DIALECTICS OF UDC (9)

(Continued from page 98)

SECTION 6, PARA 2

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[Examines each sentence. Replaces it by new ones. Splits the para into two.]

0 The Text

"All these advantages of the synthetic element in the Universal Decimal Classification easily outweigh the disadvantage occasioned by the vagueness in the specification of the order of succession of the resulting compound classes. The notation of the Universal Decimal Classification thus represents a compromise evolved stage by stage as the result of large scale experiments between the rigid symbolism of Dewey and the more flexible symbolism of highly synthetic classifications, which have from time to time attracted speculative attention, and which are more properly designated "Codes" than "Classifications".

1 Sentence 1

This sentence has no unity in the verbal plane. Nor has it unity in the idea plane. It may therefore be replaced by the following two sentences:

1. The vagueness in the specification of the order of succession of the resulting compound classes in UDC is a disadvantage.
2. (But) all the advantages of the synthetic element in it easily out-weigh this disadvantage.

11 The new sentence 1

0 Using hitherto accepted terms, this sentence may be amended to: "The vagueness in the specification of the sequence of the constituents of a class number in UDC is a disadvantage.

1. It is well to recall the author's definition of "synthetic". He had referred to UDC as synthetic because of the possibility of reversing
the constituents of a class number. Thus according to him the now lamented “‘vagueness in the specification of the sequence of the constituents of a class number” had contributed to the “synthetic” element by itself. Thus this sentence could be written as: “The synthetic element in UDC is a disadvantage”. The next sentence is a contradiction of this. An awkward situation would have arisen. It was avoided by the replacement of “synthetic” by “analytico-synthetic” and its altered definition.

12 The new sentence 2

0 Using Standard terms arrived at so far, this sentence may be amended to: “But all the advantages of the analytico-synthetic element in its scheme of classification easily outweigh this disadvantage.”

1 The word “all” is unwarranted. Only two advantages of the analytico-synthetic quality have been enumerated. One is increase in the capacity of the scheme of classification to individualise a subject. The other is constituents of a class number being readily apprehensible. “All these” may therefore be replaced by “the”.

2 The sentence may therefore be amended to: “But the advantages of the analytico-synthetic element in the scheme of classification easily outweigh this disadvantage.”

2 Sentence 2

This sentence has no unity in the verbal plane. Nor has it unity in the idea plane. It may hence be replaced by the following seven sentences:

1 The symbolism of Dewey is rigid.

2 There are highly synthetic classifications with more flexible symbolism.

3 They have from time to time attracted speculative attention.

4 They are more properly designated “codes” than “classifications”.

5 The notation of UDC thus represents a compromise between
the rigid symbolism of Dewey and the more flexible symbolism of highly synthetic classifications.

6 This compromise is evolved stage by stage.

7 It is the result of large scale experiments.

21 The new sentence 1

1 "Symbolism" may be replaced by "notation".

2 "Of Dewey" may be replaced by "DC".

3 This sentence may hence be amended to: "The notation of DC is rigid".

22 The new sentence 2

0 Using standard terms arrived at so far, this sentence may be amended to: "There are highly analytico-synthetic schemes of classification with more flexible notation".

1 Omit "highly". Replace "more" by "highly".

2 This sentence may therefore be amended to: "There are analytico-synthetic schemes of classification with highly flexible notation".

23 The new sentence 3

This statement implies the impracticability of designing such a scheme. It is thus a contradiction of the last sentence. It is also a contradiction of the next sentence. It may hence be omitted.

24 The new sentence 4

0 Using hitherto accepted terms, this sentence may be amended to: "They are more properly designated "codes" than "Schemes of classification".

25 The new sentence 5

0 Using hitherto accepted terms, this sentence may be amended to: "The notation of UDC thus represents a compromise between the rigid notation of DC and the highly flexible notation of analytico-synthetic schemes of classification."

1 The word "thus" implies "because of all that has been said before regarding the extent of the analytico-synthetic element in
the notation of UDC in relation to the notation of DC on the one side and that of other analytico-synthetic schemes of classification on the other side." But nothing has so far been said in this connection. The extent of the analytico-synthetic element in the "highly synthetic classifications" has not been mentioned. Also nothing has been said about the extent of "rigidity" in the notation of DC. "Thus" is therefore out of place. It may be omitted.

2 Interpolate "such" between "of" and "analytico-synthetic".

3 This sentence may hence be amended to: "The notation of UDC represents a compromise between the rigid notation of DC and the highly flexible notation of such analytico-synthetic schemes of classification."

26-27 The new sentences 6 and 7

These may be retained.

3 Restatement of the para

The necessary paragraphing has been done in the restatement.

"The vagueness in the specification of the sequence of the constituents of a class number in UDC is a disadvantage. But the advantages of the analytico-synthetic element in it easily outweigh this disadvantage.

The notation of DC is rigid. There are analytico-synthetic schemes of classification with highly flexible notation. They are more properly designated "codes" than "schemes of classification". The notation of UDC represents a compromise between the rigid notation of DC and the highly flexible notation of such analytico-synthetic schemes of classification. This compromise is evolved stage by stage. It is the result of large scale experiments."