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*Sezione II<sup>a</sup> Regole internazionali per la compilazione dei Cataloghi.*

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## SUBJECT CATALOG — SCHLAGWORT- KATALOG

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**T**HE DICTIONARY CATALOG is one of the most striking innovations of modern American library practice. As every one knows, this is a combination of the nominal and topical catalog, where the author-entries, subject-entries and eventually also title-entries for all books of the library are arranged in one alphabetical file.

Several large libraries in German speaking countries have recently adopted a form of catalog much like the dictionary catalog. They retain the old »Nominal-Katalog» containing author and title entries, and instead of the »Real-Katalog», with the titles arranged according to a scientific classification, they arrange the topical catalog alphabetically by »Schlagworte». This corresponds to the subject part of the American dictionary catalog, but is established as a separate unit.

The American libraries have had more than half a century's experience of the alphabetical subject catalog, and it has been highly developed into an excellent tool for all literary research work. The fundamental rules were laid down by C. A. Cutter some fifty years ago, and the last edition of his book from 1904 is still the most complete discussion of the problem in American library literature.

The deciding factor in establishing a standardized practice in American libraries is the excellent work of the Library of Congress in Washington. It distributes thousands of printed catalog cards every year, with subject-headings indicated on each of them. The official lists of subject-headings