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Research Paper

AN OVERVIEW OF CATALOGUING RULES WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO ANGLO-AMERICAN CATALOGUING RULES

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Abstract:

Works on cataloguing started early in the 16th century with alphabetical arrangement of entries, where certain rules were framed by individual cataloguers. 17th Century, witnessed a great deal of contribution in the development of art of cataloguing with publication of the bibliographies like De Script medicis, Bibliotheca realis universalis omnium materiarum, etc. In 18th century, development of first national cataloguing code, a French Code and in 19th century, the contributions of Library of Congress and British Museum Librarypaid much attention to achieve standardization and uniformity in their cataloguing practices. Early 20th Century, the Anglo-American Code (AA Code) was published under the name Cataloguing Rules: Author and Title entries, later it became AACR (Anglo American Cataloguing Rules). Article traces the developments of cataloguing rules from AA Code to AACR2R.

KEYWORDS: British Museum Cataloguing Rules, Charles Ami Cutter, ALA Cataloguing Rules, International Conference on Cataloguing Principles,AA Code, AACR, AACR1, AACR2, AACR2R, Cataloguing, Anglo American Cataloguing Rules, ISBD

1.INTRODUCTION

Originated from a Greek word *Katalogos*, a catalogue, is generally known to be a list of items arranged in some specific or a reasonable way so as to provide easy access to it. In terms of libraries 'items' are referred to 'books' which in this era of information technology is represented by 'web documents' also. Method of preparing catalogues is what we know as cataloguing.

Early catalogues were mainly inventories of book stock rather than a bibliographical tool, and cataloguing codes were almost non-existent. Starting with the alphabetical arrangement of entries, certain rules were framed by individual cataloguers in their respective libraries for easy reference in the 16th century. In 17th Century, there was a great deal of contribution in the development of art of cataloguing with publication of the bibliographies like *De Script medicis, Bibliotheca realis universalis omnium materiarum*, etc. These bibliographies had many problems like determination of authorship, variant forms of authors, subject indexing etc. In the 18th century, the first national cataloguing code, a French Code was brought out in 1791. In 19th century, efforts were much more organized as they were more influenced by big institutions like Library of Congress and British Museum Library (now part of British Library).

2 .EVOLUTION OF CATALOGUING CODES

2.1.British Museum Cataloguing Rules

In 1840, Anthony Panizzi, developed 91 rules for the British Museum Catalogue. Inspite of their drawbacks these rules paved the way for the work of Osborn, Lubetzky and the Paris Conference of 1961, leading to the development of AACR of 1967 and 1978 etc. Panizzi emphasized basically on Author Catalogue discarding completely the concept of Subject Catalogue.1

2.2 Charles Coffin Jewett's Code

Jewett's Code of 39 cataloguing rules had 'to secure uniformity' as the main objective. This code was much influenced by the 91 rules framed by Anthony Panizzi, but recognized the concept of subject approach. Charles Coffin Jewett is also

remembered for the introducing Centralized and Cooperative Cataloguing by means of Union Catalogue.[1]

2.3 Charles Ami Cutter

Charles Ami Cutter is known for his *Rules of a Dictionary Catalogue*[2] *(1876).* This approach was the first attempt to provide rules for all types of entries for a dictionary catalogue.

2.4 Anglo-American Code

The American Library Association (1876) and Library Association (1877), paid much attention to achieve standardization and uniformity in their cataloguing practices. In 1904, there was an agreement between ALA and LA to produce a code to achieve uniformity in practice. Hence in 1908, the Anglo-American Code (AA Code) was published under the name *Cataloguing Rules: Author and Title entries*[1].

2.5 American Library Association Cataloguing Rules

There was much criticism on AA Code as the rules were quite confusing, especially in the case of Joint Authors and entry of the author name. Based on the problems faced by cataloguers, a revised edition of AA Code was brought in 1941. Second edition of it got published as *American Library Association Cataloguing Rules for Author and Title Entries*[1] in 1949.

2.6 ALA Cataloguing Rules

In 1949, a new edition of *ALA Cataloguing Rules* was published by the ALA, which is popularly known as Red Book. On the other hand, Library of Congress decided to follow its own set of rules for descriptive cataloguing, known as *Green Book. ALA Cataloguing Rules*[1] was mostly based on AA Code (1908) and ALA Cataloguing Rules (1941). But soon it was subjected to criticism because of lack of clarity in its approach.

2.7 International Conference on Cataloguing Principles (1961)

This International Conference on Cataloguing Principles3 (ICCP) was held in Paris 1961. This event is considered to be an historical event in the field of cataloguing as it gave a proper shape to the concept of Universal Bibliographical Control and *International Standardization in cataloguing.* This also resulted in a statement of principles known as the 'Paris Statement'which contributed towards international standardization.

2.8 International Standard Bibliographical Description (ISBD)

An International Meeting of Cataloguing Experts was held in Copenhagen where an International Working Party was established. It issued a document entitled *International Standard Bibliographical Description* in 1971. The objective of ISBD1 was to create an international standard of description suitable for a machine-readable format to enable quick transfer of information via computer. The standard assigns an order to the description elements, and specifies a system of punctuation for the description.

3.ANGLO-AMERICAN CATALOGUING RULES

3.1 Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules (AACR-I, 1967)

Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules[1] (Referred as AACR-I) was the result of the cooperative effort by the Library of Congress and the Library Associations of the United States, Canada and the UK. The code was published in two separate texts, i.e. North American and British because of the differences in their cataloguing practices. AACR-I was divided into three parts. In first part, rules for Choice of Heading was given followed by rules for form of heading; the second part covered description and the third part gave provisions to apply Part I and II to non-book materials. One of the first criticisms it encountered was because of its deviation from Paris Principles.

3.2 Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, Second Edition (AACR-II, 1978)

The Second Edition of AACR-II was brought out in 1978. It was the result of efforts of a Joint Steering Committee (JSC) for the Revision of AACR, constituting the American Library Association, the British Library, the Canadian

Committee of Cataloguing, the Library Association and the Library of Congress. The aim of the JSC was to incorporate the North American and British texts into a single version. The JSC appointed two editors for the revised code, Michael Gorman of the British Library, and Paul W. Winkler of the Library of Congress. AACR2 was divided into two parts:

Part Contents of the parts

Part I Description, was based on the General International Standard Bibliographical Description (ISBD(G)) framework.

Part II Entry and Heading, here the rules were brought more closely into line with the Paris Principles.

3.3 Aims and Principles of AACR2

The aims of the second edition of AACR as set out by the JSC[4] were; 1) To incorporate already agreed revisions to AACR1; 2) To harmonize the British and North American texts of AACR1; 3) To incorporate international standards and agreements; and 4) To take developments in library automation into account.

According to Gorman[5] the principles on which AACR2 is based are: 1) Descriptions are to be formulated in accordance with the specifications of the *International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD); 2)* All media of communication are treated equally; 3) Descriptions are based on the bibliographic item; 4) Access points are to be derived from the nature of the work being catalogued, not the nature of the bibliographic entity being described.

3.4 Features of AACR2 over AACR1

In comparison to AACR1[6], the second edition had the following features:

1. AACR2 was more logical and consistent in its structure than AACR1. It followed sequential cataloguing process because of which it was easy to practice. The rules were divided into two parts: first for bibliographic description and second for choice and form of headings.
2. International Standard for Bibliographical Description (General) was fully incorporated in the rules for description in AACR2.
3. AACR2 provided an integrated approach to all library materials while defining rules.
4. The concept of authorship was vanishing and the term 'responsibility' took its place, which is a much more comprehensive term than 'authorship'.
5. A major difference of AACR2 from the older Anglo-American codes was that editors of collections were no longer regarded as authors. The decision was made in accordance to Statement 10.3 in the Paris Principles.
6. In AACR2 the concept of corporate authorship was no longer prevalent, as can be seen in the restriction of cases where main entry was to be under the names of corporate bodies and the increase in the number of cases where serials were given title main entry.

AACR2 (1978) has been criticized as being too traditional in its approach. There was criticism for it for not being based on coherent principles, lack of defined objectives and a lack of integrity, ambiguities in rules, and most importantly their irrelevance to computerized catalogues.

4. Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, Second Edition, 1988 Revision (AACR2R)

Structure of AACR2R[8] follows the same structure rules as in the 1978 edition. The code is divided into two parts:

1.Description: It contains rules 1-13 for description of Books, Serials, Non-book material and Computer Titles etc.

2.Headings, Uniform Titles, and Reference: It covers rules for Choice of Access points, Headings for Persons, Corporate Bodies, Uniform Titles, Reference and Appendices.

AACR2 posed lot of problem when it was put in practice because of inconsistencies in its rules. A Joint Steering Committee (JSC) was made to take further steps for revision and improvement. Three sets of review were brought out in 1982,1983 and 1985 in order to inform the uses of changes which were again, in 1986 reviewed and rationalized according to the principles of AACR2 making them easier to apply. Thus, in 1988, second edition of AACR2R7 was brought out with the following modifications:

1. Chapter 9 is renamed as 'Computer files' from 'Machine-readable data files' and deals the subject in more detail.
2. Three levels of description i.e. first (minimum), second (standard), and third (detailed) have been provided to meet the requirements of different libraries. The choice of a level of description was based on the purpose of the catalogue(s) for which the entry is constructed.
3. Reorganize rules for the treatment of computer files, cartographic materials, uniform titles for music, and materials for the visually handicapped.
4. Selection of source for series titles, choice of main entry for revised texts, provision for subordinate entry for those subordinate corporate names that do not convey the idea of a corporate body;
5. Deletion of articles from uniform titles and headings for corporate bodies.
6. This edition has greatly limited the use of corporate entries and prefers title entry in most of the cases unless an organization or a government body is clearly stated responsible for the creation of material.

4.1 Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, Second Edition, 1998 Revision

The 1998 Revision[9] of AACR2 incorporated the 1993 amendments, and revisions approved between 1992 and 1996. The 1998 Revision was published in book and CDROM format. Amendment packages were published in 1999 and 2001. The 2001 amendments included a complete revision of chapter 9 which is renamed as 'Electronic Resources'.

4.2 Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules, Second Edition, 2002 Revision

The 2002 Revision[9] of AACR2 incorporated the 1999 and 2001 amendments, and changes approved in 2001, including complete revisions of chapter 3 (Cartographic Materials) and chapter 12 renamed as 'Continuing Resources'. The revision of chapter 12 was made on a recommendation of the International Conference on the Principles and Future Development of AACR, and IFLA-led efforts to harmonize ISBD(CR), ISSN practice, and AACR2. In 2002 AACR was published only in loose-leaf format.

The current text is the Second Edition, 2002 Revision (with 2003 update)[10] which incorporates all changes approved by the JSC for Revision of AACR through February 2003. The rules are published by 1) The American Library Association; 2) The Canadian Library Association and 3) CILIP: Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals

5. Some thoughts on the future of AACR

In this section, the readers will find some of the opinions expressed by different authors about what the AACR should be like in future. Howarth[11] stated that the AACR contains a frame work for describing and providing access to, a variety of terms or objects. He proposed *'Deconstructing AACR and Reconstructing Cataloguing: A proposal for a linked four-tier Record Structure'.*

Gorman[12] predicts that there will never be an AACR3 but a new type of code which will deal with the creation of machine readable records for use in national and international networks. However, in the meantime, revisions to AACR2 will continue to be made; cataloguing cannot stand still, and the fact that the new revision is available in loose-leaf format reinforces that point.

In particular, the people involved in the development of AACR, Gorman and Oddy[5] proposed 10-point agenda for managed change that is based on a comprehensive review of AACR2 aimed at ensuring the pervasiveness of its principles.
1. Get rid of all the 'special' case law rules that were imported into Part2 of AACR2 for political reasons after Lubetzky resigned as editor.
2. Prune descriptive rules of the overelaborations in particular cases — those that are insufficient for the specialist cataloguer and too much for general cataloguer
3. Resolve the issue of 'unpublished' items in a completely uniform manner across the chapters in Part 1.
4. Develop new or revised chapters of Part 1 to accommodate new media (especially electronic-including those accessible only remotely).
5.Study access issues for new media (especially electronic) with a view to seeing how the general

rules hold up or need elaboration without creating new case-law rules.

6. Review Part 2 with authority record concept in mind. The aim should be a catalogue that is based on description of bibliographic items linked to access points of equal weight.

7.Resolve the microform issue, not only by persuading LC to drop its 'interpretation' that directly contradicts the spirit of the rule but also avoid a similar debacle over the question of parallel print and electronic texts.

8. A comprehensive review of the examples with a view to amending those that are no longer relevant and adding examples of new media and problems.

9.Create a consolidation of the unified MARC format and AACR2 and bear in mind the possibility of a principle-based subject term code to be added to create a complete cataloguer's resource.

10. Ask LC to review and curtail the LCRI (Library of Congress Rule Interpretations) program

6.Future plans for AACR

The JSC[13] is working towards a new edition of AACR to be published in 2006. Major changes that are planned to be included in the new edition are:

1.The JSC is planning to incorporate the IFLA Functional Requirements for Bibliographic Records (FRBR) terminology in AACR2. Specifically, the FRBR terms *'work,' 'expression,' 'manifestation,'* and *'item'* will be used in AACR in a manner consistent with their definitions in FRBR.

2.General Introduction to the code, as well as the Introductions to Parts I and II, will be significantly expanded to provide a conceptual background for the application of the rules.

3.The JSC is examining the consistency of rules across Part I and plans to revise to eliminate inconsistencies and move general rules from chapters 2 through 12 into chapter 1. Organization by ISBD area is being considered, but is not likely to be used alone as an organizing principle for Part I.

4.The Library of Congress has proposed that the current chapters 22-25 on form of heading become the core of a new Part III of AACR, which would contain explicit instruction on providing authority control for headings in catalogues. Part III would include rules for form of heading and for providing references from variant forms and related headings. In a related activity, JSC's Format Variation Working Group has prepared revisions to chapter 25 (Uniform titles) which would include instructions for creating identifiers for not only works, but also for expressions.

5.Chapter 21 will be revised in light of the recommendations from Tom Desley in his Logical Structure of the Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules.

6.With the publication of the new edition, the JSC is taking the opportunity to make some editorial changes to the rules, including changing metric system units so that they are considered to be symbols and not abbreviations, e.g. 'cm' not 'cm.'

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