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Choppin, Alain

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EMMANUELLE: A Data Base for Textbooks' History in Europe

*Alain Choppin**

The Emmanuelle data-base project began in 1980 when I was put in charge of a research project on the history of schoolbooks in the department of historical research (1) at the Institut National de Recherche Pédagogique in Paris.

The production of French schoolbooks, which is the largest in the world, was little known at the time. No bibliography existed containing a comprehensive list of textbooks; only a few incomplete and disparate lists were available. No library had published a specific catalogue of its collections. The publishing houses themselves -when they still existed- had preserved neither their textbooks nor their former catalogues. Finally, despite the fact that schoolbooks had large edition quantities, their preservation was often poorly done.

At the same time a steadily growing number of researchers in history, sociology, didactics, linguistics, etc. was interested in schoolbooks as an object of their study.

I decided, as a result, to gather the titles and to collect the main characteristics of all the textbooks published in France since the Revolution, with the double objective of helping researchers in their work and of saving a cultural heritage (2).

An initial estimation, which later turned out to be correct, showed that the total number of works published in the past two centuries was close to 100 000 -all subject matters and teaching levels combined (3).

The quantity of this production and the diversity of researchers' interests led me to resort to the aid of a computer.

The data-base EMMANUELLE («MANUEL» means textbook in French) gathers the entire production of schoolbooks published in France, or within territories under its jurisdiction, from 1789 to the present. It concerns all subjects and teaching levels. It indicates all of the published editions and the places where they are preserved. The present volume of this data-base is around 7 000 items, which represents the total number of Greek, Italian, Latin and German textbooks. The final number of items

* Address all communications to Alain Choppin, Ministre de l'Education Nationale. Institut national de recherche pédagogique 29, rue d'Ulm, F-75230 Paris Cedex 05, France.

will be close to 80 000. Since schoolbooks are often reedited, several hundred thousand editions will ultimately be described.

Under my direction, a group of specialists from different disciplines are elaborating and developing this data-base. We aim to be exhaustive which means that we consider all books destined for class use and we take all the indications we initially decided on for each work.

The data comes from a variety of sources (generally from bibliographies, but also from library catalogues or those of publishers). We use standard pre-printed forms on which all of the new information discovered is included. These forms are completed, corrected, and coded several times over. Some 40 000 forms for fifteen subject matters have been filled up to now.

The data gathered is divided into three categories:

- the usual bibliographic indications (title, author, publisher, etc.)
- specific data on the textbooks and their history (the school programs, for example)
- catalographic information (the location where different editions of the book can be consulted)

All of the data are divided among thirty-five or thirty-seven fields depending on the data-base system being used. A large number of these fields are coded. Amongst other advantages this coding system, done just before data entry, allows one to link identical information which is labelled differently or to differentiate information which at first glance appears similar. This is particularly important for an historian since the meaning of words changes over time.

Our software team developed an initial data-base system in 1981 which has since been abandoned. Currently we are simultaneously using two software systems: the JLB-Doc system, which the French Ministry of Education gave to us in 1983, and the CDS-Isis system which UNESCO gave to us in 1986. The first one functions on a BULL-Mini 6 computer and the other on a micro-computer PC-AT. Our software team has perfected and made compatible the two systems.

Each entry contains thirty-five fields in the JLB-doc version and thirty-seven fields in the CDS-Isis version which is also used to enter the bibliographic classification of the Musée National de l'Education. Twenty-four fields (or twenty-six in the CDS-Isis version) are inversed fields. We use these inversed fields to indicate information present in, or easily deduced from, the book's title (the level or the subject matter, for example). This facilitates interrogations and helps to produce numerous indexes and to elaborate statistics. Most of these fields are repeatable.

Data-entry is performed on worksheets (two for the JLB-Doc version, three in the CDS-Isis version). These same worksheets are used to correct and to update data. To ensure the accurateness of each entry and the neat-

ness of the output we have developed two guide-books (one for each version) which contain all of the writing norms (capitals, punctuation, etc.), all of the abbreviations and all of the codes used (4).

The data is accessible either by display or by printed outputs. Both data-base systems enable one to use complex research formulations. A standard menu is available for the CDS-Isis system whose use, however, is not as easy as many users would desire. Since the JLB-Doc system did not initially have a menu, one was developed in 1984 adapted to our researchers who are generally unfamiliar with the use of data-base systems or else reluctant for infrequent use to devote much time and energy to learning an overly complex search language. This menu gives the user greater liberty of action since all of the fields can be selected from the beginning. It is, moreover, very pedagogic.

- Selections can be performed one after the other. After two selections, the user can combine the results of earlier searches (operators and/or/not) or, if desired, perform new selections whose results can be combined with previous ones. The user also has the opportunity prior to each selection to request the history of the previous selections.

- Each page of the menu has three parts:

- the field name, what the field contains and if a dictionary or a table of translated codes can be displayed
- a selection list
- certain pages, whose access is optional, are purely informative (how to select records, the data-base content, etc.)

This menu has three different visualization formats whose respective contents are indicated before the user makes his choice. All of the codes entered using the worksheets are expressed longhand on the screen when the records are retrieved.

At the moment it is only possible to make selections on the JLB-Doc system at the Institut National de Recherche Pédagogique in Paris. On the other hand, anyone with access to a micro-computer PC-AT can use the CDS-Isis system.

Access to data is also possible with printed outputs. The data-base produces repertories and catalogues with indexes. All of these repertories (by subject matter) or catalogues (by libraries) make up the EMMANUELLE collection whose two volumes are now available (5).

These catalogues or repertories are produced with a laser printer. The first two repertories were achieved with the TEX desktop publishing system, while the following ones will use the VENTURA system. In both cases, the computer engineers prepare the printing files with special software to be processed either by TEX or VENTURA. Printing specifications (page-setting, type, type size, etc.) are given at that point.

Each catalogue has five always identical portions.

- a methodological introduction (What is a school textbook ? How does one use the repertory ?)
- a statistical introduction (the main characteristics of the textbooks collected)
- the repertory itself : all of the references are organized according to the date of their first edition. Books published the same year are arranged alphabetically by author.
- a series of indexes (thirteen of the most common ones have been kept)
- a series of annexes including the chronological list of all of the official texts related to the teaching of the subject matter concerned.

The EMMANUELLE data-base also produces statistics thanks to the software conceived by our computer team.

In addition, EMMANUELLE is responsible for classifying and organizing two of the most important textbook collections in France : that of the Institut National de Recherche Pédagogique^ library and that of the Musée National de l'Education which include several ten thousand volumes. A similar project is underway for the collection of the Bibliothèque Nationale.

Finally, a collection of official texts concerning schoolbooks edited over the past two centuries will be published in 1989. We are also working on an historical catalogue of school publishers.

The research for EMMANUELLE, in which the EMMANUELLE data base project holds but a part, although a substantial one, could become European if foreign researchers were to collaborate.

Notes

- 1) Service d'histoire de l'éducation. Institut national de recherche pédagogique. 29, rue d'Ulm. 75230 PARIS Cedex 05. tel. (1) 46.34.91.02.
- 2) Alain CHOPPIN : L'Histoire des manuels scolaires : une approche globale. Histoire de l'éducation, n° 9 (décembre 1980), pp. 1-25.
- 3) id. : Pour une Histoire des moyens éducatifs : la production des manuels scolaires en France. L'Information historique, n° 3, 1983, pp. 134-141.
- 4) Emmanuelle. Manuel du producteur. Version mini-ordinateur. I.N.R.P., 1985, 45 p. ; Emmanuelle - Manuel du producteur. Version micro-ordinateur. I.N.R.P., 1988, 30 p.
- 5) Alain CHOPPIN (Dir.) : Les Manuels scolaires en France de 1789 à nos jours (Collection EMMANUELLE).

References

1. Les Manuels de grec. Paris, I.N.R.P. - Publications de la Sorbonne, 1987, 212 p.
2. Les Manuels d'italien. Paris, I.N.R.P. - Publications de la Sorbonne, 1987, 136 p.

(A third volume, Les Manuels de latin, will be very soon available).

WORKSHEETS ON JLB-DOC SYSTEM

NO REF:000341 APPART: 1; No RATT: 000000;
TITRE
Méthode pour étudier la langue grecque... pour les classes des lycées. _____

NIV2: _____
COTIT:MEAPLAGR; NIV1: 06; DIS: 311;
INTERVENANTS: BURNOUF (Jean-Louis);
 LEMAIRE;
 ADELALAIN;
 SOELALAIN;

LIEUX ED: 75056; PUBLIC: élèves;
AUT. CIV.: positive; AUT. ECC.: _____ DEST. LOC.: _____

NO REF:000341
PAGINATION: 2 part. en 1 vol. in-8 de 15f.3/4. / XIII-334o.

COLLECTION: Coll. Enseignement des langues française, latine et grecque d'après les mêmes principes.

OBSERVATIONS: Mention de collection à partir de 1872 - Autorisation ministériel le du 28.09.1814 - Cet ouvrage a fait l'objet, par la Société nationale pour la propagation des livres, d'une édition spéciale pour la Belgique interdite en France en 1857 à Bruxelles et en 1863 à Paris

BIBL./BN: BF: 1813 1814 1816(3e) 1817(4e) 1818(6e) 1820(8e) 1821 1822 1823 1824
1825 1826 1827 1828 1830 1832(20e) 1832(21e) 1834(23e) 1834(24e) 1836 1837 1838
1839 1840 1841 1842 1843 1844 1845 1846 1847 1848 1848 1850 1851 1853 1854 1855
1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862 1863 1864 1865 1866 1872 1873 1875 1876 1877
1878 1880 1882 1888 1893 * BN: 1813-1814 1817-1893(66r.) 1823(21e) 1840(36e)

INRP: INRP: 1820(8e) 1828(16e) 1834(22e) 1872
MNE: MNE: 1840(33e) 1841(36e)
DATE DEBUT: 1813 DATE FIN: 1893 No ED MAXI: 036 NBRE ED: 067
 CONS: 01;99;02;03; SAT: _____
PRODUCTEUR: _____

THE GREEK TEXTBOOKS REPERTORY

32

1812

1825, 1827(15e), 1828(16e), 1832(18e), 1833(19e), 1834(20e), 1836(21e), 1837(22e), 1839(23e), 1840(24e), 1842(25e), 1844(26e), 1848(27e), 1854(28e), 1859(29e), 1862(29e), 1864(30e), 1869(31e) • INRP : 1825(ne).

33 ∞∞ LE ROY. (000706)

Premiers principes de la langue grecque... pour servir d'introduction au Recueil ou Nouveau choix de fables d'Esopé en trois parties, donné par le même auteur.

Aut. : LE ROY (Chrétien), eccl. - Mod. : BINET (René) ; JANNET (Jean-Philippe), eccl. ; PESSONNEAUX (Emile) - Aut. class. : ESOPÉ - Impr. : EBERHART ; THUNOT - Edit. : AUMONT ; MAIRE-NYON. Paris, 1812 - 1857. In-12, XII-84p. / In-12, 96p. / In-12, 80p. (Entièrement refondu par Personneaux en 1857 - Chez Aumont jusqu'en 1818, puis chez Maire-Nyon) • BF : 1812, 1818(ne), 1857(ne) • BN : 1812(ne), 1818, 1857(ne).

34 ∞ LECLERC. (010221)

Chrestomathia ex linguae graecae scriptoribus...

Aut. : LECLERC (Joseph-Victor) - Mod. : B - - ; M - - - - Impr. : DELALAIN - Edit. : DELALAIN. Paris, 1812 - 1851. In-8, VIII-128p. / In-8, VIII-126-88p. / In-8, XII-410p. / In-16, 214p. (La deuxième édition contient un "Lexique grec-français de tous les mots contenus dans la Chrestomathie", par M) • BF : 1812, 1813, 1822(2e), 1851(5e) • BN : 1812, 1823(2e), 1827(ne), 1851(5e).

-1813-

35 ∞ BARBIER. (000282)

Lexique grec-français de quarante fables d'Esopé... précédé du texte grec.

Aut. : BARBIER (J.-B.) - Aut. class. : ESOPÉ - Impr. : FAIN - Edit. : BRUNOT-LABBE. Paris, 1813 - 1833. In-18, XI-171p. • BF : 1813(2e), 1821(3e), 1823(4e), 1829(5e) • BN : 1821(3e), 1824(4e), 1828(5e), 1831(7e), 1833(8e).

36 ∞ BOULANGER. (000313)

La Langue grecque mise à la portée de tout le monde, ou Choix de classiques grecs avec une double traduction... Première partie.

Aut. : BOULANGER (C.) - Impr. : EBERHART - Edit. : PERISSE et COMPERE. Paris, 1813 - 1817. In-12 de 8f.1/2. / 207p. • BF : 1813 • MNE : 1817.

37 ∞∞ BURNOUF. (000341)

Méthode pour étudier la langue grecque... pour les classes des lycées.

Aut. : BURNOUF (Jean-Louis) - Insp. : LEMAIRE - Impr. : DELALAIN - Edit. : DELALAIN. Paris, 1813 - 1893. 2 part. en 1 vol. in-8 de 15f.3/4. / XIII-334p. Coll. Enseignement des langues françaises, latine et grecque d'après les mêmes principes. (Mention de collection à partir de 1872 - Autorisation ministérielle du 28.09.1814 - Cet ouvrage a fait l'objet, par la Société nationale pour la propagation des livres, d'une édition spéciale pour la Belgique interdite en France en 1857 à Bruxelles et en 1863 à Paris) • BF : 1813, 1814, 1816(3e), 1817(4e), 1818(6e), 1820(8e), 1821, 1822, 1823, 1824, 1825, 1826, 1827, 1828, 1830, 1832(20e), 1832(21e), 1834(23e), 1834(24e), 1836, 1837, 1838, 1839, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848, 1849, 1850, 1851, 1853, 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859, 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1872, 1873, 1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1880, 1882, 1888, 1893 • BN : 1813-1814, 1817-1893(60r.), 1823(21e), 1840(33e) • INRP : 1820(8e), 1828(16e), 1834(22e), 1872 • MNE : 1840(33e), 1841(36e).

38 ∞∞ FREMION. (000524)

Leçons théoriques et pratiques de langue grecque...