BACKGROUND: Before 1971 “.A” Cutters were assigned to periodicals under a particular topic if the schedule for the topic did not explicitly provide for periodicals. That arrangement was controlled only by shelflist guidecards and was not published in the schedules. After 1971 the practice was discontinued. A description of “.A” Cutters appeared in Cataloging Service Bulletin 116 (Winter 1976). The section of that description requiring catalogers to cancel “.A” Cutters existing only in the shelflist if fewer than “several serials” were involved has since been superseded.

Establish an “.A” Cutter for periodicals under a topic only if that arrangement already exists in the shelflist or if the topic is represented by a single number and other forms have already been provided with “.A” Cutters.

When this arrangement exists in the shelflist, continue to use it and establish it in the schedule. Example:

.A3-Z General works