What's New in Technical Processing

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1. ALA CCAAM voted to retain Wade-Giles

The Committee on Cataloging: Asian and African Materials of the American Library Association at the 1980 Midwinter Conference in Chicago voted in favor of retaining Wade-Giles as the standard romanization for bibliographic records for Chinese vernacular material. The seven-member Committee, chaired by Thomas H. Lee, voted 5 to 2 in favor of Wade-Giles after lengthy discussions at its meetings held on January 21 and 22, which focused on the question of Chinese romanization, i.e., after 1981, whether Wade-Giles or, as a tentative proposal from the Library of Congress suggests, pinyin ought to be used by libraries as the standard system to romanize Chinese. The main reasons for the Committee's favoring the continued use of the present system of Wade-Giles and for its objecting to a change to pinyin at this time were: that millions of Chinese bibliographic records have been made in the past half century according to the Wade-Giles romanization system; that there are now no compelling reasons for a change of systems; and that a change, if put into effect, would cause great confusion and disruption of library service to the users. In addition, the Committee noted the fact that pinyin as a romanization system has not been well established, its rules of application, particularly in the area of word division, need to be further developed, and its use now in libraries in China is very limited.

During the discussion, the Committee heard reports from two guests: Ben R. Tucker, Chief of the Office for Descriptive Cataloging Policy, Library of Congress, who was invited by the Committee to report on new developments at LC concerning the pinyin issue, and Luc Kwanten, Curator of the Far Eastern Library and Associate Professor of Chinese History of the University of Chicago, who volunteered to come to the meeting to share his views of pinyin and Wade-Giles with the Committee. According to Tucker, LC is preparing to send a second letter to research libraries and professional associations (such as CEAL) to poll opinion on whether or not LC should adopt pinyin now, because responses to its earlier poll failed to indicate a clear and definite course for LC to follow. The letter will be sent out soon, and LC hopes to receive all the feedback by March.

In another action, the Committee approved the romanization table for the Indian language Santali. The Committee's decisions on both the Chinese and Indian romanization systems are being transmitted through the official ALA liaison to the Library of Congress.

2. LC-RLG agreement to automate East Asian scripts

The Library of Congress and the Research Libraries Group (RLG) signed an agreement on November 30, 1979 to seek means and methods to automate East Asian bibliographic records in the vernacular scripts. Under the agreement, LC and RLG will cooperate in developing the capability to enter, manage, store, transmit, and output new bibliographic records containing East Asian
scripts in MARC compatible format, cataloged according to AACR 2 rules. RLG will select an appropriate vendor for input and output hardware and software as may be necessary to support library and bibliographic network applications. To cover the expenses, RLG will seek funding in the foundation sector. When the capability for handling East Asian vernacular scripts is achieved, and when resources and facilities are available, LC will begin cataloging East Asian vernacular titles on-line into the RLIN data base. LC will also provide instruction to RLG libraries who do original East Asian cataloging to ensure that all machine readable records meet AACR 2 (as adopted by LC) standards. All the inputted records will be in the public domain and will also be made available to non-RLIN users.

(Thomas H. Lee)

APPENDIX

ISBD AND CHINESE CATALOGUING

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Party on ISBD of the

Hong Kong Library Association

In May 1978, the IFLA UBC Office and the IFLA Division of Regional Activities began a joint project to produce a manual giving guidance on the application of all ISBDs to bibliographic records in non-roman scripts. The Hong Kong Library Association was invited to participate in this project by covering records in the Chinese script. An Ad Hoc Working Party on ISBD was set up in November 1978.

The Working Party consisted of C.F. Lee, Chairman; Joseph En-po Wang, Consultant; K. W. Foo; H. H. Lai and S. T. Lai; and Maria Chu and Mable Wang, advisors in cartographic and non-book materials respectively. While meetings were being held on a monthly basis, three questionnaires were sent out to leading libraries and institutions all over the world, and returns were later received from: Y. H. Quan (Dept. of Library Science, Peking University); Ting-chung Chang (National Taiwan Normal University Library); Ch'ien-chang Lan (Dept. of Library Science, Fu-jen University, Taipei); Tan Lai Wang (National Library, Singapore); Robert M. Hiatt (Library of Congress); Thomas H. Lee (Subcommittee on Technical Processing, Committee on East Asian Libraries); Howard Nelson (British Library); and S. W. Wang (National Library of Australia). To these experts the Working Party wish to extend their sincere thanks. Recommendations were submitted to IFLA in December 1979.

As the ISBD deals only with descriptive cataloguing, which is treated in Part I, "Description," of AACR II, our recommendations are narrower in scope in comparison with "Recommendations for AACR II," prepared by CEAL/STP (CEAL Bulletin No. 53, p.28-33). However, there are certain points that can
complement the recommendations of CEAL/STP. These are listed below:

I. Punctuation.

(1) For conventional cataloguing, adopt the punctuation with modifications:
   (a) The 1-em dash, "-", can be replaced by the 2-en dash, "—", if the printing machine, e.g. an English typewriter, is not equipped with a key for the former symbol.
   (b) The size of the space required before and after the punctuation should be flexible, depending on the type of printing machines, e.g. Chinese typewriters or English typewriters.

(2) For machine cataloguing, adopt the punctuation in full as far as spaces are concerned. It is likely, however, that the form of the Chinese numerals "-" should be modified slightly in order to enable the computer to distinguish it from the 1-em dash, "-", as the Arabic numeral "0" has been modified to "0" to differentiate it from the letter "0" in roman languages.

Recommendation (2) above is tentative. Any library that succeeds in producing a Chinese MARC is requested to inform the Hong Kong Library Association.

II. Misprints.

Substitute "[sic]" and "[i.e.]" with the Chinese character "[?p ]" as follows:

(1) If the misprint occurs in a name consisting of two or more characters after the surname, the correction is supplied and the other part of the name repeated in square brackets.

(2) All misprints other than (1) above are transcribed and followed immediately by the corrections in square brackets.

Exception: The above change does not apply to the areas where Arabic numerals are substituted for Chinese characters:

xiv, 923 [i.e.329] p.
1697 [i.e. 1967]

III. Place of Publication and Publisher.

(1) (a) Substitute "[s.l.]" by the Chinese words " 出版地缺 " in square brackets.
   (b) Substitute "[s.n.]" by the Chinese words " 出版社缺 " in square brackets.
   (c) Substitute "[s.l. : s.n.]" by the Chinese words " 出版地 社缺 " in square brackets.
(2)(a) If the publisher, which already appears in the title and statement of responsibility area, is a person or persons, "著名", "編者", or other equivalents is given in place of the publisher.

(b) If the publisher, which already appears in the title and statement of responsibility area, is a corporate body, "该社" or other equivalents is given in place of the publisher.

IV. "Chuan " in Monographs.

If a publication is divided into the traditional "chuan "," the number of " is treated as other title information and recorded after the title proper; if not appearing on title proper or other preliminaries, then the number is put in square brackets. Arabic numerals are substituted for numerals in other forms.

Note: (Title proper and other title information: )

Other information pertaining to supplements, appendices, etc., on the title page or other preliminaries is put in a note.

Note: (Title proper and other title information: )

V. Complicated Paging in Monographs.

(1) If the number of sequences of pages or leaves does not exceed five, record as given in the publication.

2, 5, 14, 169, 7 p.

(2) If a publication contains more than five sequences of pages or leaves, the total numbers of preliminary pages or leaves and postscripts are added up separately and given in square brackets before and after the main sequence(s), provided that the total number of sequences regrouped in this way does not exceed five.

[15], 262, [8] p. (not: 1,3,4,7,262,4,4 p.)
[12], 324, 296, [5] leaves. (not: 4,8,324,296,2,3 leaves)
[24], 156, 182, 204, 11 p. (not: 8,16,156,182,204,11 p.)

(3) If a publication contains more than five sequences of pages or leaves that are too complicated to record as (2) above, record according to Rules 5.1.2.7-A or -C of ISBD(M).

5.1.2.7-A:
1000 p. in various pagings (not: 48,53,99,300,410,90 p.)

5.1.2.7-C:
1 vol. (various pagings)

VI. Generic Terms in Monographic Series.

When the series is a generic term, the statement of responsibility is given in square brackets before instead of after the series, and the slash between these two elements is cancelled.
VII. "Chih 之" in Monographic Series.

The word "之" occasionally found in front of the series number is omitted in the series statement.

Original series reads: 傳記文學叢書之四
古本戲曲叢刊，4

Original series reads: 古本戲曲叢刊四集之

Exception: If the word "之" means "one of," it cannot be omitted, since every series of this kind ends in "之一起"

The Working Party has also translated the terminology and notes in all ISBDs which are almost the same as those in AACR II. Those interested may write to: Mr. C. F. Lee, Library, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, Hong Kong.

(Chik Fong Lee)

Notes

1. Both ISBD(G)(Rules 4.1-4.2) and AACR II(Rules 1.4C6 and 1.4D6) specify that equivalents in nonroman scripts can be substituted for the Latin abbreviations s.l and s.n.

2. Unlike western publications, it is not unusual to find a Chinese book, even in modern format, consisting of more than three sequences of pages or leaves, such as the publications issued under the series Jen Jen wen k'u 人文文庫 (台北 商務 ). This kind of pagination occurs even more often in reprints of Chinese old texts, such as the Ssu k'u ch'üan shu chen pen 四庫 全書珍本 (台北 商務 ). Unless only the main sequence is recorded, a cataloguer very often has to add up the total number of pages or leaves in other minor sections, if the number of sequences is limited to "three" according to 5.1.2.7 in ISBD(M). Rule 2.5B8 of AACR II does not specify the limit of three, but from the examples given, the limit seems to exist, though more than one main sequence is allowed to be recorded. It is desirable to extend the number of sequences from "three" in Rule 5.1.2.7 to "five." "Five" is an arbitrary number and libraries may choose a greater number if they wish.

3. Postscripts are a common feature in Chinese publications, and they are usually separately paged. The way of recording preliminary pages or leaves and postscripts by totalling them together after the main sequence (5.1.2.7-B) seems illogical and misleading to readers, and we prefer to record them according to the order in which they appear in the publication (cf. 142A3, AACR I).

4. Rule 143E2b of AACR I.