

The *Catalogue* represents the careful bibliographic work that has been typical of the ILO Library staff. The technical work was done by Marilise Muller under the direct supervision of Janet F. Saunders.

As with most catalogs, the user wishes for more subject entries. For example, the volume would have been of greater use in locating reports on working conditions in specific countries if such titles as *Industrial Labour in India* had been entered under INDIA as well as under LABOUR—INDIA. This, of course, would have added considerable work and pages.

The usefulness of this catalog to those working in the field of industrial relations suggests the need for a similar catalog of the publications of the United States Department

of Labor or at least of its chief publishing agency, the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The last subject index to the publications of the bureau was issued in 1915.

Two other publications in the ILO Bibliographical Contributions are: *Catalogue of Russian Periodicals in the International Labour Office Library* (No.2) and *List of Periodicals Indexed in the Library of the International Labour Office During 1950* (No.3). In preparation are: A Catalogue of the Library of the International Management Institute (No.4) and a Bibliography on the International Labour Organization (No.7). Both will be issued with French and English texts.—*Ralph E. McCoy, Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations, University of Illinois.*

India and Libraries

Library Catalogue: Fundamentals and Procedure. By S. R. Ranganathan. Madras Library Association, Publication Series, 15. London, G. Blunt & Sons, 1950. 463p. \$6.00.

Library Tour 1948: Europe and America, Impressions and Reflections. By S. R. Ranganathan. Delhi, Indian Library Association, 1950. 219p. \$3.00.

Public Library Provision and Documentation Problems: Papers for Discussion at the Ninth All-India Library Conference, Indore, 11-14 May, 1951. Edited by S. R. Ranganathan. Indian Library Association, English Series, 2. London, G. Blunt & Sons, 1951. 223p.

Colon Classification 3d ed. By S. R. Ranganathan. Madras Library Association, 1950.

Dr. Ranganathan introduces the *Library Catalogue* with the statement that it is "primarily a book in practical cataloguing." It is not a book of rules, and is not concerned with theory or the routine involved in cataloguing books in a library.

Based on the premise that "cataloguing is, from the point of view of teaching, a subject in which the practical performance must be the hub from which everything else should radiate and indeed should get irradiated," Dr. Ranganathan has prepared a textbook

which is characterized by many exercises and examples.

Of special interest in this volume is Chapter 84, "Perspective of the Past and the Prospect of the Future." Dr. Ranganathan comments upon the pre-Cutter period, the efforts of Cutter to systemize the subject approach to books, and the failure of librarians to take full advantage of the values of classification. He criticizes sharply the dictionary catalog and the blind acceptance of this type of arrangement. Since the libraries of India are just establishing catalogs, he suggests that they take cognizance of this situation. "A great responsibility is laid upon Indian libraries to make full use of the fact that they are at present on virgin soil, that it is there that new techniques can be forged and that indeed the laboratory has shifted to India. Let it not be said that her sons in the library missed the golden opportunity and were inert and imitating when they should have been active and creating."

Library Tour 1948 is a narrative of Dr. Ranganathan's visit to Europe and America. It consists of a series of comments on various subjects, such as national central libraries, city library systems, rural library systems, university libraries, business libraries, *ad hoc* bodies, and the library profession. Consideration is given to the differences which exist in

the several countries visited. Out of his observations Dr. Ranganathan has endeavored to mold a plan for the libraries of India. Like his other works, this volume contains many penetrating statements which illustrate the author's originality and great capacity to comprehend library problems.

Public Library Provision and Documentation Problems contains four papers on public library problems and legislation in India, and 20 papers on various problems of documentation. In the latter group are papers on documentation in several subject fields, abstracting, and arrangement of materials.

In the final paper, on "International Cooperation," Dr. Ranganathan expresses a hope for the establishment of a comprehensive *Indian Subject Bibliography*.

The third edition of the *Colon Classification* suggests the continuing interest in the scheme of arrangement that Dr. Ranganathan has been enthusiastically supporting. Students of classification may be induced to read Dr. Ranganathan's remarks on the Colon Classification which appears in Shera and Egan's recent volume, *Bibliographic Organization* (University of Chicago Press, 1951).—*Maurice F. Tauber, Columbia University.*

Father of Plastic Surgery

The Life and Times of Gaspare Tagliacozzi, Surgeon of Bologna, 1545-1599, with a Documented Study of the Scientific and Cultural Life of Bologna in the Sixteenth Century. By Martha Teach Gnudi and Jerome Pierce Webster. Preface by Arturo Castiglioni. New York, Herbert Reichner, 1950. xxiv, 538p. 77 plates. \$15.00.

This volume, while it is a biography of the "father of plastic surgery" addressed to the general reader, is also a dynamic picture of life in Renaissance Bologna. It is both an interesting and informative work.

The collaboration of a distinguished plastic surgeon, Dr. Webster, with that of an accomplished archivist of Italian Renaissance materials, Dr. Gnudi has produced a great work of scholarship which dispels many previous errors relating to the great pioneer of plastic surgery. At times, the publication reads like a detective story with the authors piling the evidence higher and higher in order to refute previous erroneous statements. Their documents are given fully in English and are repeated in the original Latin or Italian in an appendix of some 70 pages. The authors provide an English translation of the preface to Tagliacozzi's work *De curtorum chirurgia per insitionem, 1597*, reproduce all of its elaborate illustrations, reprint in full Alexander Read's translation of much of Tagliacozzi's book, and provide a comprehensive bibliography and index.

The story of the publication of Tagliacozzi's work, of the difficulties encountered in

the legal printing of such a volume, of the formalities and red tape involved and of the almost immediate pirating of the volume by others is a most interesting commentary upon publication activities in the sixteenth century.

The book is a beautiful piece of typography. Appropriately it has been printed and bound in Bologna. The pictorial initial letters incorporating scenes from Bologna or from Tagliacozzi's work were especially designed by Ivan Summers.

This publication should be of additional interest to librarians, for while it represents the culmination of more than 20 years of painstaking research, involving many archives in Italy, it is based in large measure upon publications amassed in a single special collection of a university library. Many librarians take a dim view of special collections for a variety of reasons. One of the principal reasons which give a librarian a sense of frustration, is that so many collections seem to have been gathered solely for the love of the collecting and with no intention of or provision for putting the collection to work.

The more than 12,000 volume Jerome P. Webster Library of Plastic Surgery, lovingly and carefully gathered by its donor, not only provides the literature to support the day-to-day practice of plastic surgery, but has now been utilized to produce a great work of scholarship in the history of the Renaissance and of surgery.—*Thomas P. Fleming, Columbia University.*