

## Paper F

### NAME-OF-PERSON HEADING

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CATALOGUING, 1961 CATALOGUING PROBLEMS 2

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Shows the impracticability of the International Catalogue Code giving the precise detailed rules for the rendering of name-of-person in heading. Recommends the universal implementation of a standard for the printing of the entry statement in the back of the title page of a book to take the cataloguing profession away from that of historical bibliography. Recommends the replacement of conjunction and instrumental preposition in cataloguing entries by universally used punctuation marks. Recommends the setting up of the study for arriving at a holistic use of the punctuation marks in headings and title section of catalogue entries.

- Icc = International catalogue code by S R Ranganathan (*Annals of Library Science*, 6, 1959, 13-20).
- Unesco report = Rendering of South Asian names, 1953 by S R Ranganathan - a report to the International Bibliographical Committee of the Unesco (unpublished)

#### CONTRACTIONS

- Ala = ALA cataloguing rules for author and title entries, ed 2, 1949.
- Ccc = Classified catalogue code with additional rules for Dictionary catalogue code, ed 4, 1958, by S R Ranganathan.
- Fundamentals = Library catalogue: Fundamentals and procedure, 1950, by S R Ranganathan.
- Heading and Canons = Heading and canons, a comparative study of five catalogue codes, 1955.

The paper on International catalogue code in *Annals of library science* 6, 1959, 13-20 should be taken as "Cataloguing problems 1".

#### 0 INTRODUCTION

##### 01 Attempt 1

In Icc, I gave the results of my first attempt in isolating the problems arising in a library catalogue. These concerned successively

- 1 Type of catalogue;
- 2 Kind of entry in each type of catalogue;
- 3 Sections of each kind of entry in each type of catalogue;
- 4 Constituents of each section of each kind of entry in each type of catalogue;
- 5 Word-blocks in each constituent of each section of each kind of entry in each type of catalogue;
- 6 Sequence of the word-blocks in each constituent of each section of each kind of entry in each type of catalogue;

- 7 Sequence of the words in each word-block in each constituent of each section of each kind of entry in each type of catalogue; and
- 8 Style of writing including factors such as capitals, smalls, punctuation marks, numerals, and position of commencement of each section of each kind of entry in each type of catalogue.

#### 02 Attempt 2

In this paper, I give the results of a second attempt in respect of the main entry alone of a book of personal authorship, having the name of a personal author on the title page.

#### 03 Two Types of Catalogue

This paper is confined to two types of catalogues now in vogue - *viz* the Dictionary Catalogue and the Classified Catalogue. The former is unipartite; it is alphabetical. The latter is bipartite; one of its parts is alphabetical, ie its index part; and the other part arranges its entries by call numbers (and class numbers in the case of cross reference entries or subject analyticals) and it is therefore its numerical part.

#### 04 Two Varieties of Main Entry

In the Icc, I mentioned two varieties of main entries:-

- 1 Full Main Entry such as the one for a catalogue of a national, near-national, or a state library, intended to serve also as a national or state bibliography; and

- 2 Brief Main Entry such as the one for the catalogue of a service library, particularly one giving open access.

In this paper, I confine myself to Brief Main Entry.

#### 05 Two Sections of Main Entry

The main entry in each type of catalogue usually mentions the accession number of the

book in the last section. It also mentions the call number of the book. In the Dictionary Catalogue, it is usually made the penultimate section; and in the Classified Catalogue, it is made the first section *ie* the leading section. We shall leave out of this study these two numerical sections. We shall confine ourselves only to two of the sections in words - *viz* the Heading Section and the Title Section. We are omitting the Series Note as it does not present any special difficulty.

#### 06 Potency of Author Heading

According to the Fundamentals<sup>(1)</sup>, the verbal parts of the corresponding kinds of entries can be made nearly similar in the two types of catalogues. In particular, the Author Entry of a book, or its substitute, in the alphabetical part of the Classified Catalogue is essentially answering the same purpose as the Author Entry, or its substitute, in the Dictionary Catalogue. No doubt, it is the Main Entry in the Dictionary Catalogue; but it is only an Added Entry in the Classified Catalogue. However, according to the Icc<sup>(2)</sup>, the Author Entry of a book in the alphabetical part will have the same heading as its Main Entry. No doubt, the heading of a main entry in a Classified Catalogue has no potency whatever in respect of arrangement<sup>(3)</sup>. But, when used as the heading of the Author Entry in the alphabetical part, it has a great potency. In fact it has the same potency as the heading of the Main Entry in Dictionary Catalogue. Therefore, the heading of the Main Entry of a book can be governed by the same rules in either type of catalogue. I assume their being governed by the same rules.

#### 07 Choice and Rendering

- 1 Choice of the title page as the source for the heading of the main entry in the case of there being two or more title pages;

- 2 Distinction between author, collaborator, and sponsor of a book;

- 3 Resolution of conflict in authorship and the choice of heading for the main entry;

- 4 Rendering of the heading, including the recognition of the entry element and the

secondary element, and the consequential permutation of the words, or the word-blocks, found in the Author Statement on the title-page of the books - in other words, the choice of the entry element of the heading; and

5 Choice of the entry word for the heading in the case of the entry element being a word-block, that is, of a multi-worded entry element involving when necessary the permutation of the words in the entry element.

#### 08 Two Levels of Code

Icc has further sorted out all the problems in cataloguing into two groups belonging to the two levels.

1 International Catalogue Code, and

2 National Catalogue Code or Linguistic Catalogue Code as the case may be. In the rest of this paper, the term Linguistic Catalogue Code alone will be used to denote the second level, for the sake of brevity.

To the International Catalogue Code are assigned the problems independent of the country of the origin of the book or its language or its period of publication, or the cultural group of its author. To a Linguistic Catalogue Code are assigned the problems requiring an intimate knowledge of the country of origin of the book, or its language, or its period of publication, or the cultural group of its author.

#### 1 RENDERING OF NAME OF PERSON

In what follows, name-of-person means name of the author of the book catalogued or the name of any collaborator used in the heading as the substitute for the name of the author.

According to my considered view, the rendering of a name of person in the heading cannot be prescribed in detail and with precision by the rules of the International Catalogue Code.

##### 11 Attachment Word

##### 111 Removable Attachment

A name-of-person is usually found on the title page in a multi-worded form. Some of the words may be removable attachments. These form the first cause of trouble. These

may denote academic titles of the person, civil and military decorations of the person or any of his ancestors, office held by the person, esteem and affection in popular usage, and any other similar idea not forming an essential part of the name-of-person. Examples are Earl, Lord, Sir, Raja, Dewan Bahadur, Dewan, Rai Bahadur, Gate Mudaliar. Mudaliar, Shri, Sastri, Vachaspathi, and Professor.

#### 112 Amphibious Attachment-Word

Even an exhaustive enumeration of such removable attachments in each cultural group cannot give substantial help to the cataloguer in unerringly identifying the removable attachment in the name-of-person. For, some of these very words may be removable attachments in some names, irremovable attachments in others, and essential words in some others. For example, Lord is a title in some; and it is the name proper in some others. So it is with 'Earl' and 'Raja'. 'Dewan' is a removable attachment denoting official position in some names; it is the first word of a civil decoration in others; and it is an essential word in still others. 'Mudaliar' is a title in Ceylon; and it is an irremovable attachment in some names of South India, having originally denoted the occupation of an ancestor and now taken to denote a clan. This amphibiousness of attachments is one factor of confusion.

#### 113 Forced Change of Status of Attachment-Word

There is another factor likely to cause confusion. An occasional author gives on the title page only the irremovable attachment to his name in a fully spelt out form, and he suppresses all the other words in the name, including the essential word, by reducing them to their initials. Thus, an attachment-word is raised to the status of an essential word. This may be due to a false imitation of an apparent English practice. In such a case, the Canon of Ascertainability (4) makes it obligatory for the cataloguer to use only that fully spelt out irremovable attachment as the entryword in the heading. Normally, it will not be used as the entry word. To this amphibious category belong the words:

Achary	Karantha
Ayyar	Menon
Ayyengar	Mudaliar
Bhattachari	Nadar
Chettiar	Naidu
Deva	Pillai
Dikshit	Rao
Josier	Sastri
Kamath	Vajapeya

and many others. 'Sastri' may be a removable attachment or an irremovable attachment. Partly, by seeing the last word in a name-of-person of the West being used as the entry word and partly on seeing one of the above words alone being fully spelt out on the title page, a cataloguer not belonging to the cultural group of the author may mistake any of the above words for a surname or entry word, in spite of its being only an irremovable attachment to the entry element. In other words, the cataloguer finds it difficult if not impossible to determine in a particular case whether it is a removable attachment or whether it is an irremovable attachment, or whether it is the essential word to be used as the entry word.

#### 114 Example of Error

Here is a recent example. Benoyendra Sengupta has given an article entitled Indic names of persons in works in roman alphabets - problems of their standardization (5). He has given in it a table entitled "Schedule of Anglicised Hindu Surnames". The use of the word 'Surname', by itself, betrays ignorance of the variety in the structure of Hindu names-of-person. Some cultural subgroups among the Hindus do not use surnames. Examples are Tamilians, Malayalees, Kannadigas, and Andhras; even when a surname forms a part of such a name-of-person, it is not used as the entry word. Evidently ignorant of this, Sengupta has erred in including in his list of surnames the 18 words mentioned in the earlier section, though they are normally irremovable attachments. Again, Sengupta includes in his list of surnames the words Annaswami, Doraiswamy, and Kumaraswami; but these are only individual names. Sengupta belongs to the Bengalee subgroup of Hindu culture. That is why he has fallen into this error. Quite oblivious of these 21 errors,

Sengupta begins his paper with a statement that the lists of words prepared by me and my co-workers "are often misleading and not free from inaccuracies". But he mentions only four words of this kind. "Bakshi and Chauduri used as prefixes may be removable attachments". He has taken this from Ccc. His only remarks against this is "Frequently these words are used as last words or as surnames". There is no substance in this criticism, as it is recognised by Ccc itself. Another statement taken by him from my code is "Biswa and Lata may be starter words for a Bengali two or three worded family name". His remarks against this is "We however fail to locate any such example in actual practice in Bengali names". These words were given to me by my Bengali colleagues. I am not competent to pick them up erroneously. In fact, the words in the table given in Ccc were collected by local enquiry in Calcutta from librarians and scholars. Moreover, S Mookerjee mentions 'Biswa Basu' and 'Lata Vaidya' in his Bengalee surnames (6). In reality Sengupta's article amply demonstrates the risk involved in a person of one cultural group determining the entry word of the name of an author of another cultural group.

#### 12 Function - Position Relation

Secondly, the functions of the words in the different positions of a name-of-person are not the same in all the cultural groups. For example,

1 In a Chinese, Vietnamese, Malayalam, or Telugu name, the first word denotes the family name. On the other hand, in a modern European name and the Hindu names of recent years in North & West India, the last name denotes the family name;

2 In a Maharashtrian or Gujarati name the personal name of the father succeeds that of the son. On the other hand, in a Tamil name the personal name of the father precedes that of the son. In Indonesian and Malayan Muslim names, the personal name of the son precedes that of the father; and the two are separated by a word such as 'bin' or 'ibin';

3 A Vietnamese name-of-person consists usually of three words. The middle word often indicates sex. The current trend is said to be to omit the middle word in a heading;

4 In an Indonesian name the first word is often a removable attachment denoting the island to which the person belongs;

5 A Burmese name-of-person does not include a family name. It consists only of the individual name. It is generally a single word. But it is occasionally two-worded. Even then, the two words are to be taken in the same sequence as found on the title-page. But the name-of-person is usually preceded by an honorific word indicating age group, status, or sex, such as

Ko	denoting young age;
Maung	denoting middle age;
U	denoting senior status;
Ma	denoting female sex; and
Daw	denoting female sex.

Perhaps it is desirable to omit these prefixes in the heading of an entry as they carry very little potency. Their retention merely breaks up the alphabetical sequence into five groups.

### 13 Splitting the Individual Name

Thirdly, a North Indian name not containing a family name is often in two words. It is really a case of an individual name consisting of an original single or coalesced word now being written as if it were two independent words. It is improper to permute these two words and use the second word as the entry word in the heading. For example, Nath and Prasad usually occur as the second element in such split words. These should not be taken as surnames. But Sengupta mentions them in his table of surnames,

### 14 Irremovable Attachment

Fourthly, there is the problem of an entry element consisting of two or more words, which should be taken as if it were a fused block and should not be permuted. The extra word may be an irremovable attachment to the entry word. Examples are:

C P Ramaswamy Ayyar (that is, Chetpet Pattabhirama Ayyar Ramaswamy Ayyar); and  
A Ramaswamy Mudaliar (that is, Arcot Ramaswamy Mudaliar).

### 15 Double-Worded Block in Name

Fifthly, a multi-worded entry element may be a case of double or treble family name or individual name as the case may be. Further, such a compound name may or may not have a conjunction or a hyphen connecting them, as in the case of western names. In the case of Indian names, the members of a compound name may be either coalesced into a single word or may be as independent words. Examples of compound individual names with such variant forms have been given already in the discussion of North Indian names-of-person not containing a family name. Examples of compound family names are Pethick-Lawrence, Andrew Seth, Pingle-Pattison, Georgio Levi delle Vida, Anant Atmaram, Kankani Thanki, Farid al-Din Abu Hamid Mohammad Ibrahim.

### 16 Irremovable Auxiliary Word

Sixthly, another possible puzzle may be caused by an auxiliary word occurring between the individual name and the family name in a name-of-person of the West. The auxiliary word is not removable. It has to be taken as inseparable from the family name in some cultural groups; that is, it must be taken to be an irremovable attachment in the entry element in the name-of-person. In other cultural groups, it has to be taken along with the individual name, that is, with the secondary element in the name-of-person. Examples are:

Jan Ten Brink to be rendered as  
Brink (Jan Ten). (Flemish name);  
Magnus Gabriel de la Cardie to be rendered as  
De la Gardie (Magnus Gabriel).  
(Scandinavian name); and  
Jacob Baart de la Faille to be rendered as  
Faille (Jacob Baart de la). (Dutch name).

### 17 Migration of Name with Auxiliary Word

Seventhly, a person with double family name separated by an auxiliary word to be

attached to the family name might belong to a family which had migrated and got absorbed in a cultural group attaching the auxiliary word to the individual name. Then his own practice may follow that of his original cultural group or his adopted cultural group. In such a case it is difficult for the cataloguer to arrive at the rendering of the name according to the practice of the author, unless help is given by the author himself.

#### 18 Wanton Mutilation of Name

Eighthly, apart from such an amplitude of variation from the normal structure of a name-of-person, an individual occasionally flouts the convention of his cultural group wantonly and gives an unusual mutilated structure to his name. For example:

1 He may reduce the essential words in the name to initials as in K R Menon for K Ramunni Menon;

2 He may break the real name into two parts and reduce the first part to initials as in C V Raman for C Venkataraman;

3 He may permute the words in his name into an unconventional sequence and reduce all but the last word so got to initials; and the only word thus retained in full may be the one normally reduced to initials, as in S R Savur for S Srinivasa Rao (that is, Savur Srinivasa Rao);

4 He may break the normal entry word in an unnatural place and reduce all but the last bit to initials, as in H P Warren for H Parameswaran (that is, Hariharan Parameswaran). The breaking of 'Venkataraman' into the parts 'Venkata' and 'Raman' is consistent with the grammar of the language. Each word is semantically warranted. But according to grammar "Parameswaran" can only be broken into 'Parama' and 'Eswaran'. Here 'Eswaran' is semantically warranted. But the word is actually broken by the author into 'Parames' and 'Waran'. Both of these parts are without semantic significance. If a person does any such trick with his name consistently and leaves one word alone on the title-page, without being reduced to initials, there is no problem to the cataloguer,

except perhaps in expanding the initials. But if he plays ducks and drakes with the words in his name it is not easy except for himself to equate all the forms of names used by him in different books.

#### 19 Recommendation 1 Out of Bounds for International Catalogue Code

Thus precise rules for rendering a name-of-person in the heading of a catalogue entry are impracticable in the International Catalogue Code. Perhaps, an international committee with competent representatives of every one of the numerous cultural groups and sub-groups of the world may be able to frame precise rules. But it is not practicable. I regard it as 'out of bounds' for the International Catalogue Code. I, therefore, make the following recommendations:

Recommendation 1: The 1961 International Conference on Cataloguing should recognise the impracticability and the undesirability of the International Catalogue Code prescribing detailed and precise rules for the rendering of a name-of-person in the heading of a catalogue entry.

#### 2 SOLUTION 1

Then, what should the International Catalogue Code do in respect of the rendering of a name-of-person in the heading of main entry? It should state some general principles and leave it to the respective linguistic codes to frame detailed and precise rules consistently with those general principles. This is the first solution suggested.

#### 21 Statistical Basis for Solution

If so, what should be the general principle? The basic general principle is a statistical one. It takes account of the relative potency of the essential words in a name-of-person, denoting respectively family name, individual name, and other names such as place name, or clan name. Formally, a place name, a clan name, and an individual name of father, son etc, are regarded by the cultural group of the author as irremovable attachments either to the

entry element or to the secondary element. So it is with auxiliary words in certain cultural groups. In the universe of authors, it has been the practice to consider only two classes of words or word-groups for selection as entry element.

They are

F = Family name;  
I = Individual name.

## 22 Formula for Aid

Let

(F) = Total number of words or word-groups used as a reservoir by a cultural group, from which F is drawn; and

(I) = Total number of words or word-groups used as a reservoir by a cultural group, from which I is drawn.

Let us further have

P = Number of persons in the "author-sub-group" of the cultural group.

We may assume that

(F) > than 1  
(I) > than 1

We shall also have the following definition

$\frac{(F) - 1}{P}$  = Potency of a family name in the matter of alphabetical arrangement; and similarly

$\frac{(I) - 1}{P}$  = Potency of an individual name.

Then, potency of F  $\geq$  potency of I according as  $\frac{(F) - 1}{P} \geq \frac{(I) - 1}{P}$

That is, according as  $\frac{(F)}{P} \geq \frac{(I)}{P}$

That is, according as (F)  $\geq$  (I), since P is by assumption possible.

This is the formula derived by me in the Unesco Report (7). The essence of this formula is that the decision of the choice is made once for all for a specific cultural group taken as a whole. In other words, the aid of the concept of the frequency of occurrence and of potency should not be invoked at the stage of dealing with a particular name-of-person within the cultural group.

## 23 Application of Formula to Western Names

In a modern name-of-person of the West,

(I)  $\sim$  2,000 (= (I) is in the neighbourhood of 2,000),

for, the reservoir for I consists mostly of Biblical names only; and

(F) > 2,000

for, the reservoir for F consists of any kind of name whatever, such as that of any profession, any place, any river, any mountain, any physical feature, or any other attribute such as colour, status, etc.

Thus, (F) > (I)

Therefore, F as an entry element will occur less frequently than I as the entry element. Consequently, F will carry a greater potency in respect of arrangement than I. In other words, the choice of the family name as the entry element satisfies the Canon of Prepotence (8) better than the choice of the individual name as the entry element. This may look like a truism now. But it was not realised till 1595. In that year, Andrew Mansell, a British bookseller, sensed this relative potency. He announced "They (the learned men) make their Alphabet by the Christian name, I by the Sir name".

## 24 Application of Formula to Bengalee Name

In a modern Bengalee name

(F)  $\sim$  2,000

this can be seen from S Mukerjee's Bengalee surnames(9); and

(I) > 2,000

for, the reservoir of I consists of any kind of name whatever, such as that of any one of the multitude of names given to each of several god-heads, or that of any river, any mountain-peak, or any other physical feature, or any attribute such as colour, status, etc, either by itself or coupled with words such as Kumar, Prasad, Swarup, etc.

Thus, (I) > (F)

Therefore, I as an entry element will occur less frequently than F as an entry element. Consequently, I will carry a greater potency in respect of arrangement than F. In other words, the choice of the individual name as the entry element satisfies the Canon of Prepotency better than the choice of the family name as the entry element.

#### 241 Scholars' Support

But due to an irrational imitation of British practice, induced by political dependence during the last century, the family name is chosen as the entry element. However, when I met a group of Bengalee scholars and librarians in a conference convened for the purpose in December 1952 in Calcutta, the majority of the scholars and just a few librarians expressed their preference of the individual name to the family name for use as entry element. The use of the individual name as entry element appeared natural to them. For, the above-mentioned statistical test had not been formulated by me at that time. In fact, it was hit upon only late in 1953, as a result of the local discussions with different cultural groups in different parts of India and Ceylon, and of the study made of the structure of the name-of-person in the diverse cultural groups of the world. But why did only a small minority of librarians support the opinions of the majority of scholars at the Calcutta Conference? Perhaps, the minds of the librarians had been inhibited by the rules in the catalogue codes, such as Ala (10), for Western name-of-person, whereas the minds of the scholars reacted naturally to what has greater potency in respect of arrangement. I was told that a Bengalee reader usually asks for a Bengalee book, mentioning only the individual name of the author.

#### 25 Application to Other Cultural Groups

It would be worth applying this test to names-of-person in other cultural groups.

#### 3 SOLUTION 2

The result of the above statistical test will be normally followed by many an individual author. But it may not be followed by all. For, the way in which an author desires to be known is his own prerogative. Therefore, the word marked out by him for use as entry element may set the test at naught. Therefore, difficulties in the rendering of a name-of-person in the heading of a catalogue entry will always persist and transcend even the best of rational rules prescribed even by a Linguistic Catalogue Code.

#### 31 Recommendation to Unesco

This led me to suggest a second solution in my recommendations to the International Committee on Bibliography of Unesco on 31 October 1953, in pursuance of its resolution during its session 21-25 April 1952.

#### 32 Indian Standard Based on Recommendation to Unesco

These recommendations, in the latest form taken by them in my mind and in those of my colleagues on the Documentation Committee of the Indian Standards Institution, are as follows. They lead to a Second Solution.

1 It is not possible to make all cultural groups in the world to conform to a single, efficient standard in the formation of name-of person;

2 But it is possible to agree upon a single efficient standard for printing a name-of-person in a standard place on the preliminary pages of a book, so as to show forth readily the entry element and the secondary element;

3 For example, the standard may lay down that

31 The first line on the back of the title-page should give the entry statement for the author and for collaborators, if any;

32 The entry statement in respect of a person should contain only the words inherent in his name;

33 These words should be printed in their normal sequence of usage; but

34 The word or word-group to be used as the entry element in a heading in a catalogue entry should be printed in a more dominant type

than the words constituting the secondary element, and

35 The year of birth of the author should be added at the end of the name.

### 33 Practicability of the Recommendation

It will not be difficult for publishers and authors to get accustomed to the idea of entry element as the single word or word-group by which an author will be known or under which his name will be looked up in a catalogue. It will also be equally easy for them to get accustomed to the concept of secondary element consisting of the other word or word-group in the name and the need for adding them after the entry element, in order to resolve homonyms occurring now or likely to occur in the future in a catalogue, and thereby individualise each name-of-person. It may not be difficult then to realise the desirability of adding the year of birth as an additional individualising element in order to minimise the chance for homonyms to occur in a catalogue even when the entry element as well as the secondary element is used. If an author has sentimental objection to disclose his or her year of birth on the back of the title page, he or she may be given the freedom to give any year of his or her choice as the individualising element and keep on to it without changing. With the cooperation of the publisher and the author, this standard can be easily carried out in future books.

### 34 Attitude of Unesco and ISO/TC46

For some reason -- it might have been anything from political to personal, and conscious to unconscious -- this Report of mine has not yet been published. In 1954 there was evidence of reluctance on the part of the Unesco Committee to have it published. I therefore proposed the making of such a standard being put on the programme of ISO/TC46. This proposal received the first place among the new proposals for the programme at the Brussels meeting of the ISO/TC46 in September 1954. But the Office of the ISO/TC46 pleaded its hands being too full to take it up. However, it agreed to

allow the matter to be pursued if India would put up a draft standard. Accordingly, the problem was taken up by the Documentation Committee of the Indian Standards Institution. The Indian standard on this problem was finalised and published as standard IS:792-1956. Since 1955 India had been pressing for the consideration of this standard by the International Standards Organisation. The Indian standard was duly sent to ISO/TC46 for consideration at its Stuttgart meeting of 1956 as the basis for the international standard. But it was postponed. Since then, Germany and Belgium have sent up their own drafts (based on Indian standard?). But the subject still continues to be under consideration.

### 35 Implementation by India

In India, several publishers have begun to implement the standard. The Oxford University Press, the Asia Publishing House, and the Publications Division of the Government of India are among them. In the light of the experience gained, the standard, which was marked 'provisional' is now being revised in India. At this stage, the draft of the revised standard incorporates also the standard for copyright statement in conformity with the recommendations of the International Copyright Convention.

### 36 Transfer to the sphere of International Catalogue Code

By the universal adoption of the standard for the entry element of a name-of-person, all the difficulties in the rendering of a name-of-person, in the heading of a catalogue entry can be by-passed. The rule on the rendering of a name-of-person can be transferred from the sphere of the Linguistic Catalogue Code to that of the International Catalogue Code. A single rule in the following form can be incorporated in the International Catalogue Code itself:

The entry element in a name-of-person is to be the word or word-group printed in a dominant type face in the entry Element Statement found on the back of the title page of the book, in conformity to the standard for the Entry Element Statement;

the secondary element is to be the rest of the word or word-groups in the Entry Element Statement; and the further individualising element is to be the year mentioned in it (11).

### 37 Recommendation 2 Standard for Entry Element

I, therefore, make the following recommendation:

Recommendation 2: The 1964 International Conference on Cataloguing should promote the adoption of an international standard for the printing of Entry Statement in respect of authors and collaborators in a conventional place in the preliminary pages of a book, such as near the top of the back of the title page.

## 4 INVASION OF HISTORICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

The result of the implementation of the standard mentioned in Recommendation 2 will be that the time of the library profession need not be spent on the chasing of authorial homonyms. During the five centuries since printing from movable metallic types was invented, cataloguers have had to dissipate their time and thought in such a chasing. Many cataloguers have thus turned into historical bibliographers. The pre-occupation with historical bibliography has its own charm. Indeed, it has been difficult in the past to distinguish between the distinctive function of the profession of historical bibliography and that of the library profession. This merging of the functions of the two professions in the past did not then appear to harm the objectives of the library profession. The continuation of the invasion of Historical Bibliography was due to the delay in the cognition of the Laws of Library Science and in the making of service the dominant function of the library profession, from which every one of its other functions should radiate and get irradiated and to which they should be severely subordinated. Two recent examples will illustrate the persistence of a subordination of the service-function of the library profession to the function of the historical bibliography even down to our own days.

## 41 Indian Anecdote

About twelve years ago, the post of the Librarian of an important library fell vacant. Persons in high position asked me to give advice to certain aspirants to the post. They came to me. I found that none of them had either any library qualification or any idea of the service-function of library. Each emphasized his qualification to be his experience in reconstructing a text from manuscripts, in resolving the puzzles in "authorial homonymy and polyonymy" (12) and in historical bibliography in essence. All of them were college teachers. They all said that they preferred the quiet life of a librarian and the opportunity it would give to pursue problems in cataloguing and historical bibliography with undivided attention. It was difficult for me to convince them that in a modern library the undivided attention of a librarian should go to service rather than to research in the border-land between cataloguing and historical bibliography. Some of them insisted that research also should be a pre-occupation, though a secondary one, with a librarian of high calibre. It was then equally difficult for me to convince them that there were inexhaustible problems in the area of library science itself and that research within that area would be necessary to enrich library service and would also be sufficient to engage any high order whatever of research capacity and urge in a member of the library profession.

## 42 British Anecdote

About the same time, I had occasion to address the Section of University Librarians of the Library Association of Great Britain. It was in Birmingham. My old professor in Bibliography -- Andrew Esdaile -- occupied the chair. The theme of the address was the "Challenge of the universe of knowledge". I based my talk on the Five Laws of Library Science, which called for pin-pointed, exhaustive, and expeditious service of recorded knowledge in spite of the turbulent nature of the universe of knowledge and of the precipitation of new subjects almost from week to week. Library Classification and knowledge classification in particular were first shown to be a necessary aid to

render library service to the full satisfaction of the Laws of Library Science. I then marked out the areas for research in classification. All this was of course based on the assumption that arrangement of books in a library should be a classified one. At the end of the talk the chairman expressed the view that the best arrangement of books on the shelves of the library was the accession arrangement. The authority of Pollard, one of the predecessors of the chairman in the British Museum Library, was cited. It is well-known that the chairman as well as Pollard were eminent historical bibliographers.

#### 43 Call Off Historical Bibliography

Today the emphasis on service is increasing day by day in the world of libraries. This is due to the pressure coming from a variety of libraries -- industrial, departmental, commercial, academic, and other research libraries in addition to public libraries. This pressure calls for a further division of labour. This division of labour would separate out the profession of historical bibliographers from that of librarians, including cataloguers. The social pressure of today calls further for the conservation of as much research potential as possible for research in certain areas of more direct utility to the well-being of humanity, or at least to areas which ultimately contribute to it. There is one implication of this social pressure.

#### 44 Eliminate the Problem in Future

We should not create areas for research, which are avoidable. Letting the creation of problems in "authorial homonymy and polyonymy" to get created in our own times amounts to creating an avoidable area for research in the future. We cannot afford to give away our research personnel for such problems hereafter. The inherited problems in historical bibliography should no doubt be disposed of. But no new problems should be created along these lines. If the standard in Recommendation 2 is carried out, their creation will be eliminated. After all, the author is the best authority to furnish all the information needed

for establishing author headings. If we do not get it out of him even when the book is printed -- still worse, if we wait to face these problems till after his disappearance -- we are surely doing something wrong. Indeed the enormous increase in the library personnel needed for the ever-increasing number of our service-libraries calls for the withdrawal of library cataloguers from research in historical bibliography. It calls also for withdrawing quite a large number of librarians from repetitive cataloguing work in each of the libraries in the country. Here too there is urgent need for the conservation of library man-power for service proper. One of the means of doing it is centralised cataloguing. I have shown in my Heading and canons (13) that 79 per cent of the cataloguing personnel of a country can be released for the service-function of a library if such a centralised cataloguing is brought into vogue. This trend emphasizes further that the time required even by the central cataloguers in establishing author headings should be minimised as much as possible. In fact, it can be nearly eliminated by carrying our Recommendation 2 in respect of future books. Incidentally the carrying out of this recommendation will transfer the rules for author headings from the diverse Linguistic Catalogue Codes to the International Catalogue Code.

#### 5 PROBLEM IN STYLE OF WRITING ENTRY

##### 51 Experience from Cataloguing in Tamil

Another group of cataloguing problems, definitely assigned in my Icc to the several Linguistic Catalogue Codes, concern the style of writing the entries. Some of the elements involved in the style of writing are conjunctions and other auxiliary words, and punctuation marks. Here also, my experience during the last few months indicates the possibility of transferring some of these cataloguing problems also from the Linguistic Catalogue Codes to the International Catalogue Code. This recent experience has been gained while working on the Commemoration Bibliography of South India Saiva Siddhanta Publishing Society, being published on the occasion of the release of their 1,008th publication. All their publica-

tions are in Tamil. Their consumers are mostly those knowing only Tamil. Naturally, therefore, the catalogue of the 1,008 books had to be produced in Tamil. Till now in the libraries where I had worked all cataloguing was done in English irrespective of the language of the book. I had therefore no opportunity to experience the problems arising in the adaptation of my Classified Catalogue Code to catalogues in other languages. The experience gained in constructing this Commemoration Bibliography has therefore been the first of its kind. It is while solving some of the difficulties arising in this work that the desirability of transferring some of the problems in the style of writing to the International Catalogue Code occurred to me.

## 6 JOINT AUTHOR HEADING

The Indian languages are inflexional. My Classified Catalogue Code is geared to the needs of the English language which is hardly inflexional. The other catalogue codes in the English language are also similar. I may illustrate the difficulties in relation to the conjunction 'and'. The rule of the Ccc on the rendering of a joint author heading reads as follows (14):

If the title-page contains the names of two and only two joint authors, both the names are to be used as the heading with the conjunction 'and' connecting them.

This rule is inoperative in Tamil. For the effect produced in English language by the use of a separate auxiliary word as a conjunction has to be produced in Tamil by the inflexion of the names of both the authors. As a result of this, in a Tamil catalogue, the author entries of books of the same person as single author will get separated from the author entries of the books of which he is the first joint author by the interpolation of other author entries between these two blocks. There are two ways of meeting the situation:-

1 Either, the rule on joint authors should be different in the English catalogue code and the Tamil catalogue code;

2 Or, the auxiliary word 'and' and its corresponding inflexional substitute should be eliminated.

## 61 Replace Conjunction by Comma

There is no doubt that the latter alternative will be preferable if it is possible. This is possible. We can indicate the idea of conjunction by inserting a universal symbol between the names of the two authors. I have found that this alternative does work. I have used the punctuation mark " , " (comma) as the connecting symbol to indicate the idea of conjunction. There is no reason why the same practice should not be followed also in English and other essentially non-inflexional languages.

## 7 JOINT COLLABORATOR STATEMENT IN TITLE SECTION

We shall next take the incidence of an auxiliary word in the title section of an entry. According to Ccc the first 'sentence' (sentence according to the artificial language which catalogue entries imply) is to consist of the two parts (15):

- 1 title; and
- 2 information regarding collaborators.

Further, the Ccc gives the following rule regarding the writing of the second part (16):

The second part of the first sentence is to be a transcription or transliteration, as the case may be, of that part of the title page which gives the information mentioned in category 2 above.

While working on the Commemoration Bibliography, it has been found that transliteration is not desirable in this case. For, the heading for the collaborator added entry has to be derived from the collaborator part of the title section. According to Ccc a name in the heading should be in nominative case (17). It is a convenience therefore to use the nominative case in the collaborator part of the title section also, if it is practicable. I find that it is practicable. In languages such as English which are essentially non-inflexional and use an auxiliary word such as 'by' to denote the

instrumental case, the name of the collaborator taken by itself is the same as in the nominative case. But in an inflexional language it is not so.

#### 71 Replace Preposition by Semicolon

If we decide to replace the instrumental form by the nominative form in an inflexional language, we should abandon the auxiliary word such as 'by' in an essentially non-inflexional language. Thus, not only transliteration but also transcription should be ruled out in respect of the collaborator part of the title section. In its turn this will call for a proper way of linking up the name of the collaborator with the descriptive element such as 'ed', 'tr', 'comm' describing the role of the collaborator. Here again, we get a clue from how this is done in the heading section. The rule on this is as follows:-

- 1 The descriptive element is to be added after the name of the collaborator (18);
- 2 The first letter of the descriptive element is to be in capital (19); and
- 3 A comma is to separate a descriptive element, in a block in a heading from what it describes (20).

It is desirable to make the collaborator part in the title section also to conform to this style. This makes it necessary to connect the title and the collaborator part of the title section by a suitable punctuation mark. I have found that the mark " ; " (semicolon) suits this purpose well. Thus, the auxiliary word denoting instrumental case can be replaced by a universal symbol even in the title section of an entry.

#### 8 RECOMMENDATIONS 3 AND 4 FOR REPLACING AUXILIARIES BY UNIVERSAL SYMBOLS

I therefore make the following recommendations for consideration by the International Conference on Cataloguing:

**Recommendation 3:** In a joint author heading, the universally used symbol " , " (comma)

is to be used between consecutive names of authors, instead of a conjunction.

**Recommendation 4:** In case the title section of an entry has to include information about collaborators,

- 1 the part denoting the title and the part denoting the collaborator are to be connected by a universally used symbol " ; " (semicolon), instead of an instrumental preposition such as "by";
- 2 the name(s) of the collaborator(s) should come thereafter;
- 3 after the name(s) of the collaborator(s), a " , " (comma) should be inserted; after the comma, the descriptive element is to be inserted; and
- 4 if there be two or more collaborators with the same role, their names should be separated by a comma.

#### 9 RECOMMENDATION 5

#### HOLISTIC ORGANISATION OF THE USE OF PUNCTUATION MARKS

I had always been feeling that the use of punctuation marks should be carefully organised in any catalogue code. My Ccc includes rules on punctuation. During the last thirty years, I have been making several experiments in respect of punctuation marks in catalogue entries. My recent experience in the cataloguing of Tamil books in Tamil has brought home to my mind that a catalogue code should exploit the punctuation marks as much as possible, as they are universal. This way of lifting as many elements as possible of a widely used tool as a catalogue entry from the grip of words in individual languages to that of internationally used symbols was first highlighted in the meeting of the Documentation Section of the Indian Standards Convention held in Madras in 1957. It happened while establishing a standard for symbols to be used in proof correction entirely in universal symbols (21). I make the following recommendation to the International Conference on Cataloguing:

**Recommendation 5:** Arrangements should be made for a comprehensive study of the

holistic use of punctuation marks in catalogue entries so as to get the maximum use of them, and so as to bring the problems of style of writing entries as much as possible from the sphere of the several Linguistic Catalogue Codes to that of the International Catalogue Code.

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