

## PREFACE

The first edition of Class Q, *Science*, was published in 1905. Subsequent editions appeared in 1913, 1921, 1948, 1950, 1973, 1989, 1996, 2004, 2007, 2009 and 2012. This 2018 edition cumulates changes that have been made since the 2017 edition was published.

Classification numbers or spans of numbers that appear in parentheses are formerly valid numbers that are now obsolete. Numbers or spans that appear in angle brackets are optional numbers that have never been used at the Library of Congress but are provided for other libraries that wish to use them. In most cases, a parenthesized or angle-bracketed number is accompanied by a "see" reference directing the user to the actual number that the Library of Congress currently uses, or a note explaining Library of Congress practice.

Access to the online version of the full Library of Congress Classification is available on the World Wide Web by subscription to *Classification Web*. Details about ordering and pricing may be obtained from the Cataloging Distribution Service at:

[<http://www.loc.gov/cds/>](http://www.loc.gov/cds/)

New or revised numbers and captions are added to the LC Classification schedules as a result of development proposals made by the cataloging staff of the Library of Congress and cooperating institutions. Upon approval of these proposals by the editorial meeting of the Policy and Standards Division, new classification records are created or existing records are revised in the master classification database. Lists of newly approved or revised classification numbers and captions are posted on the World Wide Web at:

[<http://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/classification/weeklylists/>](http://www.loc.gov/aba/cataloging/classification/weeklylists/)

Libby Dechman, senior cataloging policy specialist in the Policy and Standards Division, is responsible for coordinating the overall intellectual and editorial content of class Q. Kent Griffiths and Ethel Tillman, assistant editors of classification schedules, create new classification records and their associated index terms, and maintain the master database.

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