



Ranganathan, Shiyali Ramamrita.  
The Five Laws of Library Science.  
(Sarada Ranganathan Endowment for Library Science).  
Madras Library Association, 1931.

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Putting Knowledge to Work: An American View of the Five Laws of Library Science, 1970. By Pauline Atherton.

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He cannot be cloven; he cannot be burnt;  
he cannot be wetted; he cannot be dried; he is  
eternal, all-pervading, steadfast and immovable;  
he is the same for ever.

वासांसि जीर्णानि यथा विहाय  
नवानि गृह्णाति नरोऽपराणि ।  
तथा शरीराणि विहाय जीर्णा-  
न्यन्यानि संयाति नवानि देही ॥

नैनं छिन्दन्ति शस्त्राणि नैनं दहति पावकः ।  
न चैनं क्लेदयन्त्यापो न शोषयति मारुतः ॥

अच्छेद्योऽयमदाह्योऽयमक्लेद्योऽशोष्य एव च ।  
नित्यः सर्वगतः स्थाणुरचलोऽयं सनातनः ॥

## APPENDIX

### SPECIFICATION FOR A TEAKWOOD BOOK-RACK

The standard unit-rack that I have designed for the Madras University Library has two faces. Each face has two bays, so that the unit rack is a four-bayed rack—two bays on each side. While the height may be 7 ft. in adult libraries, it should not exceed 5 ft. in children's libraries.

The detailed dimensions of and specification for an adult library unit are as follows:—

- (a) External dimensions 6' 6" × 1' 6" × 7'.
- (b) Three uprights, each 2" × 1' 6" × 7'.
- (c) Seven shelf-planks, each 3' × 8½" × 1"

Two of the shelf-planks are to be fixed ones—one near the top and the other near the bottom. The other five are to be movable ones supported by Tonk's fittings, so that they can be adjusted to an inch. It may be an advantage to provide two spare shelves for each unit.

(d) The book rack is to have sanitary bottom, *i.e.*, the lowest shelf is to be fixed at a height of 6 ins. from the floor to facilitate cleaning the floor beneath the rack and easy vigilance. The topmost shelf is to be fixed 6 ins. below the top of the uprights.

(e) To prevent the books on the shelves in one face getting mixed up with the books on the corresponding shelves in the other face, an expanded metal partition is to separate the two faces. It is to accommodate this frame that the planks are made only  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad, thus leaving a gap of 1 inch in the centre of the rack. The expanded metal partition is to begin only from a height of 6 inches from the lowest fixed shelf and go right up to the lower side of the uppermost fixed shelf. The advantage in beginning it only from a height of 6 inches from the lowermost shelf is that giant folios, which are more than a foot broad, can be made to lie flat, on the bottommost fixed shelves, extending from one face to the other. If the expanded metal is of steel and not of brass, it should be coated with an anti-corrosive paint.

(f) The front edge of each shelf is to have a wedge-shaped groove cut in it, to hold the shelf-cards. If the groove is carefully cut, the shelf-cards can be easily slid from end to end, as the books are necessarily moved in course of time.

(g) The three uprights are bound together by the four pairs of fixed shelves. It would be an advantage to reinforce this by means of two steel tie-rods binding them together, one at a height of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ft. from the bottom and the other at a depth of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ft. from the top. To accommodate these rods it may be necessary to make the expanded metal partition in three parts, the rods running between the frames of the parts.

(h) It may be convenient to fix spring blind-holders to each bay to hold maps. At least two maps can be accommodated in front of each bay. The maps are to be normally in the rolled-up position. Whenever necessary, they are to be pulled out for reference and then released.

(i) The teakwood used should be well-seasoned and the contractor should make good any crack that it may develop within a year of supply.

(j) The length of all the shelf-planks should be quite accurate, so that they can be interchanged without any restriction.

This unit rack requires about 10 c.ft. of teakwood. It has 84 running ft. of shelf-space. It can accommodate, on an average, 1,000 volumes. When full of books, it will weigh about 1 ton. Its estimated cost is Rs. 175 if steel Tonk's fittings are used and Rs. 230 if brass Tonk's fittings are used.



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