

ELEMENTS OF LIBRARY CLASSIFICATION

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ELEMENTS

OF

LIBRARY CLASSIFICATION

Based on Lectures delivered at the University of Bombay in December 1944

and in the Schools of Librarianship in Great Britain in December 1956

by S. R. RANGANATHAN

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edited by

B. I. PALMER



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SUDHIRA MEMORIAL LIBRARY CHITTARANJAN CANCER HC FRITAL 37, SYAMAPROSAD MOOKERJEE ROAD, CALCUTTA-26, INDIA, TO THE MEMORY
OF MY FATHER
N. RAMAMRITAM

Editor's Note

In case it should be thought that I am claiming to have contributed anything new to this work, I should like to make it clear that all I have done is to revise the form of presentation so that it no longer appears as a series of lectures. This was done at the request of the Publications Committee of the Association of Assistant Librarians.

The Elements is a simple book on the theory of classification. In the course of the exposition the author has used examples from the Colon Classification, the Decimal Classification, and the Universal Decimal Classification. The book was set up in type before the publication of the sixteenth edition of the Decimal Classification, and examples in the present work refer, therefore, to the four-teenth edition. This does not affect the principles which are expounded, however, since they are applicable to all classification schemes to some degree, and are the basis of contemporary work in classification studies.

The Laws of Library Science

- 1. Books are for use
- 2. Every reader his book
- 3. Every book its reader
- 4. Save the time of the reader
- 5. The library is a growing organism

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