specialized vocabularies

British Standards Institution has recently published three more parts in its series of glossaries on data processing (BS3527) begun in 1962: part 10, on operating techniques and facilities; part 12, on data media storage and related equipment; part 16, on information theory. Other glossaries from BSI in 1979 cover marine propellers (BS MA86), an illustrated list of equivalent terms in English, French and Russian, with annexes listing recommended equivalent terms in Dutch, German, Italian, Norwegian, Polish and Spanish (technically identical with ISO 3715); and a new edition of BS 4778 Glossary of terms used in quality assurance (including reliability and maintainability terms), arranged in classified order with an alphabetical index.

The latest parts of the English full edition of the Universal decimal classification (UDC) to be published are BS 1000 (665) Oils, fats, waxes, adhesives, gums, resins, and BS 1000 (667) Colour industries (dyes, inks, paints, etc.); the second edition of BS 1000 (615) covering pharmaceutics, therapeutics and toxicology, and revisions of BS 1000 (684) Furniture and allied industries and BS 1000 (679) the stone industries, covering the processing of naturally-occurring and synthetic stone and similar materials, such as corals and shells. In each part the classified arrangement is followed by an alphabetical index.

The International Labour Office, Geneva, has published the second edition of ILO thesaurus: labour, employment and training terminology (Geneva, 1978. 223pp. 30cm. ISBN 92-2-002982-5. Spiral binding. 24 Swiss francs). It consists of a list of the subject category fields, followed by the classified thesaurus in which the headings are given in the three languages, English, French, Spanish, with broader, narrower, related, unused and superseded terms subsumed in English only. An alphabetical index in each language refers to the classification notation, or, in the case of a non-preferred term, to the preferred term.

The London classification of business studies

K. D. C. Vernon and Valerie Lang, originally published in 1970 by the London Graduate School of Business Studies, where it was developed, has been revised by K. G. B. Bakewell and David A. Cotton. This second edition contains approximately 4,000 terms relating to business arranged in alphabetical order as well as being displayed as a classification scheme. Published by Aslib, 1979, 254pp., ISBN 0-85142-124-5, it costs £17.50 (£15 to Aslib members).

The standard listing of library terms, the ALA glossary, is being updated and a new edition, compiled by Heartsill Young and others, is to be published in 1981.

Caught in the slips

Never index your own book! Not only does indexing one's own book lead the author to unwitting personal revelations, as Kurt Vonnegut has shown, but, as David Holloway, literary editor of the Daily Telegraph, discovered—and he can't be the first—the indexer's careful scrutiny of the text reveals to the dismayed author himself so much in the writing that could have been better expressed. Too late by then to copy-edit his own text and bored with the tedium of indexing, he says (Daily Telegraph 29 Dec. 1979) he took his work and his radio into the garden and finished the index to the test match commentary! To each his own stimulant.