DEWEINEAZAR

The Central Cataloging Service of the Sinai Temple Blumenthal Library

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Introduction

Every library, Judaic and non, is beset with repetitive and tedious but essential tasks (acquisition and circulation control, periodicals record-keeping, budget control, audio-visual control and maintenance, inventory, etc.). In addition to these ongoing chores, Judaica libraries, especially smaller, non-academic libraries, have to grapple with the intellectual and philosophical problems that come with producing original cataloging and classification data.

In the last issue of *Judaica Librarianship*, Bella Hass Weinberg, in her article on Library of Congress Classification (LCC) and modifications thereto, wrote that despite widespread dissatisfaction with LCC and some resultant tampering therewith, large Jewish institutions have accepted it as standard primarily because it makes available a large number of Hebraica and Judaica printed cards, and thus eliminates the expense of maintaining and updating a specialized or homemade Judaica classification scheme (Weinberg, 1987). While many of us in smaller Judaica libraries consider that the rigidity of LCC and its specificity render it inappropriate for our use, we have often envied larger libraries the benefits of centrally supplied classification.

Librarians of non-Judaic collections in day school and public libraries usually acquire Dewey cards along with their books, i.e., the vendor supplies catalog cards with Dewey Decimal classification data. Jewish academic libraries, whether or not they decide to modify LCC, can depend on the Library of Congress for most of their cataloging data, either online or in card form. No such standardized approach has ever existed for the synagogue, school, or center (SSC) library which, despite the attendant difficulties, chooses to use a special Judaic classification scheme. Efficient, consistent, and professional-level Judaica cataloging and pre-printed cards are not commercially available.

Cataloging is a subjective art even when the practitioner is well trained. For economic reasons, small Jewish institutions frequently hire library personnel with insufficient background in Judaica or training in library science. Small wonder that such people often find cataloging an overwhelming challenge, although they can handle other aspects of library management with ease. This is especially true for those employed just a few hours a week, as well as for volunteers. The burden of classifying collections may become so overwhelming that it may leave no time for other important library activities such as patron services, outreach, and special programming. Some small libraries may decide to expedite matters by loosely arranging collections in a self-devised, non-professional manner, using color-coding or broad subject categories; however, this approach paves the way for massive problems when the small library grows, as small libraries are wont to do.

Even skilled Judaica librarians, laboring alone to catalog holdings in smaller institutions, inevitably produce records which are inconsistent in terms of classification, subject headings, accuracy, and format. Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform libraries often acquire identical books and materials, but have been unable to share standardized cataloging. Even though occasional local modifications may still be required, centralized cataloging is the only way to make materials uniformly accessible to users, to cut back on librarian error and repetition of effort, and to make smaller Jewish libraries more professional and easy to use.

The purpose of this article is to introduce Sinai Temple's Central Cataloging Service for Libraries of Judaica as an immediate, low-cost, and practical means of solving the time-consuming cataloging problems faced by libraries using either the Elazar (1978) or Weine (1982) Classification Systems. It describes the process of getting a grant for the Central Cataloging project as well as the

work performed before computer-generated cataloging data was ready to be shared. Finally, the paper projects future benefits for subscribing libraries nationwide.

Background

As long ago as the late 1960s, students in Judaica librarianship classes, sponsored by Hebrew Union College—JIR in Los Angeles, heard the above cataloging problem bemoaned by their dedicated and tireless instructor, Dorothy Schroeder (of blessed memory). Mrs. Schroeder was responsible for many advances in the quality of Judaica librarianship in the Southern California area, serving as teacher and mentor of a whole generation of active Jewish librarians (Leff, 1987). The problem of centralized cataloging was, however, one she was unable to resolve.

Various commercial firms were approached about the feasibility of supplying pre-printed cards or cataloging data to small Judaica libraries, but none of these saw any financial advantage in the enterprise. Book jobbers pointed to the lack of centralized ordering and the relatively low purchasing power of Jewish libraries as the deterrents. Card production firms likewise foresaw spending more on hiring a cataloger for Judaica than would be forthcoming in orders for the cards produced. The profit motive could not be served, and Mrs. Schroeder's dream of providing this logical service for small, understaffed Judaica libraries went unrealized.

The only possible solution was for some institution or organization to provide centralized cataloging without commercial considerations in mind. But the potential hazards of bringing one's in-house cataloging "out of the closet" and exposing it for all the world to see and evaluate kept the volunteers down to zero.

The Birth of a Solution

Years passed. The computer age came upon us and, years behind the public and academic sectors, Judaica libraries began to think automation. HUC-JIR offered a course in Los Angeles on the potential use of computers in small libraries. It was in preparing a paper for that course that the feasibility of a Sinai Temple Library-based Central Cataloging Service first came to mind. Since Sinai's Library acquires more Judaica yearly than any other synagogue library in the area and employs a trained Judaica cataloger, it seemed logical that our library could serve as the source for such a service. Also, with the aid of computers to expedite other phases of library maintenance and an online catalog from which to generate the information to be shared, the project appeared to be one that could eventually be managed without interfering with other library activities.

It was an interesting dream, but an expensive one, which seemed highly unlikely to come true. So, after a sample proposal was presented as an assignment for the computer class, it was tucked away—but only for a little while.

Not long after the course ended, we heard that Mt. Sinai Memorial Park, a non-profit cemetery and mortuary, was instituting a grants program for the good of the Jewish community. Improving the facilities and services of Jewish libraries certainly seemed to be a goal for the good of the Jewish community; so, after presenting the concept for approval by Sinai's Library Committee, we applied for a grant. Our initial application was accepted, and the sample proposal, originally a school project, was reworked, refined, and submitted for the Grant Committee's consideration.

Program Objectives

Our proposal enumerated the following goals and objectives:

1. To provide philosophically balanced centralized Judaica cataloging by using a Cataloging Editorial Committee comprised of Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform catalogers and/or consultants.

2. To make Judaica libraries easier to use and more credible to patrons by adhering to professional cataloging rules and standard formats.

3. To promote sharing of resources with an eye toward eventual networking.

4. To relieve librarians of repetitive cataloging chores so that they can spend their limited time planning programs and working directly with patrons of all ages.

5. By accomplishing these goals, to benefit Judaica libraries of all denominations; to give better service to the adults, students, and teachers who use these libraries; and to advance Jewish education through the improved professionalism of Judaica library service.

Preparing the Ground

Even before the proposal was submitted, we began preparing for the possibility of getting a grant. Sinai's catalog was in no shape to be shared with the world. It had been started by non-professionals, hardworking and dedicated, but initially unaware of such niceties as putting tracings on main entry cards to record subject headings. For over 20 years, various part-time catalogers of diverse backgrounds had worked at Sinai, and their cataloging inevitably tended to reflect their own particular philosophical leanings. Changing personnel and limited hours resulted in there being no authority file set up to avoid such anomalies as books being found under both *Brit Milah* and *Circumcision* without even a "see also" reference to tie them together. Similarly, subject headings had been assigned but not tagged, so although many of the headings clearly came from the Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) list ([JLAGP], 1982), others could not be found there nor in Sears or Library of Congress Subject Headings, and were obviously local headings of unknown origin. For the size and condition of the catalog, there were also far too few cross references.

To add to the confusion in subject access, about ten years ago, my predecessor made a carefully considered decision to switch from modified Dewey to Elazar. New purchases were classified in Elazar, and recataloging was done as time permitted. Unfortunately, the Dewey catalog was not closed, and the Elazar cards were interfiled with the Dewey-based ones. No system was set up to clearly distinguish one from the other through some removable marking or other code. Since both are numeric systems, lacking even such differentiation as the "z" found in the Weine System, the patron, the filing clerk, and the shelving clerk were all hard pressed to know, for example, whether books with ambiguous titles classified in the 800's were about Israel (Elazar) or literature (Dewey).

The lack of tracings on main entry cards meant that when we pulled cards on many of the books we recataloged, it was necessary to conduct a blind search through our subject files based on logical deduction: "If I were a subject heading for this book, what and where would I be?" It also meant that

each time our filing specialist batch-filed subject cards, she had to look for and pull any cards bearing Dewey classification numbers for books she recognized as having already been reclassified to Elazar. This was time-consuming, tedious, and absolutely essential before we could begin to establish our subject authority list with any sense of authority at all.

Once progress was made in clearing out the subject files, we could begin to review the headings in use, correct the most flagrant departures from standard usage, and set up a preliminary card-based authority file. We established that the Association of Jewish Libraries Subject Heading List had provided most of the subject headings; others were based on an early edition of Sears Subject Headings, and some were apparently taken from the Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication data given on the versos of title pages of more recent books. After acquiring updated editions of all basic cataloging aids, such as the newest edition of Sears, LC subject headings on microfiche, *Anglo-American Cataloging Rules* (Second Edition), and a subscription to LC's *Cataloging Service Bulletin*, we set out to complete our standardization process. Whenever possible, we changed local headings to conform with one of the accepted authorities. Sometimes, however, if there were too many cards involved and the aberrant usage was too entrenched in our catalog, we simply noted it and provided cross-references from the standard headings. As we struggled through this process, we took advantage of the opportunity to review classification as well, and often stumbled on and corrected inconsistencies in this area.

Our staff recognized that all of these activities were long overdue; however, when I first came to Sinai, I had been directed to concentrate on active programming and outreach, interaction with the school, and public relations projects. With limited personnel and time, it took all our effort to fulfill that mandate, keep up with new acquisitions, and make progress in recataloging. In order to carry out the basic, essential, and long-delayed tasks described here, we had to make a conscious decision that for well over a year, we would cut many of the activities for which our library was most recognized and highly praised. We could not have done this without the cooperation, understanding, and encouragement of Sinai's professionals, lay leaders, and members.

All librarians are haunted by old cataloging decisions, but we were reviewing not only our own decisions, but those of numerous practitioners before us. Pressured by the fact that we were submitting a grant pro-

posal which would force us to go public, we hastened to get our cataloging act together, often kicking ourselves for opening this Pandora's box in the first place. But by the time the preliminary work was well underway, getting our in-house catalog under control had become so exciting that we almost forgot why we had begun.

The Proposal

On October 30, 1985, after almost a year of preparation, we finally submitted a grant proposal to Mt. Sinai's Grant Committee for a Central Cataloging Service to benefit Judaica libraries and, through them, the Jewish community in Southern California. Below is a brief summary of the proposal:

A. *Introduction*: This section primarily set forth Sinai Temple Library's background, its Director's qualifications, and established its suitability as headquarters for the proposed project.

B. *Problem Statement*: This section summarized the need for the project, set forth at considerable length earlier in this article.

C. *Objectives*: This section corresponded to the objectives spelled out above, but included time-frame objectives as well; i.e., that hard-copy printouts of cataloging data would be distributed to Southern California libraries by the end of the first year and that diskette or modem data transfer would be possible by the end of the second.

Also set forth were methods for measuring achievement of our objectives. These included: regular distribution of survey sheets to document usefulness of our data; gauging interest in our service through inquiries from outside Southern California; and most important, eventually becoming self-sustaining by charging for our cataloging service. This would necessitate attracting a large enough number of paid subscribers to keep the cost affordable for small libraries nationwide.

D. *Methods*: This section spoke briefly of our move toward standardization and set up a more detailed forecast of activities and time frame. We anticipated that within one year we would have established a database including all new books and all circulating older works, as well as all titles in certain high-use areas such as holidays, Bible, etc. We also anticipated weekly or bi-monthly distribution of hard-copy cataloging data (printouts) to participating libraries. (This schedule proved infeasible during the first year. Not enough new books came in weekly, or even monthly during slack publishing seasons, to warrant weekly or bi-monthly mailing charges and expenditure

of staff time for proofing, etc. Mailings may become more frequent as we supply more retrospective data. Direct access by modem or catalog sharing through diskette mailings will also speed up data dissemination.)

To allow current Sinai personnel to eventually assume responsibility for this project, our budget included a redundant system, including computer and printer, to be placed next to the charge-out desk, so staff could be trained in automating such time-consuming tasks as circulation and overdue control, donation and fund control, word processing, sign-making, etc. We anticipated that by the end of the first year, this equipment would greatly streamline the library's operations and allow us to concentrate on completing the retrospective online catalog as quickly as possible. Having the initial system always available to the data entry clerk and entirely dedicated to entry of cataloging data will also expedite completion.

In Section D of the proposal, the Association of Jewish Libraries of Southern California (AJLSC) was set forth as the chief source for distribution of the products of this Central Cataloging Service (CCS) during the pilot phase. The national Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) was projected as the probable means of serving smaller libraries nationwide. Members of both groups had expressed willingness to support CCS by publicizing, consulting, and/or subscribing.

E. *Evaluation*: Although feedback was to be solicited with each mailing, CCS and its value to overworked librarians in small Judaica libraries could not be accurately evaluated until the pilot phase ended and we discovered how many libraries were willing to pay a nominal fee to ensure that the service continued.

F. *Additional & Future Funding*: We forecast the possible need for an additional subsidy while we built a subscriber base large enough for the project to become self-sustaining. We also explored the possibility of being able, sometime in the future, to tie in with a card-ordering service so that Judaica materials could come complete with card sets as do secular materials. Since submitting this proposal, other sources of subsidy have been explored as well.

G. *Budget*: The budget request covered the following items:

For Cataloging: One IBM-AT computer with monitor and all peripherals; a Dataproducts hi-speed dot-matrix printer (bottom-feed for card production); Data-Trek Industries' Card Datalog Cataloging Module; a Hayes Smart-modem for eventual online communication and possible networking; Everex high-speed tape backup system; sound hood; Q-Sales mobile security cabinet.

For Circulation and Other Library Procedures: One Everex IBM-AT compatible computer; monitor and all peripherals; one Epson FX-85 bottom-feed printer; sound hood; Q-Sales mobile security cabinet; Data-Trek Industries Circulation Module.

General Costs: Maintenance and updates of software programs; additional software programs (dBase III+, PFS-Professional Write, and The Print Shop, which is used for public relations and publicity work for both CCS and the Library); mailing, copying, telephone and travel costs, etc.

Personnel Costs: The budget was designed to cover the salaries of a data entry clerk working 20 hours a week for 48 weeks and a cataloger working six hours a week for 44 weeks, with the stipulation that personnel would probably require additional funding in the second-year. As we enter our second year of this project, it is clear that this projection was accurate. This level of personnel must continue if we are to complete our retrospective conversion and expand and personalize our service.

The Project Begins

In the spring of 1986, Mt. Sinai Memorial Park's Grants Committee notified us that Sinai Temple Library had been given a grant in the amount requested for first-year setup. We were also told that the Committee was limiting this and all other awards to one-time grants, which meant that we would have to become self-sustaining more quickly than originally planned. Our ongoing personnel costs, as well as copying and mailing expenses, will have to be covered by subscription funding by mid-1988.

With this in mind, we hastened the project as much as we could. The first order of business was to double check the decisions we had originally made as to the software programs and general approach. We reconsidered the cost-effectiveness of joining a major network such as OCLC or of using CD-ROM as a source for downloading cataloging records, but the amount of editing that would have been necessary on each record, including adding summaries and the Elazar and Weine classification numbers, made it obvious that there would be little, if any, savings in personnel costs by going the network route. Added would be substantial annual costs for subscription and updates, while many of the obscure Judaica books awaiting recataloging would require original cataloging anyway.

We also considered Follett's Circulation Plus; it was economical, but far too simplistic for our needs; on the other hand, national or academic databases using tagging and

long records would be too intimidating for the libraries we are most anxious to serve. Data-Trek Industries (DTI) Card Datalog and integrated Circulation Modules are expensive, but we discovered they were available at a far lower price when ordered on school stationery. We decided, therefore, that despite some limitations, DTI offered us the most versatile programming possibilities.

Of all the Library Management/Cataloging programs we examined, Data-Trek was the only one with databases compatible with the widely used database management program dBase III Plus. Since we have a superb *volunteer* dBase programmer constantly on call, we can compensate for any of the commercial program's shortcomings by writing dBase programs to manipulate the database as we wish. Here are just a few examples of how we have used that capability so far:

1. The DTI program produces complete card sets; however, notes and summaries do not appear on the cards, although there is a place for these fields in the database. The only single card the program produces is the shelflist record, which has a non-standard layout. To mail out the information in card form, we would have had to send either complete card sets or single shelflist card images. Both of these alternatives would lack summaries and cost a great deal to duplicate and mail. Cards are too expensive to distribute unrequested, while card images only fit three to a page, making each mailing extremely bulky. After considering all the alternatives, we wrote a program that allowed us to present all the cataloging data in linear form, averaging nine titles per page. The inclusion of summaries makes the listing useful as an acquisition tool as well as a cataloging aid (see Fig. 1). All the fields are clearly designated, and sample card layouts are included so that even untrained volunteer typists can follow the linear format to produce professional-looking cards (see Fig. 2).

2. Using dBase III Plus, we have printed out the titles in each mailing by classification number so that the receiving library can tell at a glance which subject areas are covered in that bulletin and which titles fall within that subject area.

3. We have just finished a program using dBase III Plus which will produce a bibliography by age, subject, and/or copyright year from all the titles on our hard disk. In our latest mailing, we included two of these (on Pesach and the Holocaust) as a bonus service to our subscribing libraries.

4. We have hopes of eventually writing a program that will print a single card image *with summary* and thus eliminate the typ-

ing stage for our recipients; however, before we invest the time needed to do that, we will continue to explore the possibility of a tie-in with a commercial card-supply house. We're hoping that with our service supplying the cataloging, one firm might be willing to become a card-order center for our subscribers. We haven't the time (nor inclination) to undertake such a business ourselves while running a full-service library.

Initial System Setup

After careful study of available systems and comparative bids, the following basic system was ordered and installed during June and July, 1986. Dealer service and proximity were considered as well as price in deciding on the sources.

1. IBM-AT Computer with 60mb Priam hard disk, monitor and peripherals (cables, cards, etc.) We went with the higher-priced IBM rather than a clone to reassure the funding body of the integrity of the system.

2. Everex Streaming Tape Backup System.

3. Dataproducts high-speed printer with bottom feed, producing 400 characters per second (cps) draft, 200 cps text, and 100 near-letter quality.

4. Mobile security cabinet, self-contained.

5. Data-Trek Card Datalog Cataloging and Circulation Modules; dBase III Plus Data Base Management program; update contract from DTI.

6. A Hayes 1200 external modem, so far unused. Since our library is not plugging into any major databases, there hasn't been any rush to communicate, especially since no small Jewish libraries appear to be ready for such an exchange. If we were to be given advance notice and a chance to prepare, however, any subscribing institution equipped with an IBM-compatible computer and printer could, with a modem and the Data-Trek Cataloging Module, download our entire catalog and either selectively print out cards on an in-house printer or go online. (We still maintain our card catalog for the most practical of reasons. It is much easier to conduct a research project or library lesson for two dozen children using a 60-drawer card catalog than to expect them to patiently share a single library computer. Besides, our computer is currently too tied up with circulation and word processing for it to be used as an online catalog.)

Supplemental System Setup

Once the initial system was up and running, a supplemental system was ordered and in-

stalled to expedite repetitive library tasks such as circulation, ordering, overdue control, word processing, compilation of bibliographies, etc. While the IBM is located in the workroom, with the capability of being moved next to the catalogs when necessary, the supplemental system is placed at the checkout desk. The following components were acquired:

1. Everex AT IBM-Compatible with 60mb hard disk, monitor, and peripherals. This machine is used for circulation. The cataloging database is transferred to it by high-density floppy disk loading. It is a redundant system rather than a network to avoid being completely "down" should one computer go out. We operate it by "sneaker net," that is, you put on your sneakers and carry the data on floppy diskettes back and forth.

2. Epson FX 85 printer.

3. Mobile security cabinet, self-contained.

4. Bar Code Reader and Bar Code Labels for automating the circulation system.

The purpose of this equipment was to improve use of library staff time and alleviate the additional workload involved in this project.

Personnel

The following people are associated with the project:

1. Matt Doran, a very capable data entry clerk with extensive library background, began working on CCS in July 1986. His high level of accuracy is one of the factors which has allowed us to progress on or ahead of schedule.

2. Cataloging is the primary responsibility of Rachel Glasser, Sinai's Cataloging Librarian and CCS's Project Cataloger, who comes from a traditional background, but maintains objectivity.

All CCS mailings are reviewed by an Editorial Committee, which includes Sinai's Library Director and Barbara Leff of Stephen S. Wise (Reform) Temple. Bella Hass Weinberg (Consulting Librarian, YIVO and Associate Professor of Library and Information Science, St. John's University) is our Consultant, providing us with valuable feedback and helpful suggestions.

The Process of Conversion

We now have approximately 10,000 bibliographic records online, of which one-third are full entries and two-thirds brief entries. The main concentration is on new materials, but during the summer of 1986, we also completed recataloging of Sinai's holdings

into Elazar, entering many of the older books as we went along. We entered new books completely as they were received and cataloged. Retrospective conversion was more complicated. We combined it with an inventory, checking each shelflist drawer against the shelf before entering the books in that subject area. Cards with missing books were flagged, and books with missing cards were marked with a dummy card. The shelflist drawer was then placed next to the computer in the workroom and each book was entered—without subject headings or summaries—and given a machine-assigned ID number. This number is penciled in on the shelf card. After a large batch is entered, the clerk takes the shelf drawer and the rolls of bar-code labels out into the library and, working alone or with one of the student aides, affixes the matching ID bar code label to the book, inside the front cover.

If there is ever any confusion about the status of our entry process, we can go into the database, using dBase III Plus, and generate lists giving us any information we require: ID numbers by date entered, type of material, series, etc. When we have finished entering the shelflist, we can manipulate the database to print out an alphabetical listing arranged by author/title of all books entered in any area. It will then be a simple thing for the clerk to bring in the author/title catalog drawers and proceed to enter the subject headings.

Perhaps we could have devised a more efficient way of getting the older materials in; however, since we were and still are in the process of reviewing our subject headings, delaying their entry until we've finished approving them is probably best. If we were online and depended solely on computer access to retrieve all holdings on a given subject, this approach would be a great disadvantage. Too many books would be "lost" by not having their subject tracings complete. Since we're still working with a card catalog, however, no harm is done, and the process seems to be going smoothly. It also allows us to bar code as we go along, a double-edged conversion as it were. The only real temporary disadvantage is the partial recall of the bibliography program when older works on a topic are needed. But if the need arises, we enter the books in a desired subject area as a batch, giving them priority by using a worklist generated with dBase III Plus.

The one regret is that we did not have time to weed thoroughly before completing the recataloging and the initial data entry from the shelflist cards. We did manage to thin out the Israel section (800's), and during the recataloging, we pulled a number of books, but a systematic weeding program was impossible to implement.

Mailings

Our first mailing, dated November, 1986 and mailed in December, contained 37 pages of entries—almost 350 1985 and 1986 imprints—pulled from the Data-Trek database and arranged by a dBase program (on which our volunteer spent 80 to 100 hours).

The printouts are divided into Author Main Entries and Title Main Entries (see Fig. 1). Samples of each are given in the packet to aid the typist in preparing cards correctly (see Fig. 2). Hebrew titles are input by leaving spaces in the appropriate computer field through judicious use of periods and then hand-typing the Hebrew onto the printouts. (Data-Trek does not, needless to say, have Hebrew capability.) Subsequent mailings contained additional features such as:

1. Weine classification numbers.

2. A list of deviations from and additions to the original Elazar Classification System (Table 1) as approved by Daniel and David Elazar, authors of the scheme, who receive all our mailings and are very supportive of this effort.

3. A listing of all books arranged by Elazar call number, allowing quick access to titles in specific subject areas.

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561       Amichai, Yehuda, 1924-
Ami           The selected poetry of Yehuda
          Amichai / by Yehuda Amichai,
          1924-. - 1st ed. - N.Y.: Harper &
          Row, 1986.
              xiii, 173 p.; 24 cm., ind.

          1. HEBREW POETRY, MODERN.   1. Title.
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              The selected poetry of Yehuda
                  Amichai
561       Amichai, Yehuda, 1924-
Ami           The selected poetry of Yehuda
          Amichai / by Yehuda Amichai,
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              xiii, 173 p.; 24 cm., ind.
          Copies: 1   09/29/86   $22.95
              ID: 01554        ISBN/ISSN:
          Location: STBL

          1. HEBREW POETRY, MODERN.   1. Title
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Figure 2. Sample card set produced by computer (author, title, subject, shelflist). Software: Card Datalog (Data Trek Inc.).

4. Selected, annotated book lists, including classification numbers and subject headings.

In less than a year from the day the first computer was installed, we sent out four mailings covering approximately 800 titles published primarily in 1986 or 1987. As the grant stipulated, our first mailing was sent to the 50 synagogue or center member librarians in AJLSC, accompanied by an agreement form designed to prevent unauthorized redistribution of the information. Half returned signed agreements, signifying that the data could be useful to them, and the next mailing was limited to them as well as about a dozen participating libraries nationwide. Since CCS was announced at the AJL Convention in June 1987 and Bulletin No. 4 distributed there, we have had requests from numerous libraries nationwide. Fifteen more inquiries were received following presentations given at the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE) conference held in Atlanta in August 1987.

Our fifth mailing went out in mid-September. It contained approximately 60 titles and was distributed to Southern California libraries plus the many others that had requested information. With it went a letter explaining that the free mailings would soon have to stop. As of January 1, 1988, in order to receive cataloging data and be eligible for the enhancements which we continue to add to this service, all recipients will have to become subscribers (price: $156 per year). A Fact Sheet we prepared and distributed explains that subscribing makes economic sense. Most board members of SSC libraries will respond positively to a request for funds for this purpose if they can be convinced of that.

Projections for the Future

It will require approximately 15 more months to complete the online catalog and make data on all our 14,000+ titles available. We are experimenting with including cataloging data for older titles in our mailings now. During the subscription year of 1988, we plan to mail lists as frequently as is practical, with a minimum of six mailings during the year. We are ready to provide a 71-page printed Subject Heading List (at an additional cost of $10 for subscribers and $20 for non-subscribers). We are currently exploring the possibility of tying in with a card supplier so that subscribers may order cards for any book in our listing and receive a full set for a cost commensurate with that of ordering Dewey or LC-card sets. We are experimenting with providing "cataloging to order" on a limited number of specific titles as long as we have them in the database.

**Table I
Sinai Temple Blumenthal Library
Additions and Variations
to the
Elazar Classification System**

008.3	Bible Stories (personalities not emphasized)
009.5	Biblical Environment—Ecology
015.3	Torah—Textbooks
016.5	Commentaries/Torah—History and Interpretation
017.9	Preparation of the Scrolls; writing; scribes
020.3	Genesis—Study and Teaching
020.23	and Linguistic Interpretation
020.8	Genesis—Personalities
020.9	Genesis—Special Topics
027.2	Aids/Study of Neviim—Introductions
027.28	Aids/Study of Neviim—Non-Jewish Commentaries
127.41	Rishonim—Abridgements of and text based upon
203	Quiz Books
220.394	Pastoral Counseling
234.3	Supplemental Liturgies—Conservative
236.85	Holidays and Festivals—Folklore
292.12	Christianity—Other Personalities
292.18	Christianity—Research and Criticism
292.2	Christianity—Jesus
294.1	Buddhism
294.2	Hinduism
294.3	Confucianism
295	Zoroastrianism
296	Other Religions
296.1	Mormonism
346.5	Bible—Dramatics
351.5	and Readers Theater
351.6	Extra-Curricular Activities—Story-telling
398	Psychology—Self-help
399	Psychiatry and Psychoanalysis
480.8	Sciences—Modern Developments
489.8	Engineering & Electronics—Computer Science
530.736	Jewish Literature—Holocaust
550.8	Quotations
560.799	Biography of Individual Authors
561.736	Holocaust Poetry
635	and Havurot
636.2	and Cantor
652.6	Marriage & Family—Widowhood
652.7	Issues in Parenting (i.e., single; working parents)
656.6	Health & Illness—Suicide
661.91	Cults
662.7	Anti-semitism—U.S.
674	Jewish Ceremonial Art
735.2	The Contemporary Epoch—World War II
736.08	World War II/Holocaust—Maps and Atlases
736.5	World War II/Holocaust—Personal Narratives
736.799	World War II/Holocaust—Biography
736.9	World War II/Holocaust—Special Topics
764.5	Russia—1900 CE-
764.55	Russia—Biography; Personal Narratives
798.1	Collective Biography—Family Trees; Genealogy
798.2	Collective Biography—Family Biography
798.7	Collective Biography—U.S.
798.8	Collective Biography—Israel

This is currently a bonus service, but if demand increases too much, we will have to charge per title. We may continue to provide special bibliographies, but at a nominal charge to cover processing, duplicating and handling.

We hope 1987's Central Cataloging Service will prove to be a first step in helping synagogue, school, and center librarians achieve professional cataloging standards, while providing them with more time for library functions other than technical processing.

Inquiries should be directed to:
Sinai Temple Central Cataloging Service
William R. Blumenthal Library
10400 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90024

References

Elazar, David H.; Elazar, Daniel J. *A Classification Scheme for Libraries of Judaica.* 2nd rev. ed. Ramat Gan, Israel: Turtledove, 1978.

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Leff, Barbara, "Dorothy Schroeder: Judaica Library Visionary Extraordinaire," *Judaica Librarianship* vol. 3 no. 1–2 (1986–1987), p. 142.

Table 1 *(continued)*

799.7	Individual Biography—U.S.
799.8	Individual Biography—Israel
804.7	History of Zionism—American Zionism
820.3	Israel—Study and Teaching
828.5	Statehood—Israel-Lebanon Conflict, 1982
848.77	Foreign Relations—Israel-U.S. Relations
866.619	Characteristics/Jewish Population—Women
890.62	Israel & the Middle East—Counter terrorism
955.1	Jewish Literature—Juvenile (includes suggestions for use of Jewish books)
955.77	Jewish Literature—Bibliographies of American-Jewish literature
986	Juvenile (includes programs for promoting juvenile reading)
986.1	Juvenile—Addresses, essays, lectures on children's literature

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Weinberg, Bella Hass, "Cutter J4: Tampering with the Library of Congress Classification for Judaica," *Judaica Librarianship* vol. 3 no. 1–2 (1986–1987), p. 45–48.

Weine, Mae. *Weine Classification Scheme for Judaica Libraries.* 7th ed., revised by Mildred Kurland and Mae Weine. New York: Distributed by Synagogue, School and Center Division, Association of Jewish Libraries, 1982.

Sources of Equipment

1. Library Management Software—Catalog and Circulation Modules:

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