SHORT COMMUNICATION

The following note coming from an eminent research worker will be interesting to cataloguers. Keeping in mind the provisions of Rule 14 (original author or reviser) of the AACR and the relevant commentary on the question in the CCC, it would be profitable to note the viewpoint of an user on the question of entry of a revised work — Ed.

THE CORRECT CITATION OF TWO BOTANICAL REFERENCE WORKS

Willis' A Dictionary of Flowering Plants and Ferns (Cambridge University Press) is a work of constant reference and citation by researchers in various branches of Botany. As shown below, a great discrepancy and confusion prevails in citing the 7th edition of it, revised by Airy Shaw. To add weight to the argument, the examples selected are from foreign authors in foreign publications. Some authors quote this book in one way, while an equal number quote it in quite a different way. Some, like Rudolf Schmid in Amer. J. Bot., vol. 59, 1972, p. 434, cite it as below, giving Airy Shaw its authorship.


Others, like Richard H. Eyde, in J. Arnold Arb., vol. 49, 1968, p. 192, cite the same edition showing Willis as the author:


Only one of the above methods of citation can be correct. There is no doubt that Airy Shaw so completely changed and enlarged this edition that it is almost a new work, with not much semblance to the original except the dictionary form. But still, the author of this edition is that person whom the publishers themselves proclaim as such. The title page of this book clearly states:

A Dictionary of Flowering Plants and Ferns by J. C. Willis. Revised by H. K. Airy Shaw. When the publishers give so unambiguously the authorship to J. C. Willis, nobody has a right to quote the work under the authorship of Airy Shaw. The citation as given by Eyde is the correct one. Apart from the all important fact that according to the publishers, Willis is the author, if Airy Shaw is the author, it would be the first edition of his book and not the 7th edition of Willis' work.


This 12th edition of Engler's Syllabus is edited, revised completely, and enlarged by Melchior. There are some other collaborators also who have contributed certain sections of the book. If this work is cited under 'Melchior, H.', the name must be followed immediately by '(Ed.)' to indicate that he is the editor of the 12th edition of Engler's Syllabus. Or, it can be cited under the name of Engler, but clearly stating that the reference is to the edition edited by Melchior. If the reference is to a particular account written by some other collaborator and not by Melchior, the citation can be under the name of that collaborator, stating "In A. Engler's Syllabus..." 12th edn., edited by H. Melchior. A reference to an account written by Melchior himself in this work can similarly be cited under the name of Melchior himself, but again clearly stating as "In A. Engler's Syllabus etc."
The title page of the second volume of the work under consideration reads as follows:
A. Engler's Syllabus der Pflanzenfamilien mit besonderer Berücksichtigung der Nutzpflanzen nebst einer Übersicht über die Floreneiches und Florengebiete der Erde. Zwölfte, völlig neugestaltete Auflage herausgegeben von Prof. Dr. Hans Melchior II Band ... On the outer hard cover it simply states - "Engler Syllabus der Pflanzenfamilien II".

Wrong citations of the titles and authors of books arise when research workers do not bother to consult the originals themselves, but take the citation second hand from another published paper where a mistake has already been committed.

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RENDERING OF AN EXTRACT IN THE CLASSIFIED CATALOGUE CODE

An extract has been defined as "A document which embodies a portion of another document". (Classified Catalogue Code Edn 5, 1964 (FJ2)). For better clarity the definition may be rewritten as follows:

"A (micro) document which embodies a portion of another (host) (macro) document". Legion of such micro documents can be located in simple, ordinary composite and artificial composite books. These micro documents require to be brought to the attention of the readers especially the researchers. But most of these are lost sight of in a library. Moreover, in the day to day work of cataloguing books in an ordinary library, the need for this extra exercise scarcely arises due to the lack of demand or the cost of supply. In a research library the need to bring such micro documents to the attention of the researchers is very great. This is done through providing a special entry known as the Extract entry.

An extract entry is in fact a cross reference entry with a difference. A cross reference is preferred where the micro document embodies a portion of the host macro document, but is quite distinct and is capable of forming an entity by itself. Moreover a cross reference is given in a catalogue of a particular library where the host document is available. The example provided in MF 33 of CCC assumes that the host document is available in a particular library and the micro document has been issued and documented separately. This is done to make it clear that the (micro) document is only a portion of the (macro) document and is not an independent document by itself. But, in case the micro document is not available separately but is contained in the original macro document, it is possible to deal with this with an ordinary cross reference entry. Another distinction also be drawn. A (micro) document contained in a (macro) document which is a simple book may be disposed of with a cross reference entry. But in the case of a micro document contained in an ordinary composite book or an artificial composite book require to be treated differently. It has to be treated with an "extract entry". There is a very thin layer of difference which requires to be distinguished.

The need to give extract entry arises frequently in documentation work. The documentalist engaged in compiling a documentation list unearth a lot of micro-documents on the chosen topic from symposia, proceedings of conference, reports of ad hoc commissions and committees etc besides periodicals and ordinary books. This he is able to do, not by confining himself to the sources of a particular library but by extending his tentacles far and wide to as many libraries as he can possibly visit. If the provisions of MF 33 of CCC were to be followed, he will be obliged to add the Call no. of the original or the host document. Where different libraries are organised with different classification schemes, the documentation list will become a hotch-potch with different call nos, rendering the uniform arrangement of the list impossible. The different call nos. serving as location marks will convert the documentation list into an union catalogue on the chosen topic, which it is not intended to be.

To prevent the hotch-potchiness of the documentation list, the documentalist has to be spared the necessity of adding the call number of the host document. Secondly the provisions contained in Rules MF 33 prescribing different
treatment to the micro-document according to the availability or otherwise of the host document in the library should be done away with. Unlike a library catalogue, the documentation list transcends local variations. Therefore, the rules should prescribe a uniform practice for the treatment of the micro-document.

Dr. Ranganathan gives the following as an example for an extract entry.

Ranganathan (Shiyali Ramamrita) (1892).
Model library bill
Extract from Ranganathan (Shiyali Ramamrita)
Five laws of library science.

Except for the Connective words "Extract from", the entry does not appear to be one, but appear to be two entries. In this example we are in a quandary. Dr Ranganathan, in his "Theory of library catalogue", says that the entries should be in consonance with the grammar of the language. If we bear this instruction in mind, then, the words of the entries for the host document seem to be not in accordance with the rules of grammar. After the connective words "Extract from", the entry words for the host document should read as

(1) Ranganathan's Five laws of library science or
(2) Five laws of library science by S R Ranganathan.

and NOT as
Ranganathan (S R):
Five laws of library science.

Recent Activities

The need for information naturally leads the planning-oriented authorities to the idea that the collection of information also needs a systematic approach or planning.

Status of Data and Information in Planning

Planning is based on information. Information is based on data and the quality of information depends upon the arrangement of data. Decisions depend upon information. The effectiveness and quality of decisions depend upon the quality of information and its organization.

It is not easy to visualise the inter-relationship of decision making process and information. The word 'Data' is used for basic facts or raw material and the word 'Information for processed data. The following figures give a rough idea about the inter-relationship of Data - Information and decision making process:
Fig. 1. Organised Data Base Ideal situation: The data is in a well organised form and hence the Information. Decisions are quick and effective.

Fig. 2. Unorganised Data Base Scattered Data, Patchy Information, supports decisions occasionally. Decisions are delayed, faulty and ineffective.

Expert System

This is historically one of the oldest information system. The basic element of the system is the network of experts who communicate with each other - administrative authorities, scholars etc. The system is very valuable but bureaucratic or authoritarian type and is generally influenced by the opinions of few persons in key position. This process is normally based upon ad hoc surveys which are time consuming, expensive and generally do not give correct and adequate information.

Traditional Statistical System

This appears to be an archaic system in a modern expansive society. The information is a product of statistically processed data. The system is good enough for deductive planning/normative planning in which the decisions are based on certain norms and standards. The data is processed to provide statistical indicators which are compared against the set norms. This type of system helps the administrators who are neither specialist nor have time to form their own rules. Needs can be measured in terms of quality and quantity to formulate a practical policy; programmes and achievements can be compared whenever required. This system does not provide facility for analytical approach to the problems or guidance for priorities and also does not anticipate the future requirements. It mostly supplies conventional information rather than innovative information.

Integrated Problem-Oriented System - Data Bank

This fulfils the information requirements in a more complete manner. The planners and decision makers may have more efficient 'tailor-made' answers to their purposefully formulated questions. It provides a sufficient coverage to the policy makers for local or organizational planning. It serves more efficiently an organization which operates in a defined environment to achieve the set or assigned goals/objectives.

All Comprehensive Data Bank System

A comprehensive data bank system has no limits and serves 'The Big Brother' as well as the individuals. This is a most powerful autocratic system. The system is very useful in Inductive Planning. Inductive planning utilizes the skill of social scientists, economists, scientists and technologists; takes the help from the new disciplines like Operational Research, Mathematical Models, Simulation and Systems Engineering etc. The system is very flexible, suiting the modern society where Science and Technology progressing with unexpected speed. It utilizes all the modern techniques for data processing. It provides facility of exchanging data at wider levels - national and international, meeting the demands of more coordinated efforts.

International Scene

At the international level, the name of UNISIST would be worth mentioning. UNISIST is a joint project of UNESCO and ISCU, aiming to evolve a World-Science Information System, providing facility to exchange published and publishable scientific information and data among all countries.

The idea of a network of comprehensive data banks is taking ground nationally in several countries. The increase of exchanges of scien-
tific and technical information between highly
developed countries must inevitably benefit the
developing countries.

Conclusion

It is important specially for the developing countries, that if they want to take the full benefit from such an international pool, they must first lay the foundations of their own data banks. The idea of establishing a comprehensive data bank system is most essential, if we need scientific and systematic planning to accomplish the best results in the present socio-economic conditions of our country.

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