

The Bliss Classification Bulletin

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EDITORIAL

Although no further classes have been published since the appearance of the last issue, much work has been done - as reported within - and Class K, Society, should be available quite soon. Interest in BC2 is developing in areas outside its "normal" application; the Unesco project described on p.9 is evidence of this. (The article in International classification, incidentally, is the first of three. The second, by J.C. Sager, H.L. Somers and J. McNaught of UMIST, appeared in v.9 (1982), no.1, p.19-26, and discusses the methodology of thesaurus construction. It also contains an invaluable checklist for the comparison of thesauri). Chris Preddle's description of Bliss at Barnardo's is, we hope, the first of a regular series by BC2 users.

Readers are again urged to send contributions. Anything requiring acknowledgement or discussion should be sent to Mr. Mills this year, as material addressed to the Hon. Editor of the Bulletin at the College of Librarianship Wales, Aberystwyth, will be kept safe but unstudied for twelve months. With quite unbelievable reluctance the latter has been persuaded to spend the next academic year teaching in 8TYF P.

A.G. Curwen

BLISS CLASSIFICATION ASSOCIATIONMinutes of the
Annual General Meeting

held on Friday, 4th December, 1981 at 2.15 p.m. at the King's Fund Centre, London.

PRESENT: J. Mills (Polytechnic of North London) Chairman and Hon. Editor
J. Stearns (S. Martin's College, Lancaster) Hon. Secretary
H. Barrett (Department of Health and Social Security) Hon.
Treasurer and Membership Secretary
D.J. Campbell (Personal Member)
Alan R. Thomas (Ealing School of Library and Information Studies)
Keith Morton and Sue Cook (King's Fund Centre)
C. Preddle and John Nowell (Dr. Barnardo's)
Peter Boaden (University of London Library)
Graham Howorth (King's College, Cambridge)
Susan Bury (Haddon Library, Cambridge)
Marion MacLeod (Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge)
Keith G. Cheyney (Haberdashers' Aske's School)
Suzanne Smiddy and Chris Horsey (Office of Population Censuses
and Surveys)
K. Best (Lord Chancellor's Department).

Apologies for absence were received from:

R. Hughes (Commonwealth Institute - Hon. Publicity Officer)
A.G. Curwen (College of Librarianship Wales - Hon. Editor of
Bulletin)
G.W. Geoghegan (Reading University Education Library)
R. Hughes (Balfour Library, Department of Zoology, University
of Cambridge)
M. Walker (Tavistock Joint Library)
C. Beale (Royal Holloway College)
Helen Charles (One-Parent Families)
Liz Edwards (Pitt-Rivers Museum, University of Oxford).

Before the meeting began, Mr. Morton welcomed the Association to the King's Fund Centre.

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST A.G.M.

Held on 12th December 1980 (circulated in the Bulletin) were approved. There were no matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda.

2. HON. EDITOR'S REPORT ON THE PROGRESS OF THE REVISION

Mr. Mills reported that class H had appeared early in 1981; because of the size of the vocabulary and the very wide scope of the subjects in it, this class had taken a great deal of both the time and the funds of the Association: he was disappointed that no review had as yet appeared but personal comments had indicated general approval.

Class K: This key class, described by Mr. Mills as the centre-pin of the social science classes in BC2, had proved to be more difficult and have a larger vocabulary than at first he thought it had. I followed the pattern set by class H for size; whilst BC1 had about 1800 terms there were some 7-8000 terms in the final version.

Classes E, F and G: Mr. Mills reported that penultimate drafts were being prepared and that a good deal of the work had already been done in the non-taxonomic areas. Some work still had to be done on the taxonomy of zoology: the new schedules would provide a relatively broad taxonomy but with clear instructions and named authorities to provide expansion if needed. Mr. Mills reported that Derek Langridge, of the Polytechnic of North London, had been given some time to enable him to look at the classification of History. He further alluded to an article which had appeared in a Swedish journal which had argued for a classification more detailed than Dewey and Library of Congress but not so detailed as U.D.C. - one that was really aimed at special libraries.

On the question of the disappointingly slow production of published classes, Mr. Mills recalled that the original declaration of aims of new edition included a statement that a vocabulary as detailed as some classes of the full U.D.C. could not be hoped for, but that the analysis of each class would be in sufficient detail to allow the exposure of all its facets and arrays, even if the arrays lacked detailed enumeration of their member terms. This aim had proved easier to state theoretically than to achieve in practice. Exposure of all the arrays in a facet usually entailed examination of the detailed vocabulary - and having done that it seemed a great pity not to retain it in the finished schedule. Moreover, the special library users of BC2 welcomed such detail, and this was quite understandable. This was the basic reason for the increasingly detailed schedules culminating in classes H and K.

The question now had to be asked whether BC2 could afford such detail in view of its limited resources and the time-consuming nature of the work. He had reluctantly come to the conclusion that if BC2 were to be completed in reasonable time some reduction in the size of vocabularies was inevitable. Indeed, Dr. Campbell had expressed the view that another effort as huge as that entailed by class H 'would finish BC2'. Members asked if the lack of specificity due to this need to speed up production would mean a lowering of standards. Mr. Mills said that he envisaged a level of detail of the sort found in the earlier classes to be published (J.P. and Q.). He thought that class J now seemed rather insufficiently detailed in vocabulary (although well exceeding in size that class in any other general classification) and perhaps class Q represented the desirable level. This was well beyond the level of other systems (including U.D.C. in this case). But it was a level below that of U.D.C. in many of its Technology classes.

3. B.C. BULLETIN AND MECHANISM FOR RECEIVING SUGGESTIONS FOR AND APPROVING AMENDMENTS

A panel consisting of Mr. Horsey and Mr. Preddle had made a number of suggested amendments to the social sciences classes and a plea was made for more. The Association's thanks were expressed to them and members were asked to send amendments in the social sciences to them as speedily as possible. The thanks of the Association were expressed to Mr. Curwen for his meticulous accuracy in his editing of the Bulletin: he asked for more articles and news items.

Certain problems had arisen from the amendments as published in the last copy of the Bulletin. Difficulties had arisen when alterations had been published which had disturbed users who had been using the penultimate and not the final draft of class H: it was strongly urged that where radical changes affected a major library using the scheme that library should be consulted. In a general discussion it was agreed that amendments published in the Bulletin should become a practical tool to paste into the schedules, having been reduced on a Xerox machine, that Mr. Mills should consult with Mr. Curwen about layout and the possibility of printing amendments on one side of the paper only and that Miss MacLeod should produce a mock-up page.

4. REPORT OF THE HON. TREASURER AND MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

The accounts for the year ending 31st July 1981 were circulated and appear in the Bulletin following these minutes. The total assets of B.C.A. were £1374.39 including £800.13 as the cost of the investment in Charibond (a fixed-interest unit trust especially for charities). The books had been audited by Mr. K.W. Best to whom were extended the thanks of the Association. Sales of BC2 to the 30th June 1981 were: Introductory volume, 819; Class I, 449; Class J, 722; Class P, 669; Class Q, 627; Class H, 307. Membership now stood at 127 members, including 12 personal members and 5 schools.

5. ELECTION OF HON. AUDITOR

Mr. Best agreed to continue as auditor.

6. REPORT OF THE HON. PUBLICITY OFFICER

Mr. Hughes (Hon. Publicity Officer) was unavoidably absent from the Meeting and the Chairman reported on his valiant work in this field: there had been many staff changes in Butterworths Publicity Department which had made for difficulties. He had prepared a press release which Butterworths could send to appropriate journals and associations. It was hoped that a leaflet about BC2 could be inserted into the Bulletin. The Chairman reported on an article by Daniele Danesi, entitled Il ritorno di Bliss, which had appeared in Vol.21, 1981 of Associazione Italiana Biblioteche Bolletino d' Informazioni, and on one by Jean Aitchison in International Classification, 1981, which examined the possibility of using BC2 as the basis for a switching language in international social sciences documentation.

7. ELECTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE

The Hon. Secretary reported that C. Beale, D.J. Campbell and K.G. Cheyney had completed their term as elected members; H. Barrett, P. Boaden and M. Walker had been co-opted for the last year. Mr Barrett had intimated at the last A.G.M. his intention to resign both as committee member and as Hon. Treasurer and Membership Secretary. The grateful thanks of the Association for his excellent and meticulous work were expressed by the Chairman. Peter Boaden (University of London Library), Paul Brewin (D.H.S.S. Library) and Chris Preddle (Dr. Barnardo's) were elected to the Committee, which intended to co-opt D.J. Campbell, K.G. Cheyney and M. Walker. Mr. Morton and the King's Fund Centre were warmly thanked for their generous hospitality to the Association.

The accounts for 1980/81 appear on the following page

SOCIAL SCIENCE CLASSES: AMENDMENTS

May we make an appeal to all BC2 users, please, to send in suggestions for improving the schedules and keeping them up to date?

With fuller schedules and a larger vocabulary than other general classifications BC2 needs more updating, and to keep it current is very much in the interests of us all. Whenever you come across new terms, please do send them in.

Quick suggestions on the backs of old catalogue cards are quite acceptable. Send them to:

Chris Preddle, Dr. Barnardo's Library, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, Ilford, Essex IG6 1QG (tel. 01-550-8822, ext. 256)

or:

Chris Horsey, OPCS Library, St. Catherine's House, Kingsway, London WC2B 6JP (tel. 01-242-0262, ext. 2237)

BLISS CLASSIFICATION ASSOCIATION

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year ended 31st July 1981

1980	RECEIPTS	1980	PAYMENTS
2333.12	Balance forward 1st August 1980	1662.30	1731.25 Expenses of 2nd edition
	Subscriptions		1622.15
	Personal 23.00	63.40	Committee expenses 176.75
	Schools 10.00	62.54	Stationery and postage 40.68
502.78	Other institutions <u>445.32</u>	478.32	- Purchases of 2nd edition 105.39
10.51	Sales of Bulletin	16.57	15.00 Audit fee for 1978-79 accounts -
	Butterworths Royalty on		5.05 Sundry expenses -
296.20	2nd edition	130.20	
83.40	Distributions from M&G Charibond	87.47	Balance in hand 31st July 1981
313.53	Interest on Bank Deposit a/c	124.44	Bank a/c Current 18.08
-	Postage refunds on 2nd edition	14.93	Bank a/c Deposit <u>556.18</u>
-	Donations	5.00	574.26
<u>£3539.54</u>		<u>£2519.23</u>	

H.M. Barrett
.....

Hon. Treasurer

Library,
Department of Health
and Social Security,
Alexander Fleming House,
Elephant and Castle,
London SE1.

The Association's Assets at 31st July 1981 were
as follows:

Investments (at cost)			
Charibond	800.13		
Cash at Bank	574.26		
2462.43	<u>£1374.39</u>		

AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the books, bank statements and
other relevant papers of the Bliss Classification
Association and find the above statement of
accounts to be correct.

K. Best
.....

Hon. Auditor

.29 October 1981.
.....

.12 Lynwood Gardens, Hook,.....

.Basingstoke, Hants RG27 9DT
.....

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS IN PREPARATION AND PUBLICATION (JUNE 1982)

Classes H, K and E/G all achieve a level of specificity (reflected in their large vocabularies) well beyond that of full UDC.

The accelerated programme now begun, designed to bring the whole scheme to completion within the next two years, assumes that this level of specificity will not be attempted in the remaining classes.

Penultimate drafts (full drafts already distributed to libraries for testing and comment) will be finalized for publication with minimum increase in existing vocabularies.

Drafts being prepared for issue as penultimate drafts (except Class E/G, now nearly complete) will aim at a level of specificity and vocabulary approximating to that found in earlier published classes (I, J, P, Q). However, all these at least equal the full UDC in specificity.

Future penultimate drafts will be taken as near as possible to the final form envisaged for publication, so that minimum amendment will be needed to finalize them. This is the case with the large Biological Sciences class, now nearly complete.

In the special case of Technology, where full UDC vocabulary is enormously detailed, BC2 will not attempt to equal this detail. But its structure, helpful order and predictability should be much better, of course.

In the 5 columns indicating the state of each subject class, the abbreviations should be interpreted as follows:

- 1 = Already published;
- 2 = Penultimate draft already distributed;
- 3 = Advanced draft schedule made and preparation of penultimate draft relatively straightforward;
- 4 = Advanced planning of schedule has been done, but no detailed schedule covering the whole class is yet available;
- 5 = Outline draft only so far available.

Planned Volume No.	Notational Class	Subject Class	1	2	3	4	5
1		Introduction and Common Auxiliary Schedules	✓				
2	2/3	Generalia * Same as Common Form Divisions in Schedule 1			✓		
	4/6	Phenomena * Selection to be extracted from main schedules.				✓	
	7/9	Universe of knowledge Communication and information Communication theory, media Data processing, computer science. Documentation: booktrade, bibliog, library & info. sci. Individual & mass communication *PR, advertising, pub.opinion..		✓		✓	✓
					✓		

Planned Volume No.	Notational Class	Subject Class	1	2	3	4	5
3	A/AI AL/AV AW AX	Philosophy Logic & mathematics Statistics & probability Systemology, organization theory, management		✓	✓		
4	B	Physics			✓		
5	C	Chemistry		✓			
6	D/DG DH/DY	Astronomy Earth sciences (incl. Geography)		✓	✓		
7	E F G	Biology, ecology & microbiology Botany Zoology Applied biology, agriculture etc.			✓ ✓ ✓ ✓		
8	H	Human biology & health sciences	✓				
9	I	Psychology & psychiatry	✓				
10	J	Education	✓				
11	K	Society: Sociology, Social anthropology, Ethnology, Custom, folklore & mythology		✓			
12	L M/O	History (general) & ancillaries History & description, by place				✓ ✓	
13	P	Religion, Occult, Morals	✓				
14	Q	Social welfare	✓				
15	R S	Political science Law			✓		
16	T	Economics, Management of enterprises		✓			
17	*U *UD/UE *UF *UG *UH *UN *UO *US *UU	Technology (Agriculture) * <u>Alternative</u> to G Engineering & Production technology Materials technology * <u>Alternative</u> to CT Physics-based technologies * <u>Alternative</u> to B Environmental technologies * Construction technologies Public health & Lighting engineering Transport technology Military science & technology Human needs technology *Food, clothing, home & household arts			✓		✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
18	*UY *V	Recreative arts Fine arts, Music		✓ ✓			
19	*W/Y	Language & literature		✓			

* N.B. It is possible that there will be a reallocation of notation from U onwards (see FORUM in this issue of the Bulletin and also the previous one). A decision on such a reallocation will be made when a review of the notational needs of Technology has been completed.

Any other users who have views on this and have not already communicated them should convey them to the Editor of BC2, Jack Mills, as soon as possible.

INTEGRATED THESAURUS OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Some readers of the Bulletin will probably have seen an article on this subject by Jean Aitchison which appeared in International Classification 8(1981), no.2, p.75-83. It has particular interest for users of BC2 in that it includes a detailed proposal to use the social science classes of BC2 as the 'master-classification' to form the conceptual basis of such a thesaurus for international use. The abstract is reproduced below.

Unesco took the first steps towards the establishment of the thesaurus at a consultative meeting in Paris in 1980, organized by the Division for the International Development of the Social Sciences. The latest development has been a Working Group Meeting on the Establishment of an Integrated Thesaurus of the Social Sciences, held in London in May 1982. The meeting - an international one - considered two reports commissioned by Unesco: a design study of an Integrated thesaurus of the social sciences, by Jean Aitchison, and a feasibility study of the creation of a descriptor bank of social science terms, by Prof. J.C. Sager and P. Whitelock of the University of Manchester. Both studies were accepted and the meeting went on to consider detailed ways and means of implementing the proposals. A Pilot Project, covering the field of Labour Economics and initially confined to the English language, was proposed and an application to Unesco for funds to support it is being prepared. The Editor of BC2 has undertaken to complete the social sciences component of BC2 (notably classes R and S) by the end of this year.

Jack Mills

Aitchison, J.: Integration of thesauri in the social sciences. In: Intern. Classif. 8(1981) No.2, p.75-85, 18 refs.

The paper discusses the objectives, characteristics and compilation of the proposed Integrated Thesaurus of the Social Sciences. The Integrated Thesaurus is not intended to supplant well-established thesauri, but to act as a master reference tool, which could serve as an aid in searching across data bases or as a switching mechanism. The first step in compilation should be the merging of terms to form a Descriptor Bank. This can reveal both matches and inconsistencies, but is limited by its verbal and alphabetical approach. To compare the merged terms at the concept level analysis in sub-fields is proposed within a classification framework, preferably one with a faceted structure, such as the second edition of the Bliss Bibliographic Classification. The classification would serve as the master against which the terms from the merged information languages, arranged in a compatibility matrix, would be compared. The master classification would be modified during interaction with the matrix terms, and emerge as the Integrated Thesaurus in a format similar to that of the BSI ROOT Thesaurus, having a detailed classified display and full alphabetical section. The compatibility data could be displayed either in the classified or alphabetical section. An example is worked out in the sub-field of Unemployment using terms from 5 thesauri and the UDC. Finally consideration is given to multilingual implications, testing and updating.

(Author)

BC2 LIBRARIES - (1)

This is the first of a series of articles by librarians of collections classified by BC2. We hope to continue with regular contributions in succeeding issues.

THE USE OF BLISS AT DR BARNARDO'S LIBRARY

Dr Barnardo's cares for children in need. We are the largest voluntary child care organisation in Britain: in 1981 we helped more than 9000 children and young people in 162 different projects and settings. Barnardo's provides selected, specialist services for children with any kind of handicap - physical, mental, emotional or social - and for their families. We are a Christian organisation, committed to helping with handicaps, keeping families intact, and restoring independence and integrity. Organised regionally, we concentrate on areas where the need is greatest, in consultation with local authorities and other agencies.

Two-thirds of Barnardo's children are helped in the community. For the under-fives we have more than twenty day care centres, playgroups and play-buses. We find adoptive and foster homes for older and handicapped children; we provide support services to families with difficulties, especially those caring for handicapped children at home; we run after-school projects, play-schemes, advice centres, and clubs for young people in trouble or at risk. There are sixty-five community projects altogether.

About 2400 children are cared for in residential homes and schools. Disturbed children, with learning and behaviour disorders, are the largest group, for whom we run twenty-seven special homes. There are three special schools for the physically handicapped, four for the multiple handicapped, five for the maladjusted. There are homes for the mentally handicapped, holiday homes, and hostels. For children in trouble we run four community homes with education.

So Barnardo's has come a long way since the doctor began his work in the East End in 1866. His Homes have become a national agency running modern, specialised child care services. There are 2700 staff, and a budget of £30 million.

The library is in Barnardo's headquarters in Barkingside in north-east London, and serves Barnardo staff - child care staff, fund raisers and managers - all over the country. Much of our business is done by post and telephone. The library has a stock of 10000 books and pamphlets, and takes 135 journals and newsletters. Most of the stock comes within the fields of social welfare, education and psychology, with smaller collections on law, management and sociology. The library and its services have been expanding rapidly, and we have recently moved into considerably larger quarters, specially converted and newly furnished. However, until last year only a third of the books had ever been catalogued and none individually classified. So a major project of cataloguing and classification is now under way.

The second edition of Bliss was recommended to us by Aslib. We use all the volumes published so far, and shall need all the remaining social science classes. We make most use, of course, of Q, and next of I and J. About 2500 documents have been fully catalogued and classified so far, and a further 3000 pamphlets have been very rapidly classified. We also use BC2 to arrange by subject vertical files of offprints and ephemeral documents.

Our subject catalogue, however, is alphabetical with *Precis* headings. The choice of this rather than a classified catalogue when such a splendid classification scheme was in use perhaps needs a word of explanation. The decisive consideration was that catalogue users should be able to look up familiar terms and immediately find details of books. We didn't want them to have to convert their request into a class number. We also wanted users to browse in the subject catalogue, so as to take account of documents on loan and to overcome the scattering on the shelves of aspects not cited first; and a single-stage catalogue seemed best for this. We were put off multiple-entry classified catalogues, too, by the jumble of class numbers needed on each card: a hyphenated string of classmarks at the top and a synthetic shelfmark below, perhaps with no feature to decode them. When class numbers are used purely as shelfmarks, of course, there is no conflict between the need for short numbers on spines and highly detailed numbers in the classified catalogue.

But classification is still essential for the compilation of an alphabetical catalogue. The BC2 schedules are our main source of terms for the *Precis* headings and of term relationships for the making of references. To keep control of the vocabulary and references we maintain an authority file in classified order. Against each class number we record the preferred term for it, synonyms, and relationships with other terms, in the manner of a thesaurus.

A *Precis* catalogue, of course, requires many cards, as a document on a compound subject must be entered under every useful term in the string. To avoid repetitive typing we use a catalogue card duplicator to produce copies of a unit entry from a stencil. Headings for both the subject and the author-title catalogue are typed above the unit entry. The duplicator we use is the Weber Mini-Graph 120. It's a little messy to fill but in every other respect excellent, and we're happy to recommend it to any library needing many copies of the same card.

We limit BC2 shelfmarks to four groups of characters; each group may contain up to three characters, but a numeral always begins a new group. The grouping cuts across facets. This produces shelfmarks such as: QMP LTV H 8Y, QE 8EA 3J, QLE LAT UCL M. This convention, and a spine label on which the groups fit neatly for hand lettering, were passed on to us by King's College Library in Cambridge. Their system works very well and we're most grateful to them.

The most impressive feature of BC2 for us is that it is founded on the best principles of classification expertly and thoroughly applied. There is a detailed exposition of these in the introductory volume. In the schedules the analysis of disciplines into facets and arrays is rigorous and carries conviction that these structures are sound and permanent. A great deal of thought has been given to citation order and the overwhelming majority of topics are well placed; documents with BC2 classmarks 'look' and 'feel' right. (In the DDC, by comparison, some subjects seem to have been dropped at random like litter). Compound subjects can be expressed precisely, the citation order determines their place, and the procedures for synthesising classmarks are (usually) consistent, quick and easy. The vocabulary is up-to-date and generally more than full enough for any book collection. Altogether, BC2 gives an impression of intellectual excellence and mastery of its field.

There is criticism, however, of the disparity in size of its published classes. J is too thin, and P could perhaps be a little fuller; I and Q seem about right. The draft of T looks rather full, for instance at III Insurance. But H can scarcely be accommodated within the span of a single letter, and its teeming vocabulary conceals its structure. Number-building in H is relatively difficult: there are three tables of intercalators, and many more special instructions cunningly embedded in the schedules.

There has been some slipshod proofreading in the published classes. Scheduled terms are sometimes missing from the index. There is incorrect number-building in the schedules themselves; many examples have been put right by amendments, but one that remains is QRP DET (it should be QRP DEU). The wrong instruction at IX has been amended, but the amendment itself seems to contain an error: surely autism should be IXA UY, if it is to file correctly.

Precisely because its vocabulary is relatively full BC2 needs many small additions and amendments to keep it up-to-date, and this presents physical problems. Class I already has as many graffiti as the New York subway (because of the imprudent publication of temporary classmarks); but all the schedules are going to look more and more messy as time goes by. A solution to this problem is the principal development we would like to see for the future. One day, perhaps, the schedules and indexes could be held and continually updated on a computer or word processor. For an annual subscription to each class users would periodically receive a complete, fresh printout incorporating new terms in their proper places. (Existing structures and classmarks should be kept largely intact). A development such as this would assure the future of a fine classification.

Chris Preddle, Dr Barnardo's Library

Address: Dr Barnardo's, Tanners Lane, Barkingside, ILFORD, Essex, IG6 1QG

Phone: 01-550 8822

FORUM

Readers were invited to submit their views on various aspects of the use and development of the scheme. Responses appear below: more are welcome!

NOTATION OF CLASSES U-Z

From Chris Preddle, Dr. Barnardo's Library:

May I contribute some comments, please, on the proposals put forward in the last Bulletin?

Class Z should be used, not left vacant as an alternative to P. The supply of main class letters is too small for us to allow humanists the luxury of classing religion as the last of man's inventions.

Bliss's original arrangement of main classes has been much admired. To locate literature above the arts in general (option 2) would spoil it, besides lifting the poetasters above their proper station.

The expansion of technology is the most important objective. The third and fourth options achieve this and preserve Bliss's sequence. But perhaps the fourth option, which expands the fine arts too at the expense of literature, is the better distribution of notation.

I like the proposal to place preferred languages at ZA/ZB and to align other languages with schedule 3. After all, a preferred language which files at ZY, after Pushtu and Telugu and the dialects of Chad, won't appear to have received much preference.

From G. Smith, Institute of Cancer Research Library:

I would like to comment on the allocation of classes U/Z in BC, mentioned in the last issue of the BC Bulletin.

- 1) The radical revision for Language and Literature at Y/Z is more in line with the revision policy of the rest of BC2. If one has to change classmarks, it is just as easy to change the whole classmark as one or two digits.
- 2) I do not see why we need two letters for a relatively small subject like Fine Arts (as in option 4). This could go at X quite comfortably.
- 3) This would then leave U/W for Technology, and three letters is hardly adequate for such a large subject, even allowing for alternative locations with the relevant sciences. The number of technology libraries you might attract to BC by this allocation would surely be greater than any philology libraries that you might lose (if any).

From David W. Hope, lately of Welsh Water Authority Library:

... If Fine Arts and Literature (together with Language) are to be placed at the end of the order of main classes, cases could be made for placing either last. Music in Vocal Music integrates literature into a higher level; Theatre integrates literature with fine arts applied to design; Opera integrates literature, music and theatre. Moreover, some of the fine arts appear more closely related to some parts of Technology than do parts of literature. All this (except the last consideration) suggests:

Technology
Language and Literature
Fine arts ...

[On the other hand] one could consider that the fine arts tend to be "about" nothing whereas literature tends to be about everything and argue, therefore, for placing literature last, as capable of commenting on all subjects that have been placed before it:

Technology
Fine arts
Literature (with language) ...

I incline to keeping Bliss's order but inserting Recreation; Planning; Conservation. Two possible orders (with two suggested allocations of notation for each) are:

U/V	U/W	Technology	U/V	U/W	Technology
		Recreation	W	X	Fine Arts
W	X	{ Planning			{ Recreation
		Conservation	X	Y	{ Planning
X	Y	Fine Arts			Conservation
Y/Z	Z	Language and Literature	Y/Z	Z	Language and Literature

I incline to the first order with the second notation ...

COMMENTS ON CLASS H AND THE INTRODUCTORY VOLUME

From Susan Bury, Haddon Library, Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of Cambridge:

Following my recent reclassification of the Physical Anthropology section of this library I have some comments to make on Class II. These will inevitably concentrate on criticism, so I wish to state at the outset that this class provides a simple but highly detailed and efficient scheme for a most complex subject. Number building can seem complicated but once the clear facet structure of the scheme is grasped a classifier has no difficulty in finding his way about. Compared with conventional enumerative schemes it is simple to use.

I shall discuss my criticisms of class II in three groups, before going on to one general problem and one specific to this library. Lastly I shall discuss the auxiliary schedules in the introductory volume.

1. Misprint

I have found the following: on p.249 at HXW aged, there should be "see HFL K" (not HSL K).

2. Missing subjects

- (i) Salt is missing from the list of elements and compounds, HCI/H CJ I have inserted it at HCL CHS.
- (ii) In this library I need great detail for the types of fossil man, and so have added their names, e.g. Pithecanthropus HGM S, Broken Hill man HGN L.
- (iii) The term medical geography appears in the literature, and should appear in the scheme, at HH8.
- (iv) The term protein requirements must be added at HKJ LE, nutritional requirements. (1)
- (v) Paleopathology, again a term particularly important in this library, HP7.
- (vi) The term zoonoses is implied at HSF, for HSF C/W are specific animals causing disease. (2) Primates have been omitted from that list, so I have put them at HSF W, instead of "other mammals" as printed.
- (vii) Trisomy in general and trisomy 21 are missing from HSH YR/V.
- (viii) Famine has to be included, at HSO SR hunger. (3)
- (ix) Fingerprints should be mentioned specifically at HUF M, as should dermatoglyphics HGH UFM, owing to their importance in the literature.
- (x) Cannabis must be mentioned, at HUX GKF H.
- (xi) Magnetic sense, sense of direction, is missing, so I have inserted it at HVC IT between time and weight perception.

All these terms have been added also to the index. The following terms, which appear in the schedules, but were omitted from the index, have been added to the latter:

medical profession, HHH,
ontogeny, HFD,
urban hygiene, HKS NC,
vitamin D deficiency HTL OPV XE.

Three editorial footnotes (and footqueries!):

- (1) What is wrong with HKJ LE for nutritional requirements of a diet in general and HKJ M for particular constituents of a diet, requirements being understood (e.g. Protein HKJ MT, Carbohydrates HKJ MRO)?
- (2) Medical dictionaries disagree amongst themselves. Some define zoonoses in terms of diseases transmitted by any animal - so HSA - while others limit the definition to vertebrates - HSF. The term should certainly appear in the vocabulary, but its location(s) and definition(s) will need careful handling.
- (3) More definitions: is famine the extreme of hunger and starvation, or the cause of them, i.e. dearth of food? - A.G.C.

