explained at all. In a section on "Elements of Classifica- classification system. Nevertheless, at heart it is an Amerition Systems", we learn, on three pages, a little bit about can system imbued with the influence of the society and classes, class designations, class explanations, class des- time of its origin. Therefore, it inevitably poses problems criptions, references, cross-references, notations, signa- to the users in non-Western countries, expecially in Asia tures, individual signatures for records of loan, classifica- and Africa. Classification is a political act says A.J.N. tion schemes, and indexes. My personal impression of all Judge (1), meaning that politico-cultural bias is as much this is one of complete confusion, for anyone without any calculated as it is natural in designing a classification background knowledge, it must be totally incomprehen- schedule. To meet local needs, the DDC has therefore sible

is a mixture of general statements concerning the various modified in Japan, India, Pakistan and the Middle East, to systems shown, and of the special characteristics of the name a few. Some of such modifications have met the systems down to problems in the use of individual systems. approval of the Forest Press, the copyright holder of

the 'father' of this 'child' but as the book fails to lay any ones - and private, so to say. The Decimal Classification satisfactory theoretical foundation as to what actually Editorial Policy Committee (DCEPC) and the Forest Press constitutes a classification system, the presentation are not unaware of such fissiparous tendencies. They have remains unsatisfactory. The following example should rather fully lent their support to solve such genuine make this quite clear: "The monohierarchical superstruc- difficulties. This includes inter alia commissioning and ture remains, and because of this the UDC remains a publishing with its imprint the adapted translations (e.g. monohierarchic classification system, as far as its main in Hindi (1976) and Arabic (1985)) of the DDC in various tables are concerned. The tendency to polyhierarchy in languages to suit various cultures. the superstructure is, however, strongly marked." (p.107).

The last chapter, "Differences and common ground we have at least the following two PhD theses: between the types shown", contains, finally, a list of the (1) Sharma, P.S.K.: Expansion and modifications of "results of the structural comparison" (p.156-157), which Dewey Decimal Classification for Indological books with those readers who are familiar with the subject-matter special reference to Indian philosophy and Indian religions. should look at be for e they read the book. By doing so, Chandigarh, IN: Punjab University 1977 (Supervisor: they will be able to check more easily whether the state- Sharma, J.S.) ments made in the book are verified.

with the subject-matter; they will find facts about the Middle East. University of Maryland 1982 (Supervisor: more recent German classification systems - though not Wellisch, H.) always free from errors! - which are otherwise spread Dr.Sharma's above named thesis was later published in out over the whole literature. The other classification 1979 (2). This speaks of the academic as well as pragmasystems, in particular the international ones, are better tic value of the scheme. Being more or less an academic presented in other books.

me ask why subjects such as "classificatory subject (3), besides a doctoral degree. It means that for a scheme analysis in library work", and "classification systems in to be used practically it requires more than academic information retrieval" are not dealt with.

It remains to be said that a second book dealing with always the useless that is rejected! verbal subject analysis and ' mixed forms' is to follow. The book under review is still based on his PhD work, but

book could get past the editorial office of a scientific cal qualities. Ranganathan's methodology for designing publishing house. I cannot recommend it to anyone - let classification schedules has been followed. The laudable alone the beginners!

Prof.W.Gödert

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sophy and Religions for Dewey Decimal Classification pher Isherwood, T.M.P.Mahadwan, Jadunath Sinha (for (19), New Delhi: Ess Ess Publ. 1986. VII, 189p., ISBN Hindu religion and philosophy); M. Monier-Williams, A.K. 81-7000-012-2

DDC had no ambition to put the often quoted girdle (Sikhism); A.C. Sen and Sinclair Stevenson (Jainism) to round the world with its hard to master dots. Non- name a few of the 130 references cited in the source book existence of several systems and existence of congenial (4) of the book under review. circumstances have played a helping role to get it well entrenched in libraries quite before the competitive constituting Part 1 of the book, p.15-42), the base and the schemes appeared. Today it is an internationally used outline subdivision remain that of the original schedule.

been modified, adapted, and expanded quite often. For The presentation of the individual classification systems example, the relevant portions of the DDC have been The idea of an exemplary illustration may have been the scheme, while other modifications remain inhouse

In addition to various language versions of the DDC,

(2) Momeni, M.K.: Socio-cultural factors affecting the The book is only of use for those who are conversant adaption of the Dewey Decimal Classification in the

exercise, his published work was not used practically, The expectations raised by the title of the book make though as a scientific work it has already won him acclaim competence: it is not the best always that sells; and not

Concluding remarks: It is incomprehensible how this here the author has endeavoured to endow it with practi-Winfried Gödert feature of the work is that expansions have been strictly made in accordance with the official provisions in the DDC. In his Ph.D. work Dr. Sharma minutely worked out the expansions for Indian philosophy (all the schools) and Indian religions (Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism and Sikhism). This work in the idea and verbal planes has been done on the basis of the classical and authentic works of SHARMA, Pandey S.K.: Depth schedules: Indian Philo- S.Radhakrishnan, S.N.Dasgupta, K.M.Max-Muller, Christo-Walter, P.V. Bapat, K.N.Jaitilleke and Max Weber It cannot be gainsaid that at the time of its birth the (Buddhism); Max Arthur Maculiffe and Khushwant Singh

In case of the Indian philosophy schedule (de facto

Expansions have been evolved without disturbing the already existing structure. For the philosophy schedule, not only the concepts but classical books, their commentaries and subcommentaries have been fully enumerated and class numbers have been provided. Since these coordinate subdivisions exceed 9 (limit of the decimal base to accommodate equally ranked subdivisions) many times, so the author has skillfully made use of group notation, thus extending the capacity of the array to 80 berths. The use of group notation also provides hospitality in array as It may be reminded that the standard subdivisions are many of the available notations remain unused. This applicable here as usual. Thus, the author has skilfully group notation, however, has been used for source books grafted and assiduously worked out details in tune with and scriptures only. Source books and their commentaries the official provisions in the 19th editions of the DDC. At of every order have been collocated by using Roman the end there are two indexes A (p.113-118) for the capital alphabets (excluding I, O) for commentaries and concepts, and B (p.119-189) for source books and scripsubcommentaries for example:

181.484 381 Dasa-sloki

181.484 381 A Vedanta-ratna-Manjusa

(A commentary on the above)

Similarly a second commentary on Dasa-sloki will be adapted translation of DDC-18 by P N Gour (5). The basic denoted by 181.484 381 B and so on, the 24th by Z. Not difference is that Gour's translation is a sort of general only this, a commentary and its various other subcom- classification, whereas Pandey's is a subject fascicule mentaries have been brought together by further subdivi containing depth schedule for Indian philosophy and ding the alphabets by alphabets. For example, AA and AB religions only. For example, in Gour's translation 294.5211 represent the first and second subcommentaries respec- is Hindu gods and godesses with no subdivision, whereas tively of A; further AAA represents a sub-subcommentary in the book under review, the corresponding class number of A. In this way the host and the associated books have is 2H2.11, with 38 subdivisions. (2H2 being equivalent of been finely brought together; and strict hierachies too 294.52, 2H0 is that of 294.5.) Similarly 294.5212 Nature have been achieved. Customary space has also been left in Hinduism has no subdivision while its equivalent between each group of three digits after the decimal number 2H2.12 has 30 subdivisions in Pandey's schedule. point. The wealth of details is more than expected; and it As compared to this Gour 's expansions are sparse, wherecan easily be used to provide co-extensive class numbers as this new schedule provides a multitude of orderly

gions. Whereas in his previous attempt the expansions Indian books, viz. Indian languages and literature, arts were made on the strict official bases, now in this case he including Indian music and dance - and Indian history has made use of officially allowed options using Roman and society. To classify documents in such areas one will alphabets and asterisk:

2BO Buddhism

2A0 Jainism

- 2HO Hinduism
- 2SO Sikhism

mnemonics conforms to the classified sequence in the outside the arena but strictly with official rules and DDC, the only exception being J of Jainism. To remedy spirit. There is absolutely no conflict with the existing this, somewhat manually inconvenient symbol asterisk numbers, though at times some vacant places in DDC-19 A has been used as a substitute of J; and its ordinal value have been utilised in strict observance of the Canon of has been fixed between B and H. These artificial bases Helpful Sequence. In spite of all this it is unlikely to be have been further subdivided parallel to 291.1-291.6. For approved the DDC authorities, judging from the history of example, 291.6 is 'Religious leaders and organisations', the DDC. It requires a lot of lobbying work and the total therefore:

2B6	Buddh	leaders and organisations
2A6	Jain	leaders and organisations
2 H 6	Hindu	leaders an organizations
2 S 6	Sikh	leaders and organizations

peculiar to the subject) have been provided by the author require some concerted and organisational efforts to win himself. For example 2S6.3 is divinely inspired persons in acceptance of a wider community of Indology librarians. Sikh religion. Onwards from here the details are his own research work arranged according to the canons of classification. especially the following Helpful Sequence:

earrient, especiality	and remember of the pro-
2 S 6.31	The (Sikh) Gurus
2S6.311	Nanak, the First Guru

286.312	Angad and Amardas, the second and third muru respectively.
286.313	Ramdas and Arjandese, the fourth
2 S 6.314	Hargobind, the sixth guru
2S6.315	Harrai, the seventh guru
2 S 6.316	Har Kishan, the eighth guru
2 S 6.317	Teg Bahadur, the ninth guru
2S6.318	Gobind Singh, the tenth guru.

tures. In the latter case the entries are both by author and title in one sequence. Each entry refers to the class number.

This book naturally invites comparison with the officially for Indian classics in any large and specialised library. details in such areas. However, the book does not deal The second part (p.43-109) dwells upon Indian reli- with some other equally problematic areas of classifying have to depend on Gour's DDC or the original DDC.

Lastly, there comes in mind the question of its meeting approval of the DDC authorities as the document does not bear the imprint of Forest Press or endorsement from any Indian library organisation. This is one man's effort, albeit Incidentally the sequence arrived at by the alphabetical a serious one. It is analoguous to an Olympic game played involvement of the DDC authorities in the work to get their approval. Yet, it may provide ample guidance towards better analysis and further provision of Indian subjects for future editions of the DDC. Anyhow, libraries on Indology may confidently use this extended version. Each of the above three-digited base has been further To adopt a classification scheme libraries need some subdivided on the same basis but the local details (i.e. surety of some after-sale service. It will, therefore, M.P.Satija

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- (2) Sharma, P.S.K.: Dewey Decimal Classification for Indology: the reduction of individual, unique features? And how far Expansions and modifications of Dewey Decimal Classification (18) for classifiying Indological books with special reference to Indian philosophy and Indian religions. New Delhi: Uppal Publishing House 1979. xxxiii,294 p.
- (4) Sharma, P.S.K.: op.cit. p.288-294
- (5) Dewey, M.: Selective Hindi Dewey Decimal Classification and Relative Index; translated and adapted by Prabhu Naryan Gour. Lake Placid Club: Forest Press 1976. viii, 701 p.

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Systems Research. The Official Journal of the Interna- R.ERICSON shows the inherent bias and its results in tional Federation for Systems Research. Oxford etc.: Pergamon Press 1985. Vol.2, No.1.

going on in systems research (SR) is very useful for what take into account even singularity, uniqueness. No doubt, is a must for SR: critical reconsideration and even more social control in our complex and crowded civilization is critical self-reference. The issue gives both examples and necessary, and it must build on statistics, on generalizing comments. Systems science is much in its formative concepts of society and of human nature. But there must stage. SR, judged by this special issue, proves to be the be and can be more openness for non-determinable and much needed instrument of a world wide dialogue. unique individual influences. The systemic approach - see Moreover, it will help to enlarge the number of its partici- e.g. the successful project of F.Vester - will contribute. SR pants. Complementing the inner circle of SR specialists, is assigned a concordant responsibility for the neverfurther development asks for a broader base in informa- ending self-critical reflection between scientism and belief, tion, experiment and application; including related between indetermination, uncertainty and teleological disciplines, users and even temporarily interested outsiders. presuppositions. Probably not only by chance does the

This is also true of the systems researcher, since SR has to It reads as follows: "Evolutionary Visions of the Future". meet - see the last contribution "The Future of General The evolutionary paradigm dominating undiminished: Systems Research" - a vast host of problems and challen- there are ever increasing doubts as to its ability to explain, ges. There is, e.g., a multitude of approaches which e.g., the historical, cosmological, and biological evolution often complement and exclude, contradict and corroborate from the big bang to the origins of life and of consciouseach other, depending on the aspect chosen. Systems ness. The 'isms' of evolutionsm and creationism are but analysis, hard systems, oppose and go together with soft foam on the tidal waves of scientific reconsideration. Was systems, the systemic view. As parts of visual holographic this necessarily so, as science explains? And how safe are information, the single contributions present and com- we, envisioning what we call future on those premises ment this situation symptomatically; the implications concerning perceived reality and the methods used for ranging from seemingly concrete questions of application perception? And how to count for the, in the main, to epistemological and philosophical questions behind scarcely systematical but, inseparably entwined, the them. CHURCHMAN's "Conversations" (one remembers historical, traditional (self-consciousness), and cultural his "The Systems Approach and Its Enemies") remind us uniqueness of man and his institutions? of the latter when dealing with the open hypothesis of

framework of hypotheses presupposed determines the whole range of SR from methodology to political applicaanswers derived - see, e.g., DE ZEEUW's "Problems of tion. After an Editorial by S.H.BANATHY, K.E.BOUL-Increasing Competence" · what are the qualities of the DING opens with "Systems Research and the Hierarchy 'reality' of systems approach? What are the quantities of of World Systems: General Systems in Special Chaos". the human systems and the human beings within it? Are Behind an apt pun, the hierarchy (!) of systems is comthey just societies' and standardized 'human entities' as, pared with military hierarchy - pointing out that systems e.g., behaviorism and only too many behavioristic ele- emerge from a matrix of chaos and that all reality is not ments in sociology are prone to see them? Or individuals, systematic. Whoever has tried to establish some general personae, constitutionally and significantly non-determi- order in the systems approach, some sort of taxonomy, nable and non-predictable in their behavior as far as it will know of the difficulties arising from this. For "all concerns the control and the design of human systems? taxonomy, indeed, is a product of the inadequacies of The way the question is put here appears to remain in the human perception". Or, as Nalimov would put it, the idealistic tradition of the early German social sciences. text of the world can be read by humans only. It is the It points out, however, the common aporia of human human reader who shapes the text. To establish, e.g., systems management. In what degree can answers given by categorical systems, as known from Aristotle to Kant and SR be self-corroborating? By creating their own reality by N.Hartmann in philosophy, or as underlying the world's

does the diagnosis tend to self-immunizing qualities similar to psychological diagnosis?

These fundamental critical thoughts (recently elabora-(3) Gopinath, M.A.: Classification for Indology. Indian Book ted, e.g., by F.H.Tenbruck) are far from being a mere Review 1(1981) Vol 1, No 1, p.10-11 theoretical controversy of skin-tight actuality. Systems theoretical controversy of skin-tight actuality. Systems research mirrors but the preliminary reflections on unsatisfying to undesired results of a non-discriminating control of human systems, questioning the very concepts or better, beliefs and ideologies upon which control methods are based. Socialism and sociologism (sit venia verbo) differ only in degree in this respect. They share the underlying concept, however refined, of an at least Evolutionary Visions of the Future. Special issue of: | sufficient determinability of man and man's institutions. what he calls 'institutional disarticulation'.

Systems thinking, to point out the trivial as the fundamental, constitutes the most universal, most open concept This successful attempt to give an overview on what is with the greatest inherent potency to differentiate, to Every good Christian needs a revival from time to time. title of this issue of SR hint at the bias and the challenge.

The different contributions to the topic mentioned, unified SR and the basic uncertainty of human systems. induce such thoughtfulness, and give, by example, ample In doing so, he touches yet deeper antinomies. As the information to think over. The field covers virtually the