## Yearbook Studies in China

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The yearbook entries creates the main framework of yearbook. The entries well arranged, personalized and abundant contents are very important to maintain quality of yearbook. In compiling yearbook, there are both common and specific problems of three types of entries, namely summary entry, recording entry and single entry. Corresponding solution should be made for lack of personality and overall solution should be made for definition and proportion of the three types. To improve quality of yearbook is dependent on which the summary entry is generalized highly and with complete elements, the compilation of recording entry is stable and continuous, and the single entry is varied in materials and flexible in use. Only the arrangement and proportion of the three types being well handled, can the yearbook be valued in its profound recording theoretically, reference function in consultation and abundant contents.

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As an important part of local comprehensive yearbook, picture album is a visual, popular way to help readers to understand the article. It functions effectively as a carrier of recording, education and giving advice in company with the article. The pursuit of par excellence is a basic follow in improving compilation of yearbook, and also a facilitator in earning value of picture album. In order to help improving the quality of picture album of local comprehensive yearbook, by taking the local comprehensive yearbook picture album quality construction as the breakthrough point, this paper values the local comprehensive yearbook picture album, reveals its problems and focuses on path to its development.

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The contents setting is the premise and foundation of yearbook compiling. Only by grasping the framework of contents, can we further the compilation of yearbook. The classification of the contents of yearbooks should not be set mechanically by the functions of the compiling units, but should be classified scientifically and realistically with proper details and omissions, and centralized reasonably. As important contents of local comprehensive yearbook, cultural category is still not normalized in its directories and sub-directories, classification and meanings. The culture can be roughly divided into big culture, middle culture and small culture, and the yearbook contents of culture is the category of middle culture. By analyzing the contents design of the culture category, the author finds that there are inconsistencies and ambiguities in the culture of meanings, classification and groupings of contents. Moreover, there are some common mistakes of formulation in the cultural category, which need to be standardized.

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Take Zhuhai Yearbook as an example, by investigating the changes of cultural contents recorded in the local comprehensive yearbook in the past 35 years, the author finds that there are three stages in the setting of culture category. At an early stage (1986 – 1995), it is characterized by the establishment of parallel categories according to the contributors. In the second stage (1996 – 2005), the relationship between category and suborder has been clarified gradually. In the third stage (2006 – 2020), it is characterized by compiling yearbook in accordance with the regulations and setting up categories carefully. The situation of entries lagging behind the category has changed also. From 1986 to 1999, the entry was set up according to unit profile. From 2001 to 2011, the ideas of entry style was gradually established. From 2012 to 2020, innovation emerged under the norms of compilation. These changes result from the changes of local cultural construction and cultural concepts in the past 35 years. The top-level design and legislation of local chronicles promote the reasonable setting of categories and

the standardized compilation of entries. The local comprehensive yearbook objectively records the development and changes of local culture. In the 5g era, new cultural phenomena and formats are more abundant. So there is still some unfinished business to settle in recording culture for local yearbook.

#### Analysis of the Problems of the Yearbook Information ..... Liu Chuanren (49)

With the completion of the task of "full coverage of yearbook", the transformation and upgrading of yearbook works must be enforced. At present, the outstanding problems in yearbook compiling, especially a lack of complete, accurate and systematic information, have begun to take a heavy toll on yearbook quality and hinder the development of yearbook works. By analyzing the problems and their causes of yearbook information, the author attempts to find a solution. It is a guarantee of high-quality development of yearbook works to have strong systematic opinions, comply with the regulations and check up on the information. In order to function effectively as recorder, educator and adviser, the yearbook should be compiled according to the requirements of refining information by using systematic viewpoint and method, moving with the times, following the regulations and collecting and collating the information effectively.

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At present, there is a growing tendency toward fragmentation and positivism in the theory research of yearbook in China, and the basic research lags behind the development of yearbook. It results from the lack of problem awareness due to the factors such as influence of research ideas of traditional historiography, undeveloped model of yearbook research and inadequate academic training. The following advice may help to provide some direction and methodology for solving the problems of yearbook and raising the theoretical level of yearbook. The first is to establish the problem awareness, the second is to actively carry out theory research such as meta theory, inter-discipline and yearbook comparison between China and abroad, and the third is, in the process of research, to deal with questions and materials, theoretical methods, academic norms, practical research, globalization and localization of yearbooks.