Names of states: an authority list of language forms


Twenty years ago cataloguers at the International Conference on Cataloguing Principles recommended the preparation and publication of 'a list of approved forms for catalogue entries of the names of states and other territorial authorities, in conformity with the official names used by those authorities themselves, and with equivalents in the principal languages of the world'.

A preliminary list, giving names in English, French, German, and Spanish was compiled by Suzanne Honoré and published in a provisional edition in 1964. The current publication is based on Honoré's list and on work done by various IFLA committees and national standardizing agencies, and on the prepublication draft of ISO 3166: 1981: Codes for the representation of names of states. Its scope is restricted to cover 'sovereign states and those overseas territories and dependencies having such a measure of autonomy and activity that they may be expected to produce official or quasi-legal documents in their name. Excluded are cantons, states and republics of federal systems, local authorities or subdivisions of states such as provinces or counties'.

Current names only are listed, so that one must look elsewhere for references from earlier names which have been superseded. For example, Kampuchea, as the current name of the state, is listed, but there is no reference from Cambodia or from Khmer Republic. (For information on changed names a useful book is Adrian Room's Place-name changes since 1900: a world gazetteer, Metuchen, NJ; London: Scarecrow Press, 1979.)

The sequence of countries in Names of states is that of the two-letter code of ISO 3166. Parallel columns give the name in the original language, German, English, Spanish, French, and Russian. All names in non-roman scripts except Russian Cyrillic have been romanized. Schemes of romanization have not been specified 'as they vary according to sources of information'. Where the accepted short form of the name of the state, that is, the geographical name, differs from the complete formal name of the political entity, both are given, as Ecuador/República del Ecuador. The short form of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is given as United Kingdom, although the ISO code is GB and Great Britain is the traditional and recently reaffirmed official Anglo-American cataloguing practice.

Names in the English-language column appear to be the same as those given in the Statesman's yearbook world gazetteer, 1979.

There are six alphabetical indexes, one for the original forms of names of states, romanized where necessary, and one for each language. In filing, articles, prepositions, conjunctions, diacritical marks and punctuation have been ignored. In the German index adjectival gender endings have been interfiled. Saints in all the indexes have been interfiled as if they were all masculine.

The presentation of the list is very clear. Checking so many variants of the same name for copy editing and proof reading must have needed great concentration. Names of states is a useful addition to the impressive series of international cataloguing standards that have come from IFLA's UBC Office.

The study of user reactions to PRECIS is complementary to that carried out by the same institution a few years ago on indexers' reactions to PRECIS, the report of which was reviewed in The Indexer 11 (2) 120-21. The need expressed then by indexers for feedback from users was one of the reasons for the second study.

A total of 91 institutions were visited, including libraries of all kinds known to subscribe to the published PRECIS indexes or to use PRECIS as a means of retrieving their own materials. The interview was chosen as the medium for eliciting the most helpful response and a list of questions was drawn up (App. 1). It had been hoped to find the views of non-librarian users of the bibliographies indexed by PRECIS but these proved hard to obtain and most of the respondents were reference librarians or readers' advisers.
The report concludes that the impact of PRECIS on users has been generally favourable. Users liked its specificity and its ability to show relationships between terms. The printed layout of entries in the BNB proved popular, but in formats showing less variety, such as card files or computer printout, the entries proved less easy to follow. There were of course counter-balances to card files or computer printout, the entries proved less popular, but in formats showing less variety, such as terms. The printed layout of entries in the BNB proved offers helpful information, saves time, and does not become harder to use as the file lengths.

The most common problems concerned terminology. Loose vocabulary control leaves the searcher uncertain whether he has tried all possible entry words. The report points out that the advantage of a vocabulary readily hospitable to new terms is offset by weakness in control of synonyms and near-synonyms. The lack of some natural-language compound terms and of references from them was described as 'unhelpful and frustrating'. A thesaurus of PRECIS terms would greatly assist confidence in searching.

The final point made by the investigating team was: 'Although PRECIS has only been in use for ten years, it already seems to have come of age as an important tool in bibliographical searching'.

The survey of research published in Canada during the last decade reflects considerable activity in this field, including the foundation of the Canadian Classification Research Group (1973), the Indexing and Abstracting Society of Canada (1977) and the Canadian journal of information science (1977), and also the inauguration of a doctorate in library and information science at the University of Toronto (1972) and the University of Western Ontario (1973).

The survey is divided into general and theoretical studies and specific techniques. 'Who's where' shows members of particular Canadian institutions active in research. There is a name and subject index and a list of 149 references.

Most of the cataloguing done in US libraries is based on the original cataloguing done in the Library of Congress (LC). The adoption of a revised code of descriptive cataloguing (AACR2) on 2 January 1981—Day One—has therefore a wide effect not only on cataloguers but also on library planners and library users. LC practice up to the beginning of 1981 was based on the first edition of the Anglo-American code, 1967, with modifications which allowed retention of certain previously established headings—a procedure known as 'superimposition'.

The changes brought about by adopting the new code and abandoning superimposition affect chiefly those personal names which will now be entered under more familiar forms and corporate names which will now be entered under their own names rather than under the name of a place or of their parent institution. In addition, many more serial publications will be entered under their title rather than under their issuing bodies, and compilations will also be entered under their titles, not their editors.

*After Day One* suggests possible ways of accommodating the new cataloguing data in different libraries. There is first the possibility of following LC's lead in 'closing' existing catalogues and beginning a new, computer-based catalogue, or, if computer facilities are not yet available, seeking some other physical form for a new sequence. A new catalogue on microfiches or on cards demands careful attention to references to and from the old and the new and to the older forms of heading likely to be found in LC catalogue entries for older material libraries may be currently acquiring. Until the data bases of the widely used networks such as OCLC have been completely converted to the new forms the same drawback will apply also to their cataloguing data.

The other possibility is to maintain the existing card catalogue, and Daly suggests ways of assimilating new material and converting old headings to new by 1) erasing and retyping, 2) interfiling old and new headings (with suitable explanatory notes and references), 3) splitting files and directing the reader from each form to the other for further material.

The amount and rate of change are hard to estimate and will vary according to a library's collections. Daly suggests that action should be taken only when actual conflict arises. Conflict will not always be apparent, although OCLC does warn of changes in both converted and newly created headings. As the author points out, fewer adjustments will be necessary as time goes on, and conformity with an international code has universal benefits.

This review is regrettably rather late and presumably Daly's advice will already have been acted upon, possibly in conjunction with the cost model developed by Robert R. V. Wiederkehr. The model has been developed to facilitate the comparison of costs of alternative future forms of catalogue—card, COM and online—and of implementing AACR2. Many of the detailed costs deduced are, however, speculative, as insufficient comparable data are available from which to extract firm figures.

Mary Piggott


This booklet is addressed primarily to advice and information workers, but it should be of interest to anyone who is considering the purchase of a small computer. The first half contains clearly written chapters on how computers work, communication with computers, what a computer system can be used for, and the selection of a suitable system. The second half of the report describes the implementation of various projects, some of them on mainframe computers and some on microcomputers. A glossary is provided, but no index.

A. C. Purton
'First revision for twenty years', proclaims the dust cover. Surely not, I thought. It is only five years since Harper & Row published the 4th revised edition of Crowell's *Roget's international thesaurus*, which originated back in 1911. Also in 1977, Doubleday brought out *Roget's thesaurus in dictionary form*. Then I noticed Doubleday's emphatic assertion that their publication is 'not based on any other thesaurus'. Suspicions aroused, I soon discovered that Crowell's work was and still is a spin-off. At last it dawned on me, after a lifetime of bland misapprehension, that the term 'Roget's thesaurus' does not necessarily mean *Roget's thesaurus*! The same is true, it appears, of 'Cruden's Concordance' and doubtless of other established reference works; the names of their original creators have been spuriously (though doubtless quite legally) attached to the titles of later compilations, similar in content but not legitimate in lineage.

The genuine *Roget's thesaurus* was the brain-child of Peter Mark Roget alone. For exactly a century it remained family property, revised by none except his son and his grandson, until the rights were sold to Longmans, Green & Co in 1952. Ten years later, adhering strictly to the authentic tradition, the new owners published Robert A. Dutch's revised and modernized edition. Now, next in line of descent, comes Susan Lloyd's new edition, with 'more than 20,000 additions and relocations'.

Carefully considered modifications in page layout and in a few of the word-groupings, and augmentation of the system of numerical cross-references, sharpen the usefulness of the thesaurus. Even more valuable is its coverage of the vast enlargement of vocabulary which has occurred during the last two decades. Reviewers eager to do a 'hatchet job' have seized upon such entries as 'chairperson' and 'male chauvinist pig' as an excuse for labelling this the 'women's lib' edition, and some have added cheap jibes about the editor's pollution of language by letting her 'with it' prejudices 'all hang out'. What she could more justifiably have been taxed is primness. Of some fifty entries covering the sex act, for example, only the well-known and widely-used four-letter terms seem to be missing; indeed, the numerous vulgar word terms which have been in the *Penguin English dictionary* since 1969 all appear to have been deliberately omitted.

The index shows some improvement on those of earlier editions. Based on a computer listing of every single item in the thesaurus, it is exhaustive; and more repetitions of more items under a wider variety of headings increases its usefulness. Unfortunately, the opportunity has been missed to correct one major flaw: the non-alphabetical arrangement of subheadings. That the first Roget adopted this arrangement is hardly surprising, for indexing techniques were then almost entirely a matter of personal preference. Adherence by subsequent editors to traditional practice is understandable, right up to the 1962 edition. But publication in 1964 of the first *British Standard* on indexing (*BS3700:1964*) should have stimulated fresh thinking in those responsible for such an important reference work. Certainly the Longman Group, for many years a member of The Society of Indexers, might reasonably have expected its Dictionary and Reference Book Department to have woken up by the time the extensively revised edition of *BS3700* appeared, no less than twelve years later. It is now more than half a decade since *BS3700:1976* stated categorically that 'care should be taken to group in one alphabetical sequence all the subheadings that qualify a single heading', but this has been totally ignored in the compilation of the index to the new edition. The preface says of the index that 'Items are listed in alphabetical order', but this statement simply is not true, for it is headings only that are alphabetized.

Subheadings are listed in the order in which they appear in the thesaurus, an out-moded practice which is highly frustrating to the user. The heading 'influence', for example, carries 24 subheadings—in page order! Under 'form' there are 26. Worse yet, the 22 under 'bias' include 'bias' itself twice, once as a verb and once as a noun, and not even next to each other. Matters become even more complicated under such headings as 'keep', 'make', 'put', and 'set'. As a verb, 'set' requires a search not only through 44 unalphabetized subheadings but also through 49 derivative compound headings ('— a bad example', '— about', '— a course', '— against', and so on); but yet more ground remains to be covered. There are still a further 25 headings (alphabetized word-by-word) amongst which are scattered 10 which begin with the separate or hyphenated word 'set'. These, incidentally, include 'set upon' as an adjective, but nowhere could I find the verb 'set upon' (meaning 'attack').

For this one word, 'set', the sheer volume of entries to be searched is even greater than at first appears. The 49 derivative compound headings have 123 subheadings; add these to the original 44 subheadings and the subsequent 25 headings, and we are faced with no fewer than 241 possible points of entry to the word-meaning which we are seeking. To make our task more difficult, the majority of them do not conform with the principle affirmed in *BS3700:1976* that, in alphabetical indexes, non-alphabetical arrangement should be used only when there are compelling reasons—primarily the avoidance of ambiguity and illogicality—for chronological or hierarchical or other systematic arrangements.

It is most unfortunate that this extremely valuable revision and modernization of *Roget's thesaurus* has failed to keep pace with one of the most beneficial developments in indexing technique, and not even a recent development but one which had already become established practice amongst professional indexers by the time the previous edition of this important work of reference saw the light of day. No matter how splendid the new edition may be, and splendid it certainly is, the quality of the index is absolutely crucial. It is the means...
by which the user gains access to the almost boundless riches of this verbal Aladdin’s cave. Access there is. Easy access, well, the publisher would be wise to consider supplying the next editor with a copy of BS3700 (available to our members at a discount rate!).

J. A. Gordon


The report contains the six papers given at the seminar, together with transcripts of the question sessions following each and of the closing plenary discussion. Three of the speakers have also provided a bibliography. A number of tables and diagrams are included, presumably representing slides shown by the speakers. There is a five-page index.

The first and third papers, by David Lee and Elizabeth Wallis, together provide useful insights into the work of and the need for the professional indexer. Gillian Wheeler describes the construction and indexing of Inspec’s technical bibliographic data base, which covers physics, electrotechnology and computing.

Roger Bilboul contributes a brief survey of the possibilities and costs of computer-generated indexing. This is followed by a detailed and valuable description by Brian Denyer of the various permuted-string indexing techniques, whether for manual or mechanical applications.

In the final paper, Graham Lea suggests a thesaurus-based rather than alphabetical approach to index structure, and the book closes with a comprehensively cross-referenced (alphabetical) index by Hazel Bell.

The report has been prepared by Bernard Dunkley. One suspects, and regrets, that not all the speakers had the opportunity (or chose to take it) of editing their contributions before publication. In places there are ambiguities and verbal short cuts, which no doubt audience reaction or the speaker’s gestures resolved at the time—on the page they remain a mystery. The questions, too, occasionally highlight an omission or summary in the text.

As a collection of essays on indexing the book is of variable quality and usefulness and one might be reluctant to pay £8 for it. It is not, furthermore, addressed to a unified audience. Some of the papers assume at least token familiarity with fairly complex techniques; some take the listener/reader to be completely ignorant as to how indexes and indexers work. It could be of value to someone who attended the seminar and found it informative, but did not take notes. Otherwise, the existence of an official permanent record must be the book’s principal raison d’être.

Ann Edwards


In general Ms Rowley has succeeded in her stated objective of presenting ‘a readable account of some of the key practices in the twin fields of abstracting and indexing’ and her approach should, as she hopes, appeal to students of librarianship and information science. However, they will need to beware of a few ambiguities or inaccuracies. Do abstracts have to be in a style similar to that of the original document (p. 9)? Must they consist of one paragraph only (p. 23)? Is the title of an article always an important indicator of subject content (p. 33)? Why is 287-293 preferred to 287-93, and 331-338 preferred to 331-8 (p. 35)? Does pre-coordination really eliminate the need for sophisticated search logic (p. 95)? And if Ms Rowley really thinks that manual post-coordinate indexes are not amenable to searching by the library’s clientele (p. 70), I suggest that she visits Codssall Comprehensive School some time.

Ms Rowley is in fact writing about only one kind of indexing—indexing of documents and other records in a library or other collection. She does not deal with ‘back-of-the-book’ indexing (nor, to judge from the index to her own book—about which more later—does she care very much about this kind of indexing). Her comment (p. 127) that ‘most substantial monographs and conference proceedings carry an index which provides access to the concepts explored in the work’ is very misleading; Ms Rowley should read a few issues of The Indexer (to which she is kind enough to refer as a source of information on page 147).

Her definitions of both index and abstract leave something to be desired. British Standard 54081 contains perfectly acceptable definitions of both terms, and one wonders why Ms Rowley did not simply refer to these.

Perhaps I am the wrong person to review this book, since two of my criticisms relate to failure to refer to my own work. On page 60, Ms Rowley refers to types of classification-thesauri but she does not mention the ‘Soergel’ approach used in the second edition of The London classification of business studies,4 which has attracted favourable comments from some reviewers. (She appears, in fact, to be unaware that there is a second edition, since the first edition is listed in her bibliography on page 150.) And her very useful account of the PRECIS indexing system (wrongly, as so often, referred to as Preserved Context Indexing System) completely ignores the Liverpool Polytechnic studies of user and indexer reactions.4,5

The bibliography on pages 147-151 gives an incorrect date for the Anglo-American cataloguing rules, mis-

I have been critical, so let me return to my opening paragraph and state that the student will find much of interest and value in the book. The second edition will be even more useful if rather more attention is paid to detail and if a much better index is provided.

Mr Stibic’s book has a very good index, though perhaps with rather too many ‘unsought’ terms (e.g. addition: UDC; All-round Systems; deviations from standards; growth of information volume; growth of thesaurus; physical properties of documents; principles of personal documentation).

The book itself I found fascinating and informative. However, it was not intended for a professional indexer and information worker, like me, but for ‘the professional scientist, researcher, technician, manager, etc.’ who ‘owns his personal collection of documents . . . that must be well organized and accessible at any time’. Would such a person, I wonder, be willing to read through 193 pages of text examining, inter alia, the differences between pre-coordination and post-coordination, between faceted and hierarchical classification, the growth curve of the thesaurus, the document-vector file, terse documentation and Boolean operators? Would he care about the MARC record structure? The scientist, researcher and technician, perhaps (though I suspect not); the manager, definitely not.

Nor would he care very much about the rules of abstracting (p. 51-2); if he does much abstracting, which I doubt, he will make his own rules. Mr Stibic concedes this on page 38, when he says that someone dealing with his own documentation may deviate from the rules and amend the titles of documents. Dare one tell him that one important abstracting service—the Anbar series of abstracting journals on management (which he might usefully have mentioned)—does this successfully if it feels that original titles are too vague?

Like Ms Rowley, Mr Stibic ignores the book index. His definition of ‘index’ on page 109 takes no account of such indexes. On page 4 he refers to the failure of schools to teach pupils how to work efficiently; he might also have referred to their failure to teach information skills, including the use of book indexes to locate information, and done something to rectify this failure by explaining to his professionals how useful a good book index could be to them.

A very surprising omission is that most significant contribution to indexing, PRECIS. It might be argued that the audience at which Mr Stibic’s book is aimed might not be expected to use such a sophisticated technique, but the same might also be said of many of the other indexing methods about which he writes. And the Liverpool survey of indexer reactions did reveal that one ‘non-librarian’ professional (an archivist at West Devon Record Office) was using PRECIS for a manual card index. Mr Stibic also fails to refer to the Anglo-American cataloguing rules, in spite of the fact that he writes about the MARC record structure and document description.

In short, I would agree with the publisher’s description of this as a ‘useful and absorbing book’, but I regret its omissions and I doubt its suitability for the audience at which it is aimed.

K. G. B. Bakewell

References


Surprisingly, this very useful handbook has no index: a remarkable omission, for an index would greatly enhance that usefulness in a way that the contents list cannot. The author is the Head of Large Collections, in the Department of Manuscripts, at The British Library, and his guide to the current practice of the Department in compiling the printed indexes to the Catalogue of additions to the manuscripts in the British Museum (Library) is a very desirable addition to any library that has to handle the problem of manuscripts at any time. It is therefore to be regretted that the review copy of this guide bears no ISBN number or indication of price.

The author explains that the printed indexes are normally compiled directly from individual items in each manuscript indexed, and not from the descriptions contained in the first part of each Catalogue of Additions. The guide proper is limited to the indexing of manu-
There are not many indexes of this length on literary subjects, but one recent one springs to mind. This is Corson's *Notes and index to...* (Scott's letters) published by the Clarendon Press in 1979. The index to that work has no headings for the biographee, and references to him are spread alphabetically throughout the index by subject. The addition of dates and other personal identifying information, a very time-consuming refinement for the compiler, is helpful, but then Corson had the advantage of indexing at his own rate a work already many years old. The index to Marchand's work is an integral part of the set and presumably had to be produced in a given time, thus denying the opportunity to obtain the sort of information given in Corson. Some of the entries in Marchand's index are single entries for minor characters, and although some indexers might have omitted them as being of little importance the present reviewer feels that it was wise to include them. They may throw light on Byron's acquaintances and thus help us to understand his character.

The first part of this volume contains an *Anthology of memorable passages* taken from the previous eleven volumes and these are well worth reading, being characteristic of Byron's view of life. Each volume is subtitled with a quotation from Byron, and although he was far from averse to publicity surely even he would have been surprised if he could have known that such a mundane phrase as 'the trouble of an index', from Don Juan, would be used so appositely for a book about himself. Leslie Marchand, who has already written books on Byron and his poetry, has done an excellent service to the literary world in editing these *Journals and letters* and has produced a very creditable index to go with them.

Robert L. Collison


Between 1973 and 1981 the first eleven volumes of Byron's letters and journals were published, each containing an Index of proper names. The editor has now realized the full potential of these by producing an index to the set. This is 130 pages long, in double columns of fairly small print and very detailed. Of the various ways of indexing a biographical work, in which term we may include journals and letters, Marchand prefers to use his principal character for a heading and arrange entries under this alphabetically by subject. The entries on Byron consist of 38 columns divided into 3 sections dealing with Byron himself, his views on various subjects, and his literary works. For instance, the first of those 3 parts has the heading 'Byron, George Gordon (Noel), 6th Baron' followed by the subheadings 'Age, Ambitions, Amours, Ancestry, Animals...'. All followed by sub-subheadings where applicable. The whole section continues for 14 columns and the other 2 sections are arranged similarly. Although typographically the entries are run-on, in many of the lines the type-face and punctuation make for clarity of layout and therefore ease of use.

Philip Bradley


When I was a practising librarian, the location of government publications not published by HMSO often presented problems, sometimes insuperable ones. Obviously they were not included in the HMSO daily or monthly lists. Some were listed in the *British National Bibliography* and some in the sectional lists issued by HMSO and government departments, but a long and arduous search was frequently necessary and all too often unsuccessful.

The publication of *Catalogue of British official publications not published by HMSO* has changed things dramatically, in spite of the exclusion of certain publications such as ephemera and large groups of specialized material already well catalogued (e.g. patents and Ordnance Survey maps). The catalogue was commended by Barney Hayhoe, Minister of State at the
Civil Service Department, in a letter to Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham West, as a practical step in the implementation of a policy of more open government.

Each bimonthly issue and annual cumulation contains two sequences of main entries, the first sequence covering monographs and the second covering periodicals. Each sequence is arranged alphabetically by issuing department and each entry is numbered. The 1980 cumulation contained 3542 entries (3329 monographs and 113 periodicals) and the fourth bimonthly issue of 1981 contained 1002 entries (805 monographs and 197 periodicals).

The following information is given in each entry: title and author(s); date of publication (including month); number of pages; International Standard Book or Serial Number, report number, etc.; a number indicating the source from which the publication can be obtained (referring to a list at the back of the catalogue); the number of microfiches and microfiche identification number; and, sometimes, a note about the publication. A criticism is that the price—vital information—is frequently not given, and it is not clear whether this is because the publication is free or because the compilers of the Catalogue are not aware of the price.

Another criticism relates to the format of the entries. The Catalogue began to appear two years after the publication of the second edition of Anglo-American cataloguing rules (AACR2), a major step in the standardization of bibliographical description throughout the English-speaking world (and, indeed, beyond, since many other cataloguing rules are based on AACR2). Would it not have been possible for the compilers of the Catalogue to make their own contribution to standardization by using AACR2 both for the establishment of headings and for the descriptive information? Many indexers would support the policy of filing 'Ministry of Defence' under 'Defence' and 'Department of Education and Science' under 'Education'; I would not, partly because AACR2 advocates direct entry but also for two other reasons. First, because the entries are not inverted in the Catalogue and so appear to be misfiled. Secondly, because the policy is not followed consistently: why is 'Department for National Savings' not filed under 'National Savings' and 'Office of Fair Trading' not filed under 'Fair Trading'?

The main entries are preceded by an explanation of the Catalogue, a list of acronyms and groups of initials with their meanings, and an alphabetical list of organizations contributing to the Catalogue. This alphabetical list is sometimes pedantic and wasteful of space. I would suggest, for example, that the following eleven entries are unnecessary:

- Library (Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service) 806
- Library (Department of Employment) 888
- Library (Department of Health and Social Security) 896
- Library (Home Office) 903
- Library (House of Commons) 405
- Library (Manpower Services Commission) 909
- Library (Office of Population Censuses and Surveys) 966
- Library (Science Research Council, Rutherford and Appleton Laboratories) 671
- Library (Tropical Products Institute) 993
- Library (Welsh Office) 1001
- Library Service (Property Services Agency) 634, 977

Following the main entries are (1) an alphabetical index of personal authors, corporate authors, and subjects, all in one sequence, (2) an index to microfiche identification numbers, and (3) an index to sources of publications. A comparison of the author/subject indexes in the 1980 annual cumulation and the fourth bimonthly issue of 1981 shows considerable improvement in indexing technique, including more effective use of subheadings. One example will suffice. The 1980 cumulation contains the following entry:

Accidents 1887 3180
see also Road accidents

But there is no entry under Road accidents. Instead we find:

Roads 3095 3315
Construction 3105 . . . (etc.)
Finance 3096
Improvement and maintenance 2320
3098 3147 3190
Lighting 3194
Road transport 3086 . . . (etc.)
Accidents 2065 . . . (etc.)
Safety 512 . . . (etc.)
Education 3193 3216 3227
Statistics 3103
see also Bus services
see also Traffic

Apart from the misleading see also cross-reference, the misfiling will also be noted: since 'word by word' filing is alleged to be used, 'Road transport' should precede 'Roads'.

In the fourth bimonthly issue of 1981, all this is handled much more satisfactorily:

Accidents
Compensation
Community service 380
Fatal
Statistics 614
Prevention 282 750
Road transport 739
Reports 381
with an appropriate double entry:
Road transport 991
Accidents
Costs 739
Reports 381

There is also an entry under:
Community service
Accidents
Compensation 380
but there is no entry under 'Fatal accidents'.

One wonders about the need to repeat the words 'see also' for each cross-reference, as in the 'Road transport' example from the 1980 cumulation and the following
examples under 'Agriculture' in the bimonthly issue:
see also Animals
see also Crops
see also Fertilisers
see also Fishing
see also Forestry
see also Plants

There could be rather more see also cross-references than there are: for example, it would be helpful to have one from 'Atomic energy' to 'Nuclear power'. Also, the indexing policy for periodicals is not clear: AIB (Accident Investigation Branch) Bulletin is indexed under 'Air transport: accidents' (but not under 'Accidents!'); however, Fouling Prevention Research Digest, issued by the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, is not indexed under either 'Fouling', 'Nuclear physics' or 'Nuclear power' and Heat Transfer and Fluid Flow Digest is not indexed under either 'Heat transfer' or 'Fluid flow'. I wonder if the compilers have thought of using precís for the subject index?

The microfiche information in the catalogue entry and the index to microfiche identification numbers refer to a very important 'back-up' service, the Document Delivery Service. Most of the items listed in the Catalogue are available from Chadwyck-Healey on microfiche. It is possible to purchase individual fiches (at £1.50 per fiche), to purchase groups of microfiche by subject or issuing body, or to subscribe to the complete collection of microfiches.

The final section, the index to sources of publications, gives the sources from which original editions or publications can be obtained. The organizations are listed in numerical order according to the code number given in the catalogue entry, and full addresses are given. Quite apart from its value as part of the Catalogue, this is a very useful directory in its own right and would be even more useful if it were arranged alphabetically. It is difficult to see why this cannot be done.

Summarizing, Chadwyck-Healey have produced an indispensable bibliographical tool which should be available in any reference library worthy of the name. The compilers of the Catalogue could usefully pay more attention to the international standard for cataloguing, AACR2. The subject indexing has improved but could be improved further. The Document Delivery Service is a very useful adjunct.

K. G. B. Bakewell


British Technology Index was first published in 1962 and the initials 'BTI' soon became a familiar part of the British library and information scene. I was certainly not the only technical librarian who must have provided a much less satisfactory service but for BTI.

Now BTI has gone and in its place we have CTI. Perhaps not surprisingly, some have regretted the change of title. The Library Association originally published three indexes to British periodical literature—British Education Index, British Humanities Index, and BTI; British Education Index has long since been hived off to the British Library so it is probably immaterial that neither of the two indexes left with Library Association Publishing begins with the word 'British'. But Current Technology Index is possibly a misleading title: not all current technology is British, but the Index is still restricted to British journals; however, the articles indexed do not only refer to British practice.

Readers of The Indexer will know that a major feature of BTI was its unique indexing system, developed by that genius of the subject index, Eric Coates. The system was systematic and specific. Some librarians criticized the large number of 'see' references on each page, but we did get a very precise index which would make it very difficult to miss specific items of information when searching—a point made by Angela Gould in her comparison of BTI with other indexes.1

The indexing principles remain the same in CTI but, partly in an effort to save space, the structure of the index entries has been changed. Instead of the following 'BTI-style' 'see' references:

See

we get (CTI, July 1981):

See
Gears, Spur: Lubrication, Elastohydrodynamic: Oil films: Temperature
Laboratories: Temperature
Lasers: Gallium arsenide phosphide-Indium—Indium phosphide, Stripe contact: Current, Threshold: Effect of temperature
Nuclear reactors: Temperature
Plastics: Extrusion: Temperature

The result is a considerable saving in space, no real reduction in clarity, and possibly less irritation caused by excessive repetition of long strings.

'See also' references are used when there is an entry under a subject heading:

DIESEL ENGINES
See also
Mining: Power sources: Alternators: Diesel engines
Motor cars: Diesel engines
Ships: Diesel engines
Trains, Diesel electric: Diesel engines
Cylinders: Liners: Heat treatment: Salt baths

instead of (BTI-style):

**DIESEL ENGINES**: Alternators: Power sources: Mining. See MINING: Power sources: Alternators: Diesel engines

**DIESEL ENGINES**: Cylinders: Liners: Heat treatment: Salt baths

**DIESEL ENGINES**: Diesel electric trains. See TRAINS, Diesel electric: Diesel engines

**DIESEL ENGINES**: Motor cars. See MOTOR CARS: Diesel engines

**DIESEL ENGINES**: Ships. See SHIPS: Diesel engines

The fact that a user is faced with 'see also' references before reaching any actual entries might be criticized, but it is in line with modern filing practices and also helps to avoid confusion. If the 'see also' references followed a very specific entry in the above example, it would not be clear whether it applied to that entry or to 'diesel engines' in general.

The 'related headings' system continues to be used, as in BTI:

**BUILDING**

*Related headings*

Air conditioning
Architecture
Buildings
Structures
Windows

It may take a little time for people who have been used to the traditional BTI strings to get used to the CTI system, but they should find that the advantage of specific indexing is still there. Certainly there was no sign of revolt by users when I conducted a 'straw poll' on the new system, before it had been introduced, during the Society of Indexers/Cataloguing and Indexing Group session at the Aslib/Institute of Information Scientists/Library Association Conference at Sheffield in 1980.

A new supplement to CT1 is *Catchword and Trade Name Index* (CATNI), published four times per annum and indexing CTI articles under catchwords and jargon (e.g. Advanced Passenger Train, Armitage Enquiry, Supertoad); product names; and names of firms and other organizations. Some headings might be criticized, especially as no 'see' references are provided. For example, how many users will look under 'P' for P.C. Werth LTD or 'T' for THEATRE ROYAL BATH and how many, like me, would have looked under Werth or Bath? Possibly the aim is to follow the second edition of the *Anglo-American cataloguing rules* (AACR2) consistently but, if so, this aim has not been achieved: AACR2 would not include 'LTD' in headings, which CATNI does consistently, and it would enter the University of Bath School of Electrical Engineering under UNIVERSITY and not, as CATNI does, under BATH.

Each CATNI entry provides full bibliographical information, thus:

**WATERCOM SYSTEM**


CATNI is undoubtedly a useful tool, but its usefulness in 1981 was diminished by a selective indexing policy such that headings were derived only from the phrase added by indexers to enrich the titles of articles and never from the titles themselves. Thus 'BGC Engineering Research Station' was not indexed under BRITISH GAS CORPORATION in CATNI, though it was indexed under this heading in CTI, but 'Gas in the pipeline [British Gas Corporation]' was indexed under BRITISH GAS CORPORATION in CATNI because, in this case, the indexer had added the information in square brackets. In other words, the user of CATNI would not necessarily have found *everything* about the British Gas Corporation (or any other firm, product name, etc.). This policy changed in 1982, when a new field allowed a CATNI entry without adding the data to the entry in CTI itself.

CTI and its spin-off, CATNI, would seem to be worthy successors to BTI. Long may they flourish.

K. G. B. Bakewell

Reference


This is the 15th compilation of the ALA's Reference & Subscription Books Review Committee, and comprises outstanding books of reference chosen by the Committee, firstly to meet the needs of 'selectors of materials for medium-sized public libraries' and secondly for 'lay persons, along with the librarians serving them'.

All the reviews have appeared in the ALA's bimonthly *Booklist* between 1 Sept. 1980 and 15 July 1981. According to *The ALA yearbook* 1981, the *Booklist* has a circulation of nearly 37,500, so its influence is enormous. Moreover, the books included could not be selected by a better method, judging from the statement of the 'Chairperson' (Robert M. Pierson) of the Reference & Subscription Books Review Committee, whose
'methodology' he says 'is unusual and possibly unique. A title is assigned an individual member, who prepares a draft evaluation, which is then reviewed by the Committee—with the editor and the chairperson working with the Committee not only to improve evaluation but to achieve consensus. This approach has long been felt to give the Committee's work a kind of authority over and above that derived from individual expertise.'

This year's volume is 16 pages longer and, according to my calculation, has 429 more entries than last year's.

I had the satisfaction and privilege of reviewing the 1979-80 volume in the last issue of The Indexer, and again welcome the wide coverage of subjects; I also emphasize, what I presume is natural but is certainly unfortunate, that most of the books included are American.

Arranging the entries alphabetically by title and also listing them similarly as a contents page is practical, but the book would be much more useful if it had a subject index; in fact, to make it easier and quicker to use the book this is essential (as I pointed out, with examples, in my review of last year's volume), and it is surprising that the members of the Committee, who are presumably all librarians, have not already realized this. Indexes of authors, compilers, and editors would also be useful.

L. M. Harrod

Index to The American Slave ed. by Donald M. Jacobs.

The American Slave is a 41-volume collection of interviews with ex-slaves, recorded in the 1930s, published in the 1970s. This is an index to the work, consisting of three sections: 'A Slave Identification Table' with page references for the 3500 ex-slaves interviewed; a simple list of their names by States (70 pages, single column); and a Subject Index which takes up half the book. The editor points out that the index 'should not be compared to those found at the end of most single-volume monographs' but is meant to be a 'research guide' to its 20,000 pages.

When is an index not an index? When it is a research guide. The researcher on DIET will find himself guided to a mere 1500 undifferentiated pages. On FAMILY (general) he would be less lucky with 3500 pages; but the concerned editor offers a separate heading for FAMILY (separation) at 600 pages, with cross-references to MARRIAGE (after slavery) at over 1000 and MARRIAGE (during slavery) at about 400. If this is moderately discouraging, the researcher might redirect his interest to SLAVE HUMOUR with, sadly, only 70 entries, or SEXUAL PRACTICES with—alas for White fantasies!—only 43.

But, of course, this self-indulgent work of misapplied zeal is almost useless for researchers or for anyone else. The intellectual labours of a dozen unfortunate graduate students (why not a computer?) have been misdirected to list 'more than one hundred general subjects' in unusable form. Far from being a guide, it must actually handicap research. The American Slave is clearly a work of great historical interest. This expensively produced, pretentious volume must preclude the provision of an adequate index for it.

Michael Gordon


Some industries suffer from a paucity of records and documentation. Almost the opposite position is found in the vast field of coal-mining. A guide to the books, articles and documents relating to the coal industry was badly needed, and at last we have a comprehensive bibliography of well over six thousand items; this will undoubtedly give rise to the disclosure of many others as librarians compare their own holdings with what are listed in this superbly produced but—in spite of sponsorship—very expensive volume.

The compilers must have faced some formidable problems, for their task was to prepare a guide to the literature of the industry that would be easy to use, straightforward to consult, and stimulating in the way it could draw attention to items that the user might not expect to find, or even to know about. This volume is, therefore, not only a bibliography but also an all-embracing index that will make the task of later research far easier than it has been hitherto. For example, under item number 1548 we find William Hooson's The miner's dictionary (Wrexham: T. Payne, 1747), together with a four-line annotation drawing attention to a twentieth-century article on this obscure work published in Mine and Quarry Engineering. Thus the note on the title-page that this bibliography is "occasionally annotated" is fully justified, for these helpful indications of related writings occur frequently throughout the text. And, incidentally, the next two items draw attention to relevant writings by D. H. Lawrence.

How then are the entries arranged? There are two main divisions: Secondary Sources (2511 entries), and Parliamentary and Departmental Papers (3444 entries), supported by two smaller sections—Mineral Maps and Plans, and a Guide to Primary Source Collections. The Index, combining authors, subjects, and titles (in italics) of periodicals and serials, comprises some six thousand entries spread, in single-column form, over 130 pages. Thus the user can approach his quarry from a number of directions. The section on Secondary Sources is mostly arranged geographically by main regions, the entries under each region being arranged alphabetically by authors’ names. For each entry we are given the name of the author(s), the title (in small caps), the place of publication, the publisher and the date—but not the number of pages, except for small pamphlets and periodic articles. Assuming, however, that we cannot

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recall the exact location of the Vale of Belvoir, the index will lead us straight to the two principal articles on that controversial area.

Similarly, index references to the Butty System lead to article in the Bulletin of the Society for the Study of Labour History, and to a section of the 1843 Commissioner's Report on the condition of the mining population of the South Staffordshire coalfield, where the compilers have thoughtfully itemized the contents of the Report and have indexed its salient features. A few experiments in tracing comparatively minor topics and items show that the compilers have very cleverly woven a web of detail that ensures that the user will arrive speedily at the information he needs, no matter what his starting-point may be.

The second section: Parliamentary and Departmental Papers gives good guidance on such subjects as ministerial responsibility for the coal industry (pages 177-9). Its contents are classified under Legislation; Reports of commissions, committees and conferences; Government control during emergencies; Government attempts to rationalize the industry, 1920-1946; Nationalization; Inspection of Mines; Accidents and disasters; Health and safety; Industrial relations; Compensation for industrial injuries and diseases; Welfare; Research and exploration; Finance; Fuel policy; Technology; Statistics; and, The rating of collieries. These are sensible headings, and the number of entries under each is never too many to discourage users from reading through the relevant titles.

The index (pages 631-760) pays particular attention to the individual coalfields, but wisely does not adhere too strictly to the same standard set of subject-headings:

Staffordshire
Accidents
Adult education
Coal reserves
Coalfields
Coal selling scheme
Education
Emigration of miners
Hours of work
Industrial archaeology
Paddy trains
Rating of mines
Social conditions
Tramroads

Nottinghamshire
Child labour
Coal trade
Collieries
Colliery tipping
Contract rules
Inland navigations
Labour relations
Methodism
Miners' movement
Railways
Spencerism
Transport facilities
Wages

the variations in these two sample lists clearly illustrating the great differences in problems and interests even in mines that are quite close by one another.

No index is perfect, and with diligence one can usually discover some defects. Thus, there is no entry for Lighting though there is an entry for the Standing Conference on Lighting in Mines, under the heading "Standing . . .". There is an entry under "Industrial tribunals" but none under "Tribunals". But careful checking of the index shows that such omissions are few. A more controversial feature is the occasional entry with "strings" of references, but examination of the treatment of these references shows that they also appear under more exact headings: thus the colliery proprietor, Hugh Taylor, Sr., who is referred to in entry number 5622, appears under the general heading London Coal Trade, but also receives his own entry: Taylor, Hugh, 3445, 5622 and the entries for Sunderland 5596-5598 also appear under the heading North East coal trade.

No indexer can anticipate every need of future users and research workers, and all we can do is to try to foresee how they will handle our indexes. In the meanwhile we can gain some idea from those who have occasion to use these indexes throughout the year. Here the compilers have combined in one volume a bibliography, a guide to the sources (such as libraries) where the items recorded may be consulted, and a concept of indexing that extends from the index proper, throughout the rest of the volume. They are to be congratulated on the splendid result of so many years' devoted effort.

Robert L. Collison


The monuments are not of marble or bronze but monumental sets of music considered by the author to have historical value, musical worth, reliable editing, or significance to music research. Although dated 1980 these two volumes were not published until 15 July 1981. This edition completely replaces the second edition, filling many gaps and expanding the contents listing of most of the sets and series. Complete bibliographical information and lists of contents for the works are included.

The complete editions of the music of individual composers and the major collections of music that have been published are included.

The second volume is entirely devoted to indexing (in 394 pp.) the contents of the collections included in volume I.

L. M. Harrod


This work was a massive task. Possibly the greatest difficulties were solved before any entries were made. What form was it to take; which books were to be indexed; of those chosen, what type of art work should be excluded; and how most economically could information be given with maximum clarity and ease of use? Eventually a two-volume, 1500-page work was produced, the pages being numbered in a single sequence, with two columns per page, and entries arranged alphabetically throughout.

Volume 1 has a short, informative preface, and an
explanation of the symbols and abbreviations used, before the Artist Index, which gives brief biographical details followed by a list of the artist's works indexed.

Volume 2, the Title-Subject index, has a guide to the location symbols used in vol. 1. This arrangement, no doubt made to help balance the volumes, enables the user to leave vol. 1 open whilst searching for the meaning of location symbols in the other. Besides the unique, intrinsic problems of such a work, the editor was faced with the usual choices of an indexer, such as form of name, choice of title in translation, etc., and coped well, with references given to preferred names, and from broad to specific subjects. Incidentally a woman artist's name is preceded by an asterisk. Would the feminists approve?

The work is neatly, clearly, and economically printed and strongly bound: altogether a very satisfactory work.

Valerie L. Chandler

Reference books for the history of science, a handlist

This book is described in the opening words of the Introduction: ‘The Handlist consists of some one thousand titles arranged in 44 chapters . . . Part I relates to the history and literature of science (from students’ guides to lists of historians of science); part II deals with history in general (from manuals of research to historical dictionaries); and part III contains general reference books (from bibliographical guides to style manuals)

It is not a list of books on the history of science. Thus, in the section on history of mathematics, entries are of the type ‘Annotated bibliography in the history of mathematics’, and under history of biology we find ‘Introduction bibliographique à l’histoire de biologie’. It is, as the title indicates, a list of reference books. The entry for each book gives full publication details, sometimes a few words of comment, and location in the Science Museum Library if appropriate. The typography is admirably clear.

There are two indexes, covering 48 pages, for author/title, and subject. Their structure is explained in the Introduction. The references are not to pages, but to the consecutive code numbers for individual books. In the first index, the entries for authors include the titles of their books. The entries for titles of books are not arranged to bring a relevant word to the beginning, but those with unhelpful openings, such as ‘Short-title list of subject dictionaries’, can be located by reference to the subject index, in this case under ‘dictionaries’. Similarly, ‘Studies of British newspapers’ can be found under ‘newspapers’, and ‘Guide to lists of master’s theses’ under ‘theses’. ‘Guide to computer literature-searching services’ has to be sought under ‘information retrieval’.

On the whole, the extensive index system works well. One slight omission may be noted: ‘Dissertations on British agrarian history’, although indexed under author, and included in the references for theses, has escaped entry under agriculture.

Such minor matters apart, this is a useful work of reference. It covers a much wider field than the history of science, and could be of great help in pursuing a historical investigation of almost any kind. The blank pages at the end provide space for keeping the book up to date.

M. D. Anderson

Our reviewers

M. D. Anderson is a former Research Fellow of Newnham College, Cambridge; author of the C.U.P. handbook, Making an index; winner of the Wheatley Medal for 1975; Vice-President of The Society of Indexers.

K. G. B. Bakewell is Principal Lecturer in the School of Librarianship and Information Studies, Liverpool; (joint) winner of the Wheatley Medal for 1979; Vice-President of The Society of Indexers.

Philip Bradley is Senior Librarian of Dundee College of Technology.

Valerie Chandler is former Librarian for the Adult Education Board of the University of Western Australia, now a member of Council of The Society of Indexers.

Robert Collison is Editor-in-Chief, World Bibliographical Series, Clio Press; distinguished librarian/educator of librarians; author of works on librarianship and of two of the outstanding books on indexing; President of The Society of Indexers.

Ann Edwards is a full-time free-lance indexer and editor who has contributed to The Indexer both as author and as reviewer.

John Ainsworth Gordon is a retired social worker, Army Major, schoolteacher, and company secretary; was Secretary and is now Chairman of The Society of Indexers.

Michael Gordon is a former film writer, director, and editor; former Council member, and until recently Training Officer of The Society of Indexers.

L. M. Harrod is former Senior Lecturer in charge of Overseas Librarians’ course, Polytechnic of North London; editor of The Indexer, 1964-78, and of Indexers on indexing; author of several major works on librarianship; winner of the Wheatley Medal for 1973; presented with the Carey Award, 1982; Vice-President of The Society of Indexers.

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Dr A. Campbell Purton is a free-lance indexer and part-time tutor with the Open University, University of Cambridge Extra-Mural Department, and the W.E.A. He has been a lecturer in Philosophy at the University of St Andrews, and at the University of Alberta.

Publications received and publications noted


Index of English Literary Manuscripts Produced by an editorial board and advisers, published by Mansell Publishing Ltd, London. 5 vols. This series lists, describes and locates over 40,000 literary texts in manuscript by some 270 major British and Irish authors who flourished between 1450 and 1900. Of the five volumes, some in several parts, due to be completed over the next three years, two have already appeared; Vol. I (1450 to 1625) and Vol. IV (1800-1900), Part 1, A-Ha (1982, 28·5 x 22·5 cm., facsim. illus., casebound, isbn 0-7201-1587-6, £70.00). Each volume contains a glossary, a survey of the authors’ works, letters and miscellanea, analysis of the manuscripts, and notes on new discoveries. Also included are lists of repositories, auction houses, and booksellers. The final volume will consist of indexes of names, titles, and first lines.


Devindex 1980: Index to 1980 literature on economic and social development. Ottawa: IDRC, 1982. 174 pp. 25 cm. isbn 0-88936-331-5. $10. Microfiche ed. available. Annotated bibliography, the sixth in a series, of social and economic affairs in developing countries. Abstracts contributed by research centres in various countries, collated by the International Development Research Centre created (in 1970) and financed by the Parliament of Canada to support research designed to adapt science and technology to the needs of developing countries. Classified bibliography followed by indexes under Subject, Geographical area, Institution, Author, and Geographical codes used.

Bibliographical services throughout the world in 1980, by Marcelle Beaudiquez. General Information Programme—Unisist newsletter Supplement to Vol. 10, no. 1. Paris: Unesco, 1982. 103 pp. 30 cm. Based on replies to a questionnaire concerning bibliographical control, this publication supplements the author’s handbook Bibliographical services throughout the world 1975-79 (at present in the press), which gives information on legal deposit, national bibliographic agencies, published bibliographies, abstracting and indexing services, professional associations, and co-operation.


