EDITORIAL

Vintage 1996

Good news!
At long last
Class R
has been
published
having escaped
from the bottleneck
of checking, creation of
camera-ready copy, proof-
reading, rechecking and correcting
(seemingly endlessly) and has made its
way to our publishers Bowker Saur who
not only printed and issued it with most
commendable speed, but then called for
Class S, Law. That text is also complete
and in Bowker Saur’s hands, and so you
will soon have another volume in your
hands. That will encourage all of us.

And next? Jack Mills is giving the general, physical and chemical sciences, Classes AY, B and C, high priority. Work on the fine arts is in hand, and the old drafts of the language and literature classes are being re-examined to see how much revision is needed.

Some corrections to Class R are noted in this issue, resuming a practice which has been in abeyance for several years. There are very few changes! – our editorial and checking procedures have improved greatly.

The number of members of the Association is not as high as it should be. Some have left because their institutions have reclassified from BC1 to other schemes; and a few have left because their institutions have been wound up or have lost their library services. (For example, the directorate of the Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work – CCETSW – scandalously decided a few years ago that their activities did not require the resources of a first-class library in their field). However, there are others who are still using BC2, but have either never joined the Association or have let their membership lapse. Superficially, the only benefit may seem to be the receipt of the Bulletin once a year, but the active support of a community of members does have far greater value which can be of help to all in feedback, revisions and advice and as a counter to possible professional isolation. If you know individuals and institutions who qualify for membership, please try to persuade them to join us.

With effect from this issue, the names of the current Committee members are given in the Bulletin, together with the addresses of the Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer/Membership Officer, and Hon. Editor of the Bulletin. Correspondence should be addressed to one or other of these officers, as appropriate. The ever-growing lists of Committee members, past and present, which have appeared in the volumes of BC2 will be omitted in future; the Committee felt that this practice had no real value.

The Annual General Meeting is to be held on Friday, 22 November 1996, at the Library Association Headquarters, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE, at 2 p.m., and will be followed by the annual lecture: details will be circulated in the autumn.

The text of Professor Alan Thomas's excellent talk about H.E. Bliss following last year's AGM is not printed here either: Alan is hoping that much of the material will be appearing in another book before long. We shall bring you full details of that when available. In the mean time, there is an appreciation by Jack Mills to be found in these pages.

Tony Curwen  
Aberystwyth  
August 1996
BLISS CLASSIFICATION ASSOCIATION

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Bliss Classification Association was held at 4 p.m. on Friday, 24 November 1995, at the Library Association Headquarters, Room A, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE.

Due to administrative difficulties, the Minutes could not be printed in this issue of the Bulletin; they will be made available for this year's AGM. Jack Mills's report and the annual statement of accounts, which were both presented to the AGM, are given here as usual.

PROGRESS OF BC2 IN 1995 : EDITOR'S REPORT TO THE AGM

Development of Schedules and Publication

Class AY: Science and Technology (general). A major part of this class (which includes also the history of science, and the social relations of science and technology) consists of the comprehensive Operations and Agents facets which embody the methods, actions and instrumentation of scientific and industrial research. The schedule is now virtually complete apart from the notation which has yet to be finalized, bearing in mind that all the individual sciences will be drawing on these schedules for their own research and practical work.

Class B: Physics. This class is almost complete now, the only part whose draft hasn't been finalized being crystallography. Classes AY & B will be published as one volume and should be with Bowker-Saur by mid-1996.

Class C: Chemistry. By early 1995 it was realized that the problem of citation order and specificity in classifying chemical compounds (especially organic ones) was even more formidable than had been reckoned. At this point the arrangements for cooperation with UDC (reported last year) bore fruit; a large package of specimen schedules and a set of questions on the problems raised was sent to Dr Andrew Buxton (a chemist and one-time lecturer at the UCL School) who answered them meticulously. As soon as physics is out of the way the outstanding question of citing the component parts of chemical compounds will be decided and the schedule then finalized.

Class DH/DY: Earth Sciences. A most welcome event in 1995 was the decision of Heather Lane, Librarian of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, to reclassify by BC2. But the earth sciences, which is a class of particular interest there, happens to be the least developed class in BC2. So a not unwelcome break from physics and chemistry was taken and a comprehensive outline schedule for the earth sciences was developed. This was accompanied by a tally of crucial decisions which need to be made as to alternatives, especially in geography and ecology. This is now being considered at Sidney Sussex, after which the general structure of Class D will be finalized and more vocabulary added.

Class Q: Social Welfare. The revised and expanded edition of the 1977 Class Q, prepared by Chris Preddle, was duly published in December 1994. Our hopes for the publication of new classes have so often been dashed that it was a particular pleasure to have one arrive on time, as planned. Our warm congratulations go to Chris Preddle for this excellent addition to the BC2 corpus.
Class R: Politics and Public Administration. This class was completed in early 1993 and its subsequent progress through the stages of proof-reading and preparation for publication has been disappointingly slow. But it has now been delivered to Bowker-Saur and we look forward to its publication early next year.

Class S: Law. This class was completed some six months after Class R and it is hoped that it will follow Class R in publication next year.

Class W: The Arts. Work has continued on this class, in collaboration with Colin Ball. The large Design section (defined as comprising all art products intended to have a significant utilitarian value) is now nearing completion. It ranges from the graphic arts and textile arts to landscape design, architecture (in its aesthetic aspects) and interior decoration.

Other activities

The Bliss Classification Bulletin (No.37) appeared this year in midsummer, well ahead of the AGM; the Editor hopes to make this the regular pattern from now on. One result of this earlier appearance is that it pre-empted some items of news which this Report usually notes. However, a little repetition never harmed anyone (as an old hand at teaching might say) and if some of the items below have already been noted in the Bulletin no harm and some good may be done by their re-presentation here.

Alan Thomas (who is also our speaker at the AGM this year) made yet another contribution to his most effective publicizing of BC2 in America with the publication of *Classification: options and opportunities* (Binghampton, NY: Haworth Press, 1995). Alan Thomas has contributed three articles to this symposium (which he edited). It also contains an excellent one by Derek Langridge, another very good friend of BC2. Another book, which BC2 will have all to itself, is an introduction to BC2 which Ken Bell has been commissioned to write (it will be translated into Italian) following his participation in the seminar on classification in Milan in June 1993; this is well under way now.

The addition of Sidney Sussex College to the ranks of BC2, noted above under Class D, was followed by that of Jesus College (librarian Rhona Watson, to whom we extend a cordial welcome). The growth of BC2 users in Cambridge has now led to the setting up of an informal users' group, with the arresting name of CamBUG. One of its first ventures was the organizing of a Bliss Day Out in Cambridge. This very successful and highly enjoyable event was held on 13th September and included visits to several BC2 libraries.

The publication of a new edition of Class Q has led to a resumption of short courses on BC2 in the form of a Class Q Training Course, held at NCH Action for Children on 23rd November. The grateful thanks of BCA go to the course leaders – Ken Bell, Chris Preddle, Frank Emmott and Colette Batterbee.

Classification on the Internet. BCA members will be interested to hear that two meetings of the Classification Research Group this year were devoted to discussing the possibilities of BSO (Broad System of Ordering) and BC2 being publicized on the Internet as aids in the ever-present problem of organizing searches in massive files of information. One of the meetings consisted of a practical demonstration by Colin Neilson, on one of the University College micros.
The Bliss Lecture 1995

The Bliss Annual Lectures maintained their acknowledged standard of excellence with Prof. Alan Thomas's completely absorbing talk on *H.E. Bliss: the man and his ideas*, given before the AGM on 24 November 1995. Alan has for some time been working on a study of Bliss, originator of the Bibliographic Classification (the predecessor of BC2) and has drawn extensively on the Bliss archives at Columbia University.

Many in the audience were acquainted to some degree with the personal history of Bliss through the beautifully paced biographical essay on him which John Campbell wrote for the Introduction to BC2. They knew from that memoir that Bliss's life had been marked by several tragedies and a good share of disappointments and frustrations. Also, that Bliss was a very interesting character in his own right, mixing forthrightness and acerbity with a large capacity for friendship and affection. At one point in Campbell's memoir he cites Bliss's son as saying that Bliss 'was "hard to take" as the American expression goes'. I suppose a British equivalent would be to say that he was something of an awkward cuss.

Such a person is likely to make an interesting subject and Alan Thomas was clearly aware of this, adding to his stories of Bliss's relationships with various persons the spice of his own dry humour. Many well-known figures in the library world appeared, from Dewey to Herbert Putnam and the formidable Dorcas Fellowes. The mix of professional issues and personal relationships presented was continually interesting and often extremely amusing. It was a thoroughly enjoyable talk for which we are all indebted to Alan.

*Jack Mills*
### BLISS CLASSIFICATION ASSOCIATION

Consolidated Receipts and Payments for the Year Ending 31 July 1995

#### RECEIPTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>1994</th>
<th>1995</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Balance brought forward at 1 August 1994</td>
<td>3809.16</td>
<td>2155.54 (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General accounts</td>
<td>1137.43</td>
<td>612.45</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Appeal account</td>
<td>2155.54 (1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current account</td>
<td>612.45</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Deposit account</td>
<td>3139.59 (1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Societies account</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
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<td>80.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Personal</td>
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<td>80.00</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Institutional</td>
<td>979.93</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Royalties on 2nd edition</td>
<td>40.34</td>
<td>78.83</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Distribution from M &amp; G (Charibond)</td>
<td>91.54</td>
<td>65.09</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interest payments</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Appeal account</td>
<td>18.11</td>
<td>23.64</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Closing interest</td>
<td>3.44 (2)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Deposit account</td>
<td>32.67</td>
<td>34.43</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Closing interest</td>
<td>5.01 (2)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Societies account</td>
<td>3.10 (3)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Transfer from Current account</td>
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<td>0000.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Other receipts</td>
<td>800.00</td>
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<td><strong>Total Receipts</strong></td>
<td><strong>7995.18</strong></td>
<td><strong>6908.25</strong></td>
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#### Current Assets at 31 July 1995

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>1994</th>
<th>1995</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charibond (at cost)</td>
<td>800.13</td>
<td>800.13</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cash in General accounts</td>
<td>3852.04</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cash in Appeal account</td>
<td>2155.54</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cash in Current account</td>
<td>209.16</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cash in Deposit account</td>
<td>3394.70 (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cash in Societies account</td>
<td>3.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Computer equipment</td>
<td>1773.97 *</td>
<td>1966.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>less depreciation @ 20% per annum</td>
<td>1540.00</td>
<td>1573.55</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>8581.68</strong></td>
<td><strong>6674.04</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>(incl. replacement printer)</td>
<td><strong>8347.71</strong></td>
<td><strong>4707.09</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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* Figures in parentheses indicate depreciation or replacement values.
BLISS CLASSIFICATION ASSOCIATION

Consolidated Receipts and Payments for the Year Ending 31 July 1995

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PAYMENTS</th>
<th>1994</th>
<th>1995</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Committee and AGM expenses</td>
<td>390.38</td>
<td>319.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stationery, postage and photocopying</td>
<td>27.30</td>
<td>344.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer equipment</td>
<td>233.97</td>
<td>966.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other payments</td>
<td>335.95</td>
<td>370.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer to Appeal account</td>
<td>1000.00</td>
<td>0000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balance in hand at 31 July 1995

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1995</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General current account</td>
<td>209.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General deposit account</td>
<td>3394.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Societies account</td>
<td>303.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appeal account</td>
<td>0000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7995.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes to Receipts and Current Assets:-

1) The General and Deposit accounts were amalgamated on 18 May 1995 following the updating of the accounts. These entries are for the old separate accounts as of 1 April 1995.
2) The interest added following the closure of the Deposit and Appeal accounts as of 18 May 1995.
3) Interest for the Societies account maintained in conjunction with the Current account.
4) The combined Deposit and Appeal accounts, referred to as the Deposit account as of 18 May 1995.

Angela Haselton
Honorary Treasurer
40c Morpeth Road
LONDON
E9 7LD

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.

Ken Best
Honorary Auditor
30 Cissbury Close
HORSHAM
West Sussex
RH12 5JT
The NSPCC and its Library

The NSPCC was established over 100 years ago to help children at risk from all forms of abuse and neglect. The NSPCC is the only national voluntary organisation named in statute which can take legal proceedings to protect a child who is being abused or at risk. It focuses its work on helping abused children and their families, and the prevention of future abuse. As well as working directly with those at risk, the organisation actively campaigns for the rights of children in both the UK and European Parliaments, it provides training in child protection, it carries out research into child abuse, and it operates a 24-hour telephone helpline.

The NSPCC works in 8 regions in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, through more than 120 child protection teams and projects. The National Training Centre is based at Leicester and the NSPCC National Centre is based in London.

To support this work, which requires access to accurate and very specialised information, the library service was set up in 1974. It is based at the National Centre and contains approximately 6,500 fully catalogued monographs and 250 audio-visual items, all classified under Bliss. The Library subscribes to about 100 journals. It offers an information and lending service to staff, it compiles reading lists on requested subjects, and it provides photocopies of journal articles. A current awareness bulletin is produced every 2 months. Some of these services are available to child protection staff outside the NSPCC, for which a fee is charged.

I was appointed Assistant Librarian in January 1996 with the expectation that approximately half my time would be spent on catalogue-related tasks. With the recent introduction of an OPAC into the Library and the aim of networking the catalogue to staff throughout the building (and eventually to the regions), I arrived at a time when making the Library more “user-friendly” had become a priority. One of the main tasks involved in this was reducing the length and complexity of some of the Bliss classmarks, as it was felt they were rather cumbersome for users and staff alike. As a newcomer to Bliss myself, I was wholeheartedly in favour of this development! My aim is where possible to produce classmarks of no more than 9 characters in length.
Not surprisingly, as we are predominantly a child protection library, social welfare is by far our largest subject area, and as well as simplification of classmarks, I will be helping to reclassify materials under “new Q”. An initial comparison of the old and new schedules made me feel very relieved to be working with the revised edition. The typography and layout make it instantly more accessible and appealing, and I found the examples included in Section 14 very helpful.

Glancing at the index, it is clear to see that entries have been greatly expanded and updated, with current terms such as mentoring, institutional abuse and open adoption appearing. Looking more specifically at QL, I found that synthesis is less complicated as much more of the groundwork is done for you. For example, looking in the schedules at types of child abuse gives the ready-made classmark QLJ KH for child sexual abuse, whereas in the old edition of Q, this notation had to be built up as follows: QL for children, JHS victims of crime and M sexual offences. I expect that this greater precision in Q will help towards the aim of simplifying classmarks, for example all our material written for children on sexual abuse (staying safe, “stranger danger”, saying No), together with some general public education material on the matter are classified at QLJ HSM ET: HJD H. Now it will be possible to classify them at a variety of shorter, more precise classmarks as follows:

- QLJ KHD 3E material for children on the child protection process
- QLJ KHD DEQ N material on self-protection for children

I feel that I’m getting to grips with the revised edition of Q now, but – a weakness of Bliss I feel – this does not really help me with the other schedules. I am eagerly awaiting a revised edition of Class I!!

**Collection Profile**

The Bliss classification has been used at NSPCC Library for over 15 years. Here is a percentage overview of how the 6,500 fully catalogued monographs are classified:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>(Subject)</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class I</td>
<td>(Psychology)</td>
<td>28.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class J</td>
<td>(Education)</td>
<td>2.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class K</td>
<td>(Sociology)</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Q</td>
<td>(Social welfare)</td>
<td>59.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class T</td>
<td>(Management)</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference Books</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As we can see from this overview, the bulk of the collection is classed in classes I and Q. The distribution of titles in Class Q by percentages is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>(Subject in social welfare)</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QA</td>
<td>(Administration in social welfare)</td>
<td>2.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QB</td>
<td>(Personnel in social welfare)</td>
<td>3.63%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Bliss Classification Bulletin, No. 38, 1996

QC  (Statutory and voluntary agencies)  .10.18 %
QD  (Direct work with service users)  6.60 %
QE  (Social services)  3.08 %
QF - QH  (Social security, people in need, and housing)  2.49 %
QJ  (Abuse)  4.24 %
QK  (Family welfare)  6.56 %
QL  (Children)  53.00 %
QM - QO  (People with disabilities; people in trouble; crime)  3.36 %
QP - QT  (Police work; offenders; offences; juvenile offenders)  4.45 %

(The total number of monographs classed in Q is 3603, as of August 1996).

Reclassification

Since we started to use the revised class Q (published in 1994) last year, it has become very clear that a significant amount of reclassification will need to be done. The Library is committed to making its collections and services more user-friendly. With this end in view, a reclassification programme has been started, to rationalise the arrangement of material on child abuse and child protection.

A greatly expanded schedule for Children (QL) and child abuse (QLJ J) is one of the remarkable features of the new class Q. At NSPCC we have started to reclassify stock as follows:

- QLJ D.. moves to QLJ J.. (child abuse)
- QLJ DET.. or moves to QLJ JB.. (personnel in child protection)
- or moves to QLJ JC.. (agencies in child protection)
- or moves to QLJ JD.. (direct work with children)
- or moves to QLJ JE.. (child protection services)
- QLJ H.. moves to QLJ KH.. (child sexual abuse)
- IML ED.. moves to QLJ JGM.. (abused children)
- IWF TM.. moves to QLJ KH.. (child sexual abuse)
- IWF UJ.. moves to QLJ KH.. (incest)
- IWR DM.. moves to QLJ J.. (child abuse)
- IWR EM.. moves to QLJ KF.. (emotional abuse)
- IWR FM.. moves to QLJ J.. (child neglect)
The aims of the reclassification are to bring together under one notation (or closely adjacent notations) material which has been scattered in the collection. The above examples illustrate the changes which will shortly take place.

Reclassification is a time-consuming task, especially when a backlog of new material awaits the cataloguer’s attention. But the benefits of reclassification are considerable:

* makes for coherent signing and guiding of material on the shelf

* easier to shelve and retrieve books, for staff and for users

* collocation of material in the Library’s core subject areas, thus eliminating “scatter”

During our reclassification, we are endeavouring to eliminate notations which contain a colon (e.g. QLJ HSM ET: HJD H, or QML: QLJ D). The colon is probably the source of most difficulty for users and for staff alike, in using Bliss. It causes confusion and errors in the shelving and retrieval of books, it can produce very long and unwieldy notations, and it disrupts a smooth filing order when outputting a shelflist from our database. Another of our aims in reclassification is to get rid of unorthodox notations such as QML: QLJ D (abuse of children with disabilities). The new class Q makes synthesis far more straightforward than the previous edition.

We are tackling our reclassification in two phases: by early 1997 we hope to have converted old Q notations to new Q, and thereafter we shall move material from class I to class Q.

**Advantages and Disadvantages in using Bliss**

A welcome benefit of the new Q is that it has helped us to develop a new arrangement for our current awareness bulletin. Entries are now arranged numerically under 50 broad bulletin headings. These 50 headings are based on concepts from the key subject areas of our database. The headings were devised by assigning Bliss notations to the fifty concepts from class Q, and then sorting them in reverse class order. The effect is that material of interest to practitioners and those working directly with children appear to the front of the bulletin, followed closely by material on child abuse and neglect per se, followed in turn by material on child welfare, family functioning, children in care and child care law. Thus material of a more general, administrative or theoretical nature appears later in the bulletin, following broadly a reverse class order from class Q. This arrangement was adopted following a suggestion from Chris Preddle, and we understand that a similar idea has been used by Barnardo’s Library for their current awareness bulletin for some time.

A negative point about Bliss for our small special library is that the management schedules, Class T, seem far more suited to material dealing with large economic or industrial enterprises, with less scope for material on smaller or non-profit organisations. It can be difficult finding a home in class T for material on gender and diversity in the workplace, job-sharing, glass ceilings, to name but a few. The revised class Q does, however, go a considerable way to bridging the gap on these contemporary concerns.
Another disadvantage of Bliss for a small library is that we cannot, in practical terms, take advantage of, and use, the whole classification: buying the whole set would be expensive, and staff training in using other volumes would be difficult to justify. Thus we miss out on Class S (Law) and Class R (Politics and Public Administration). But both of these subjects have been introduced as facets into the new Q, in such a way that will allow us eventually to collocate all our monographs on children as witnesses, for example, which at the moment are somewhat scattered in the collection. We find that the DH/DSS Data Thesaurus is a useful indicator of notations which are outside our knowledge of Bliss at NSPCC Library.

To sum up: our aim in using Bliss at NSPCC Library is to provide as user-friendly an arrangement of our collection as possible, while taking advantage of the useful devices which Bliss has to offer.

August 23, 1996

Sue Mitchell is Assistant Librarian, and Gerry Power is Systems Librarian, NSPCC

I asked Gerry if the Library had considered shortening its classmarks by dropping QL, on the basis that most of its stock could be assumed to deal with children, and interfiling material on children with their general works on welfare?

He replied that they had not done so. It would certainly result in gross distortions in the arrangement, because they did in fact have quite a lot of material on other groups (for example, persons with disabilities and adults who had themselves been the victims of abuse), and this would then file strangely in the middle of all the distributed material dealing with children.

Fair enough! a classic justification for maintaining BC2 order. – Editor.
What happened to ...

... The Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, one of our BC2 users?

British governments are forever creating, merging, demerging, reorganising, privatising and renaming their ministries, departments and agencies (without consulting cataloguers), and the OPCS has not escaped this process. The Office has been officially merged with the Central Statistical Office to form the Office for National Statistics; its London (former OPCS) library is still in St Catherine's House, Kingsway, but looks set to move to new premises in Pimlico by the year's end. The CSO has its own library down in Newport, Gwent, so a physical merger of the two seems unlikely.

News from Cambridge ...

The Bliss community in Cambridge is not backward in making use of new technology to spread word about their services to their users – and the world beyond. It is well worth while exploring the information they have provided on the WorldWideWeb; the following are their home pages to date (August 1996):

Archaeology & Anthropology (Haddon Library) http://www.cam.ac.uk/Libraries/DeptLibs/ArchAnth.html
Criminology http://www.law.cam.ac.uk/crim/LIBHPG.HTM
Genetics http://www.gen.cam.ac.uk/Library/
King's College http://www.kings.cam.ac.uk/library/library.htm
Queens' College http://www.cam.ac.uk/Libraries/CollLibs/Queens.html
Sidney Sussex College http://www.sid.cam.ac.uk/library/library.htm

Library guides for Zoology (Balfour & Newton Library), Fitzwilliam College and Jesus College are in preparation.

Heather Lane writes from Sidney Sussex College

Did you know that BLISS is also the acronym for Beginning Library and Information Systems Strategies at the University of North Florida? – look at http://www.unf.edu/~alderman/bliss/blissful.html

for more info!

but we suspect this will not be particularly relevant to our interests (although perhaps rather more so than a certain girls' magazine ...) It is, however, a good example of the kind of thing that is unearthed by a keyword search on the Web. Even the combination Bliss AND Classification can produce some unexpected results.

... and the rest of us?

Our colleagues in Cambridge have set us a challenge. Who else has set up Web pages? If you have done so, please send the Editor details for inclusion in the next issue of the Bulletin.
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The Bliss Classification Association:
an association to develop and promote the
Bliss Bibliographic Classification
(Registered Charity no. 270580)

Officers and Members of the Committee 1996

Mr Jack Mills, Chair, and Editor of BC2

Mrs Heather Lane, Hon. Secretary
Librarian
Sidney Sussex College
Cambridge
Tel: 01223 338852
Fax: 01223 338884
CB2 3HU
E-mail: hel20@cus.cam.ac.uk

Ms Angela Haselton, Hon. Treasurer and Membership Officer
Tavistock Joint Library
120 Belsize Lane
London
Tel: 0171 435 7111
Fax: 0171 431 5382
NW3 5BA
E-mail: haselton@tavilib.demon.co.uk

Mr Tony Curwen, Hon. Editor, Bliss Classification Bulletin (Personal member)
c/o Department of Information & Library Studies
University of Wales Aberystwyth
Llanbadarn Fawr
Aberystwyth
Tel: 01970 611861
Fax: 01970 611861 or 622190
SY23 3AS
E-mail tony.curwen@bl.uk or agc@aber.ac.uk

Mr Ken Bell (School of Information & Communications Studies, University of North London; retired)

Mr Roger Hughes (Personal member)

Miss Marion MacLeod (Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge)

Mr Colin Neilson (Personal member)

Ms Christina Panagiotidou (Personal member)

Mrs Elizabeth Russell (Personal member; c/o Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge)

Ms Victoria Sinclair (University of London Library)

Prof. Alan Thomas (Personal member)

Observer from UDC Consortium:
Mrs Ia McIlwaine
Additions and amendments to BC2

**Class R: Politics and Public Administration**

p.xl [14]  for SQ read TF (five times)

p.xlii [21]  in Classmark, delete S (twice)

in Comments, 2, for RLY read RLY S

p.27  RBJ  in 'For crime in a specific area ...' for ROB J read RBI J

in 'See also International political crime' for RQF P read ROB J

p.34  RDL KY  Note 3: replace the existing note by the following:

* To qualify a specific type of group by preceding political concepts, proceed as follows (unless otherwise stated):
  Add to - (where the hyphen represents the classmark for the group) letters A/K following RDL, e.g.
  Working class attitudes RDN CBF D; Working class elites RDN CKS.

p.35  RDN A  insert new line above RDN A: . . . Types by social class and indent following classes (RDN A/CW) one place to the right.

p.39  RDP CB  insert 'Add' instruction:

* To qualify a specific type of group by preceding political concepts, proceed as follows (unless otherwise stated):
  Add to -9 (where the hyphen represents the classmark to be qualified) number 9 and letters A/K following R in R9/RD

p.40  RDR  insert 'Add' instruction:

* To qualify a specific type of group by preceding political concepts, proceed as follows (unless otherwise stated):
  Add to -9 (where the hyphen represents the classmark to be qualified) number 9 and letters A/K following R in R9/RD

p.77  ROA VT  Note 4 (* An alternative ... ) delete this note.

Note 5 (* For international conferences ...):
for (RO/RQ) use the provisions at RAV T when qualifying read (RO/RQ) see RAV T. The class RAV T is also used when qualifying

p.84  RPG I  for League read United Nations

p.98  RRW  add third note:

* To qualify a particular non-state nation by preceding political concepts, proceed as follows:
  Add to -9 (where the hyphen represents the classmark to be qualified) number 9 and letters A/Q following R in R9/RQ.

p.101  Left-hand column, 7, end: for R3 read R1A

p.102  Left-hand column, 6, line 3: for R2 read R1

p.103  4th paragraph, last line: for RSI T5E G read RSI T5C D

6th paragraph, last line: for RSI 5EG read RSI 5CD

53 Common subdivisions ..., 'Add' instruction: for 52/59 read R2/R9