Cataloging


This is a guide "developed as a visual reference manual of the cataloging process." It was originally compiled as a manual that students at Simmons College library school, where Professor Colvin is a member of the faculty, have used in their cataloging courses. Now it is available to the library profession at large.

The sampler includes eleven sections: cataloging control records (involving multiple order forms, serial processing slips, searching slips—primarily from the Library of Congress operations, Michigan and Yale—authority cards, official catalog entries, and subject authority cards); the dictionary card catalog (involving all kinds of catalog entries); monograph publications (with references to rules and examples of publications which demonstrate the application of the rules, including European and Oriental names); serial publications (including general serials, government serials, and newspapers); publications issued in series (including types of series entries and the variety of approaches in treatment); analytical entries (including monographic publications and serials); works related (abridgments, adaptations, commentaries, etc.); relationships in the card catalog (main and secondary entries and references); works of special type and special collections (theses and dissertations, technical reports, works for the blind); nonbook materials (art photographs and slides, manuscripts, maps, globes, atlases, etc.); and the shelf list (official record, types of entries, call numbers vs. numerical location vs. location designation, reference works, and shelflisting for branches). In addition, there are eight appendixes dealing with book numbers, Library of Congress cataloging process case study, branch cataloging (Boston Public Library), classified catalog (Boston University), brieflisting catalog (University of California at Los Angeles), synchronized book processing (Wayne County, Michigan, library), color band card system for instruction (non-book) materials (Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, Maryland), and corporate body under successive names (National Library of Medicine).

The work contains a bibliography which lists compilations of sample cards which are used in other library schools—eleven of them. Some of these are similar in content to the present work by Professor Colvin, but none approaches its sweep and scope. The various control records, and the materials in the appendixes, as well as a wider range of samples, contribute to make this a major reference source of cataloging as well as a useful work for students and practitioners in the field of cataloging. The mere listing of the variety of entries and the treatments provided by catalogers might well raise again a question regarding the complexity of cataloging. Professor Colvin has shown that it may not be cataloging that is complex, but rather publishing. Perhaps this would be a good volume for publishers as well as administrators and catalogers in libraries to study and ponder. There is little doubt that it should be useful to all library schools, even though they may continue to maintain their own instructional sample cards in connection with particular courses.

—Maurice F. Tauber, Columbia University.

IFLA


The growth of the International Federation of Library Associations to include representation from fifty-two countries is a testimony to the increased interest of all librarians in the development of libraries throughout the world. This interest has been reflected in a change not only in the structure of IFLA, which now has a permanent secretariat, but also in the attitudes of others towards libraries. The monograph which was developed by many hands but especially by Sir Frank Francis, F. B. G. Hutchings, Dr. Hermann Liebaers, and Professor L. Brummel, who apparently edited it, considers not only the framework and background of IFLA, but major problems of