

## NEMESIS OVERTAKES SUBJECT APPROACH IN THE STACK

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[Answers various intricacies resulting from open access and APUPA pattern. Mentions these intricacies as per the verdict of a university librarian, as under :

1 Filing order becomes complicated ; 2 Such a filing arrangement in the Classified Catalogue makes information retrieval cumbersome for readers ; 3 Under the above two conditions reference staff is generally required for the help of reader and thereby rules out the principal benefit of open Access ; 4 Ordinal value of symbols make it more complicated ; 5 Evolving new concepts like empty digits, emptying digits and sectorising digits make the sequence of ordinal values complicated ; 6 Conclusively the predominance of subject approach in librarianship is not a healthy procedure from reader's angle ; 7 Makes out that this situation is applicable to both C C and U D C.]

1 In a one-act play written by a University Librarian the only potent charge, is that a Reader cannot understand the filing sequence of different species of notation including connecting symbols.

11 The Librarian sarcastically questions the use of open-access and APUPA pattern, which when it comes to locating a document, could be realised, every time, with the help of Reference Staff.

2 Long bays of documents on any (B C), make it difficult to locate the required document without knowing the complicated filing order.

21 Small number of documents on a (B C) are also lost to the reader, among the neighbouring (B C) which have a larger literary warrent, without knowing the filing order.

22 The Dictionary part of the Classified Catalogue leads to the exact call number of an available document.

221 The Classified part of the catalogue and the sequence of arrangement on the shelf, act as stumbling block to the retrieval of documents stacked in the Library from the Readers' angle.

23 It is a hypothesis that each Reader is not expected to take a course in library science to locate documents.

231 No reader challenges the labours that go in preparing schedules and all the devices that are built-in to get the helpful sequence.

3 What is the use of open-access when Readers of the library cannot use the library without the help of Reference Staff ?

31 Alphabetical approach to the Catalogue and using single species of digits in the notation separated by a connecting symbol, inspite of all the drawbacks, seem to have a homely effect on Readers; however inadequate they be, from the point of view of library service.

32 The Predominant Subject-Approach has been so scientifically dealt with and solved by Library-Scientists that it has made the search process complicated for the Reader.

4 The Reader has to grasp that in filing order it is the lower-case English alphabets, Indo-Arabic numerals and Roman Capitals that form the hierarchy,  $i, e, a, \dots, z, \dots, 1, \dots, 8, \dots, A, \dots, Z$

41 The real mischief starts with the order of connecting symbols, least in ordinal value.  $\leftrightarrow 0^+ ; ; , -$

42 Anteriorising value of some of the (CI) and the Subject Device's filing order has to be carried in the mind.

43 If the reader is inquisitive, and goes digit by digit for explanation, he is to be told that sectorising digits are empty in ordinal value.

44 Any discussion on these aspects would lead him on to a lesson on classification.

45 Were the difficulties true, any specialist using a Documentation list classified according to CC, after locating his (BC), or his subject-heading through the chain-index, leans heavily on Features, and does not find much meaning for the Call Number which is behind the helpful sequence.

5 Mixed notation is the hall-mark of efficiency and gives short call numbers with a faceted structure, to classify co-extensively. Readers really cannot be helped by simplification of notation.

51 Each (FC) requires its own CS unless an even species of digits are employed. Wherever CS could be avoided, it is omitted.

52 Anteriorising value is a special notational contrivance to signify the specified subject, but bring the approach-material to the front.

53 Subject Device accommodates any new growth in any Round or Level or Array of the (BC).

54 To lose these advantages, in the name of simplification or understandability is incomprehensible. Do not other classification schemes which are described as simple, suffer from not having the advantages of providing co-extensive class Numbers and combine heterogeneous material under some or same number ?

6 All these innovations in library science are for Reader's comfort.

61 Library Science is solving the riddles as a structural science of all subjects. It adds a live or expressive notation which carries concepts in the idea plane, comfortably to the verbal plane and neatly packs it up by expressive notation.

62 Reader complains that to 'open-the-packet's is complicated. Always somebody is required to help him locate the 'packet' in the library stack.

63 Notation has developed into the Algebra of library science. How to help the lay reader understand Library-Algebra ?

7 Every science or any new subject when it branched off from the old, was for a time in-sight to the generalist, but it took-off and sublimated with the help of research to crystallize into something new and find a new order for its existence among the comity of subjects.

71 How many laymen do really bother to know the intricacies of Science or Technology ? Or even specialized subjects in Humanities or Arts ?

72 A circle of specialists using technical terminology cannot be helped for any Science or Art or Technology.

73 We are also proud to have made a Science of Library-Art, to add inestimable benefits to research and hence human comfort in the long and short-range point-of-view of time. The growth is just like the growth of any other science, in passing through the spiral of Scientific Method.

8 Need not Library Science be understood by the lay reader who visits the library ? Right from every specialist to the public who visit libraries, all are lay men when they confront library science.

81 Library Science as a science based on the structure of Universe of knowledge, its present, its growth, and the shape of growth and the dim future, has not branched off from a sister subject. In itself Library Science combines the aspects of a Pure Science and a Technology.

82 Clutter of documents, needed a filing sequence, *ad hoc* measures lead to investigations and library scientist has found meaning in the structure of knowledge being represented by notation. From 1876, Library Science has witnessed a growth for nine decades, short by two years only.

821 In Library Science application of numbers and alphabets is effected in the Notation. Without a notation, had one tried to describe Library Science, and use it, there would have been stupendous literary warrant in the Subject, without much of a cognisable result.

822 It is a young, compact science of filing of documents based on structure of the Universe of knowledge and its growth.

83 Does the scientific clutter solve the problem of the Reader who wants simple, easy and understandable way to locate his document ? Library Science still does not disown its existence as a Filing Science. What are the easy methods of retrieval without calling the library scientist to help ?

831 Every Science has to think of the why and wherefore of itself. Understandable pure sciences regaling in theories, are brought down to earth

by myriad applications, resulting in goods, services, and conveniences. Even Philosophy, Religion, Economics etc in their application give a meaningful social structure and a polity to live-in, conducive to human growth.

84 It is the duty of Library Science too in its applied aspect *in situ* filing sequence, to be understood by Readers. Then only the sophistications of Bibliographies, Documentation lists, Abstracts and Reviews can be grasped, *vis-a-vis* Research. The heights of Philosophy and Science have no defence if they cannot be applied at one time or other. If the Readers do not understand or exploit the arrangement of books in open-access libraries; not having branched off from any other sister-science, or being down-to-the-earth a Use-Science only in the strict filing sense, it ceases to be Technology.

841 A Reader is not walking through a Museum or Art gallery when he is on the floor of the library. Museology has the privilege of being explained by curators or trained staff when the public visit a Museum. But not Library Science which deals with peoples' everyday comfort and most used sources of knowledge, the use of (books and) documents.

842 Extension lectures do not cover every reader, who may step into any library at will. Readers are not fixed nor could they be anticipated. Or the first thing before going to a library, should be to listen to a lecture by a librarian. If each Library follows a different classification scheme, as many lectures as the number of libraries visited are necessary.

85 Library Science is a popular science too. 'Do-it-yourself' or 'know-it-how' books belong to the second remove of understanding. Something should be done to make a reader help himself at a glance by the arrangement of the Classified Catalogue and the sequence on the shelf. It should be a lucid, simple and easy explanation of filing, which, in itself, is simple.

86 Self-expressiveness of a notation should not land it in complexities. The unconcern of mathematics or pure science in the early times, Library Science cannot have. Does Library Science require a new tribe of specialists, only interested in the floor-applications of its techniques in a library? Is the floor-assistant, in a library-context the Reference staff?

87 Shop floors are different from library floors. In libraries, the readers want the key-to-use and wander at liberty, with somebody to help, if required. The complicated notation has made the Reference Assistant, behave like the shop-assistant.

88 The development of depth classification and its application to Documentation periodicals, and micro-thought has got over the problem by the alphabetical chain-indexing and the frozen entry number, which is easy for any peruser to follow. The endless explanations required about the sequence of entries is by-passed by the hierarchical alphabetical approach of Features. The sequence of Features is a mystery to the peruser, and hence the index gives the specific and simple entry number. Subject-notational—ordinal approach, as is represented

by the classification number, has been replaced by Alphanumeric-Subject-Cardinal approach. There are two ladders to reach down the depths, both the Library-Science-notational, and the Alphanumeric-subject-numerical.

881 The library stock cannot be frozen. In spite of its growth the Accession Number remains stable for each book. Hence in all the keys-of-the library documents, location by Accession Number is the simplest.

882 Dictionary part should provide the reader with the Accession Number and not Call Number. The arrangement of the documents in a library, if it is Accession-wise, anybody can pick it out.

883 The Classified Catalogue is left intact to the discerning user and the library-scientist to do reference work and compile bibliographies.

884 Both ways i.e. Library-Science-Classified way and the Alphabetical-Accession way, are left open, as is done in a Documentation list, even in a library.

89 The physical shape of knowledge-containers has altered. Monographs, Pamphlets, Reprints, Clippings, Data sheets, Micro forms, Records, Maps etc cannot be displayed normally in a library, except at a special exhibition, to exhibit an APUPA pattern. Such special material is stored using furniture that is opaque and lockable. For Micro films, monographs, pamphlets, and reprints, the preferred arrangement is by Accession Number, the advantages of classification being available in the Classified Catalogue.

891 With the Computer technology and Information Scientists, the Reader puts his question, as if at a sales-counter. The documents are stored in random (As-you-like-it) sequence and retrieved by coding and decoding. Experimentation is afoot to find out the gain in search time, were classified sequence employed for storing.

892 The days of browsing seem to be a past era. Books are outdated and contain stale information. Special library collections have less of books. Micro-forms are replacing the conventional book.

893 It leads us on to the helpless conclusion that the meticulous approach of Depth Classification should be confined to the catalogue.

8931 Browsing being given up, (how to without knowing the sequence), open-access has lost its charm of liberty. Closed-access with Accession order or classified order or alphabetical order, is all the same for the reader in the Reading Room, provided the right material is served in quick time. In other words, Depth classification has equated closed-access with the open-access. Panorama-view of books has disappeared.

9 Library Science has become a full-fledged science. 'Popular' and 'Use' aspects are given up. It is a Librarian's Science. That every reader is put in contact with his book through open access is no longer a viable contention. There is no more need for open-access. Libraries would only give information. Readers consult the catalogue and put the question, since, self-help is impossible.

91 First Law's first child, 'open-access' is in distress. It is near extinction point, if librarians do not attend to the paradox : open access with Depth Classification=closed access.

(The contentions are equally true for UDC)

NB : Only the Author is responsible for the views expressed.

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