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BOOK REVIEWS

Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules. 2d ed. Prepared by the American Library Association, the British Library, the Canadian Committee on Cataloguing, the Library Association, the Library of Congress. Edited by Michael Gorman and Paul W. Winkler. Chicago: American Library Assn.; Ottawa: Canadian Library Assn.; London: Library Assn., 1978. 620p. \$15 cloth; \$10 paper. LC 78-13789. ISBN 0-8389-3210-X cloth; 0-8389-3211-8 paper.

Published and available at last, the much-heralded second edition of the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules* is out for all to see. It is attractive to the eye: the typefaces are clear, and there is a nice proportion of white space to print. The prose style is lucid: most of the sentences start with a short firm verb calling for direct action ("Give the groove characteristics . . .," "Add immediately . . .," "Make a name-title added entry . . .") varied by "If" to flag special cases ("If a report is essentially confined . . .," "If information is not available . . .").

The organization is admirably logical. Part I (Chapters 1-13) covers description, with a general chapter followed by particular rules for twelve differentiated types of materials. Part II (Chapters 21-26) covers headings, uniform titles, and references. The general is followed by the specific and then the exceptional. The chapter numbers stand for particular types of materials or headings, making it easier to use than the first edition. References to other pertinent rules are supplied generously throughout.

The appendixes on capitalization, abbreviations, and numerals are fuller and more directive than in the first edition. The glossary covers more types of materials, as do the rules; and it redefines terms in keeping with the point of view of this edition. There is a comprehensive forty-seven-page index.

A more international flavor is conveyed by certain anglicisms: *catalogue* (formerly *catalog*), *full stop* (formerly *period*); vernacular flourishes: 3rd ed. (formerly 3. ed.); and the addition of U. S. to headings here and there: New York (U. S. : State) (formerly taken for granted), entirely appropriate for an edition written by librarians from Britain, Canada, and the United States to be adopted in these countries and wherever else. In this spirit we award an Alpha Plus for style and format.

In reviewing content, it is not our purpose to cover the minutiae of the changes from the first edition. That has been done in *Cataloging Service Bulletin* 2:2-29 (Fall 1978), in *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* 37:640-52 (Oct. 20, 1978), and elsewhere in the library press. Rather, we want to consider certain selected aspects of the new rules and how their adoption will be likely to affect the academic library: staff use; impact on past cataloging; their enhancement of the art of cataloging; and how they might affect the library user.

Most of the changes in the new edition (AACR 2) continue trends that have been emerging for years. International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD) was adopted for monographs four years ago. It has, as expected, spread to cover the twelve defined types of materials; and its terminology and categories are central to the rules for description. Its terms "chief source of in-

formation" (title page, etc.) and "access points" (main and added entry headings) lead us beyond the printed book and traditional stereotypes.

The concept of main entry is eroding but not altogether relinquished. A somewhat apologetic paragraph in the general introduction (0.5) explains its usefulness for citations or single entry listings, but its application is far more limited. Main entry under editor or compiler was dropped in 1975. Now corporate body as main entry has been whittled away to a minimum. In the glossary, the entry for "author" is a *see* reference to "personal author," although a corporate body may act as an entity from which works emanate, in certain narrowly defined circumstances (21.1B). Again, this continues a trend, extending the limitations to corporate main entry started in AACR 1. Rules for main entry are confined to a single chapter.

An item to be cataloged is described for what it is: microform, serial, three-dimensional artifact, or other; and then the choice of access points is made. The rules for access points are intended to apply to any type of material.

A principal difference in these new rules is the way in which a form of name is chosen and what it will look like. The name of a person will be in the form by which the person is "commonly known," and the name of a corporate body will be in the form by which it is "predominantly identified." Much checking of title pages and reference works is required when a form of name is established, with the possibility of unending future changes in form.

The rules in AACR 1 led to a fair amount of title page monitoring and reassessment of form. Even so, they did end up with a rule on the preferred form with personal author forms coming to rest at the fullest form on a title page (with exceptions) and corporate entry forms coming to rest at the briefest adequate form (also with exceptions). The amount of changing demanded for currently publishing personal authors under those rules led to a statement by the Library of Congress (*Cataloging Service* 106:3 (May 1973), that changing to a fuller form or name would not be done until 75 percent of the author's title pages bore it.

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The new rules have the virtue of being succinctly stated and are quite sensible from the point of view of user recognition. However, application seems a restless and theoretically endless exercise. It has been suggested that a national (international?) authentication center be set up, with a mandate to collect data and keep the official count on what forms are gaining or losing predominance.

Decision on whether to enter a government agency under the name for the government, or by itself, now relies on the distinctiveness of the agency's name rather than on its function, so that fewer points need to be considered in the decision-making process. If the name for a government is to be used, rules for choosing its form start in Chapter 23, "Geographic Names." Geographic or place names are no longer set by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, but by "gazetteers and other reference sources published in English-speaking countries."

As stated in 23.2A, "if the English form of the name of a place is the English name of

the government that has jurisdiction over the place, use that form." This leads to Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (formerly kept under the earlier form Russia); United Kingdom (formerly kept under one of the earlier forms, Great Britain); and, we infer from an example in 23.4H, Argentina (formerly Argentine Republic, a form that would seem to have less scope). Union of Soviet Socialist Republics would apparently be used for government publications issued after 1921.

An example in Chapter 26, "References" (26.3C1b), explains the way that what is now Great Britain is to be done:

England:	for publications issued before 1536
England and Wales:	for official publications issued 1536-1706
Great Britain:	for official publications issued 1707-1800
United Kingdom:	for official publications issued 1801 to date

The rule for this is not new, but its application to Great Britain is. The directives in the rules are clear on each particular point. However, to assign the main entry form for, say, an official publication of Elizabeth I of England and Wales, it is necessary to check carefully through several chapters, and perhaps reference sources, before arriving at:

England and Wales. Sovereign (1558-1603 : Elizabeth I)

In adopting AACR 2, the library staff will need to learn the new rules and their application. The Resources and Technical Services Division of the American Library Association is arranging for training workshops (*Library of Congress Information Bulletin* 37:712 [Nov. 17, 1978]), and these will be of great assistance. Numerous conferences and institutes about AACR 2 and its implementation have been scheduled as well.

AACR 2 offers many options: what issues of a work should be given a separate catalog entry; how much detail to use in describing a work; what additions to make to names for fuller identification; whether to use general or specific cross-references; and so on. In practice, most academic libraries want records compatible with those of the Library of Congress; so information about AACR 2

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options to be followed by the Library of Congress is important (e.g., *Cataloging Service Bulletin* 2:18-29 [Fall 1978]).

The second edition is much easier to use than the first edition; however, it is more demanding. ISBD demands more analysis of what is being recorded than earlier rules for description did, and more plate and page counting; but catalogers have been using ISBD for several years for monographs and are accustomed to it. Many catalogers have been using MARC formats as well. The detailed coding and categorization demanded by MARC is similar to, though not identical to, ISBDs, and the two must be correlated for each record, another continuing demand.

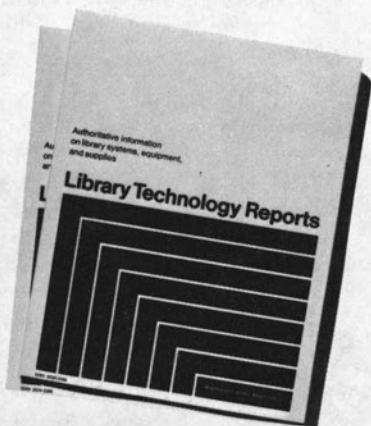
Much less time should be required to decide what access point should be a main entry; much more time, for what form the names used as access points should take and working out what is "commonly known," "predominant," or "distinctive," all rather fluid concepts. The uniform title provisions in AACR 1 were not widely used, and establishing forms and cross-references for uniform titles will also add to cataloging time. The problem in current cataloging of whether AACR 1 rules apply, or whether an older ALA form is still being used, will no longer exist.

Most academic libraries are still using card catalogs, and the impact that adopting AACR 2 would have on the card catalog is being assessed by libraries across the United States. The first Library of Congress study found that more than a third of currently used headings would be incompatible with the new rules and that 49 percent of the existing MARC records (the computerized tape records LC has produced since 1968) would need revision. Librarians at Johns Hopkins University have announced that their study showed that more than 2,000 cards would have to be changed each week at their filing rate.

The Library of Congress is now proposing not to adopt some of AACR 2's provisions (most notably, not to change *Great Britain*), reducing incompatibility to around 11 percent (*Library of Congress Information Bulletin* 37:710-12 [Nov. 17, 1978]). However, the prospect of having to change even 11 percent of the headings in a card catalog,

Special Report:

Circulation Control Systems: The Options



The January/February issue of *Library Technology Reports* (LTR) is devoted to a report on circulation control systems by Richard W. Boss, a management consultant and former Director of Libraries at Princeton University. The report is written from the point of view of a library director, explores all the available options, and is based upon the premise that there is no one best system for all applications. Boss gives his description of the performance criteria of an ideal system and reports on individual systems in relation to these criteria.

Other important points covered in the report are: contract negotiations, site preparation, installation and formal acceptance of a new system, and a prediction for the future of automated circulation. A glossary of automation terms is included.

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Library Technology Reports

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some of which may appear on hundreds of cards, is not a happy one either to those who would do the work or those responsible for cost-effective library management.

Interfiling different forms of the same name is tolerable here and there but causes confusion in users and dizziness in filers if it is extensive. Nor is the thought of a maze of *see also* references, linking incompatible forms, much more appealing. As a result, many libraries are planning to close their current catalogs and to start others with the adoption of AACR 2.

The impact of the new rules is not confined to catalog records. Serial control records are usually based on entry forms. The book numbers added to the classification numbers are derived from main entry forms. The cataloging and classification of library materials are important investments accounting for perhaps 25 percent of library revenue and staff time, and the prospect of instant obsolescence, proposed for January 2, 1981, is unnerving.

With this prospect before us, asking how the new rules advance the art of cataloging may seem to be an exceedingly curious question. With what object in view is it proposed that libraries break with an indexing system and classification system that have been maintained inviolate (more or less) for many decades? That is, in fact, quite clear.

The progression is: (1) agreed-on international cataloging standards; (2) standard and compatible computer tape records produced by each country for its publications and exchanged. AACR 2 is a step in this direction, though not an entirely firm one. Recommendations of the IFLA Working Group on Corporate Headings (*Cataloging Service Bulletin* 2:30-44 [Fall 1978]) propose vernacular forms of names (Venezia, Deutschland [Bundesrepublik], Ecclesia Catholica) and a return to entering a government agency under the name for the government if it has an administrative function. However, the goal is worthy, the technology exists, and such variations can be handled as they arise.

The following progression offers another and parallel prospect:

1. Libraries close down labor-intensive in-house catalogs, which repeat the work

done in other libraries for essentially the same material.

2. Libraries join networks using and contributing to large data bases of MARC records. The records are tied to an authority control system, supplying authenticated forms of names and the appropriate cross-references. These authority files allow forms on records to be changed easily when this is necessary or desirable.

3. Local and regional records can be derived from the main data base as desired. Any record base can be searched by name, title, subject, classification, and keyword combinations and for holdings in particular libraries.

4. Some libraries agree to collect material intensively in limited and specified subject areas and to analyze and annotate this material fully. Records for this material are added to the data base.

This progression, with various modifications in detail, has been suggested for several years. It is now technically possible and may become economically feasible. Many academic libraries are involved in its early stages. Assessing the effect of the adoption of AACR 2 on the library user must, we think, take into consideration these possibilities rather than limiting it to the merits of particular usages or types of references proposed. If AACR 2 provides the impetus for this, it will have rendered a great service.

AACR 2, as we have suggested, can well be the catalyst for bringing about far-reaching, indeed revolutionary, change in accepted patterns and procedures of bibliographic control. That there are problems in implementation, some presently identified and others yet to be defined, is clear. Far from the least of these is the matter of costs—costs on national and international levels and the costs of change in our own libraries. The rules have been published. Now the critical factor is their implementation.—Lois Hacker and J. R. Moore, *Graduate School and University Center, The City University of New York.*

Heaps, H. S. *Information Retrieval: Computational and Theoretical Aspects*. Library and Information Science. New York: Academic Press, 1978. 344p.