expression, and there is considerable discussion about his experimental Winchester type with its alternate uncial characters. But Tracy cannot resist attacking Dwiggins’s book illustrations, ornaments, and decorations – a topic totally irrelevant to the subject of the book. (Earlier Tracy takes Edward Johnston to task for being exactly what he was: a calligrapher with no extensive practical experience in designing typefaces.)

Tracy’s assessment of Morison’s development of Times Roman contains few diatribes, though the type is found to be ‘well-bred but dull’; here the virtue of plainness that Tracy finds in other types becomes a defect.

The book ends weakly with complaints about the low quality of some current typefaces ‘designed by the incompetent and produced by the cynical.’ Tracy has supplied his own jacket lettering – characterless, clubfooted reworkings of Weiss and Trump – which speak volumes about the refinement and imagination in the work of the designers Tracy criticizes.

Most of us who design enjoy working with the diversity and the communicative potential of letterforms. Letters are endlessly fascinating and life-affirming. But it is hard to get that sense from Tracy’s joyless, mean-spirited book. There is some good practical information herein, but much of Letters of Credit does little credit to its subject.

WILLIAM RUETER
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Hal Draper’s Marx-Engels Cyclopedia is a labour of love. In it, he combines his skills as a former librarian and bibliographer at the University of California, Berkeley, with a life-long devotion to socialism, evident in his many books on the subject, in his former position as editor of Labor Action and of The New International, and as director of the Center for Socialist History at Berkeley. He is also known for his science fiction stories and articles on library science.

The three volumes of the Cyclopedia are intended to fill the lacuna, which Draper has long deplored, in reference works on the history and bibliography of socialism. He remarks in the Glossary, the third volume of the set, that ‘General encyclopedias tend to be defective in treating socialist figures – rather, in not treating them at all,’ and that the Glossary is a ‘partial substitute for the encyclopedia that isn’t there’ (p. xi).

Each volume of the Cyclopedia provides independent access to information about Marx and Engels. Queries about specific dates in their lives are addressed by reference to the volume The Marx-Engels Chronicle: A Day-by-Day Chronology of Marx and Engels’ Life and Activities, a chronologically arranged bio-bibliographical narrative in separately numbered paragraphs (allowing cross-references from the
other volumes) under headings for each month from 1818 to 1895. Each paragraph has a topical heading, some of which are used throughout (e.g., ‘Personal,’ and ‘Political Affairs’), and others that are unique and sometimes delightful (e.g., the heading ‘Shenanigans,’ for June 1836, when Marx was a university student at Bonn).

Access to the publications of Marx and Engels is provided by the three main lists of the volume *The Marx-Engels Register: A Complete Bibliography of Marx and Engels’ Individual Writings*: the works written in collaboration, the works written solely by Marx, and those written solely by Engels. Each list is arranged alphabetically by its English title and given an identifying number to allow for cross-references. Three supplementary checklists of publications in two journals and one encyclopedia are also provided, in addition to three lists of works referred to elsewhere in the *Cyclopedia* sufficiently often to warrant separate listings to save space.

Access to information about persons, places, periodicals, and political organizations relevant to the careers of Marx and Engels is provided through the volume *The Marx-Engels Glossary: Glossary to the Chronicle and Register, and Index to the Glossary*, an annotated index of all proper names used in the companion volumes, with extensive cross-references to them.

Because Draper’s main interest is in the lives of Marx and Engels, the *Cyclopedia’s* heart and soul is the *Chronicle*, with the *Register* and *Glossary* functioning mainly as its supporting volumes. This structure is reflected most clearly in the bibliographical style of the *Register*. It is a finding-aid to Marx’s and Engels’s works, or what G. Thomas Tanselle calls ‘the verbal construction’ embodied in its published physical form, rather than a description of those published physical forms themselves. Familiar bibliographical distinctions serving as the basis for the arrangement of many bibliographies – for example, those between separately published items wholly by the authors, contributions to separate publications by others, contributions to serials, letters, interviews, etc. – as well as distinctions between editions, impressions, issues, and states of books, are masked by a single enumerative format and an exclusively alphabetical arrangement.

Enumerative bibliographies have their place, to be sure, but the format and arrangement of the *Register* make chronological access to the publications, a standard feature of both enumerative and descriptive bibliographies, much more difficult than is suggested by Draper’s remark in his ‘General Introduction’ that the *Chronicle* ‘offers a chronological mode of access to the entries in the Marx-Engels Register’ (p. vii in all three volumes). There are several obstacles to using the *Chronicle* to compile a chronological list of publications.

First, the date of first publication is masked because the location of a citation in the *Chronicle* is determined by the date of composition rather than by the date of publication. For example, in paragraph 15 of 1837 (37:15 in Draper’s notation), the citation #M455 refers to a letter Marx wrote in November 1837 but which was first published posthumously in 1897.

Second, the location of some citations is determined neither by the date of composition nor by the date of publication, but by its place in the narrative. The letter mentioned above, for example, also appears at 36:15, a date that records a new theory of law and jurisprudence that Marx ‘will outline in a letter (#M455).’ At 58:46
the discussion cites #M181, a reference to Marx's *Contribution to the Critique of Political Economy*, first published in 1859.

Third, some citations refer to unpublished items. The citation #M61 at 36:15 refers to an item by Marx described in the *Register* as 'not extant' and later in the *Chronicle* as 'unfinished.' Fourth, the *Chronicle* is limited to 1818 to 1895, from the birth of Marx to the death of Engels. A laborious item-by-item search of the *Register* would be required to find those items first published after 1895. Finally, no dates are provided for some items. At 86:15, it is stated that Engels received an Italian translation of Marx's *Wage-Labor and Capital* (#M968), but the *Register* provides no bibliographical data for it.

Difficulties like these in using the *Chronicle* to compile a chronological list of publications might have justified a chronological arrangement of the *Register*. Its Index would then have greater utility than as a mere accumulation of several lists that are already alphabetized by the same headings.

There are problems of access to some prefaces and other contributions to separate publications by authors other than Marx or Engels. Engels's Introduction to Wolff's *Schlesische Milliarde*, for example, is cited at 86:24, yet this contribution is directly accessible only through the *Register*’s index entry for 'Introduction to [...]’, and indirectly under the *Glossary*’s entry for 'Wolff, Wilhelm' with its reference (among 60 others!) to 86:24. The contribution is not accessible by the title of Wolff's book because it does not appear in the *Register*’s Index.

Draper’s criterion of 'currency' for titles, where a commonly accepted but bibliographically false title is employed, creates another problem of access. Those who know only the correct title are denied access through the index even though the *Register* entry provides it after the commonly accepted title.

Draper's treatment of pagination is a measure of his departure from common bibliographical standards and of his concern with the work. The pagination is not that of the work in question, but of the work as reprinted in the *Marx-Engels Werke*. The rationale is that this practice provides a basis of comparison for the length of articles.

The *Cyclopedia* exhibits other eccentricities that readers may find irritating before they master its formats. For example, *ME* references precede *M* and *E* references in the running heads of the *Register* because the order of the three lists are: (1) publications written jointly by Marx and Engels, (2) works written by Marx, and (3) works written by Engels. The same non-alphabetical order is used in the ‘Sources and Translations,’ where *ST / ME* references precede *ST / M* and *ST / E* references. It is also puzzling why the code for the *Register*’s entries includes ‘#’ as, for example, in #M233. The extra character serves no purpose, and is in fact dropped in long lists of references.

Less easy to master is the extraordinarily compressed presentation of bibliographical data in the *Register*, which has undoubtedly been invented by Draper from the ground up. Even after repeated use, it is an effort for the eye to wade through such a thick typographical soup.

Perhaps it is fitting that a reference work on Marx and Engels should subvert, perhaps even revolutionize bibliographical norms. Yet for all its idiosyncrasies for
bibliographers, the *Cyclopedia* is a massively useful reference work for socialist scholars.

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