December 2015 Features Update

Table of Contents

Illustration Index

Global

The sub-script `common.inc` that performs common initialization for all web page scripts is changed to get the userid and password of the current user from a cookie sent by the browser, rather than maintaining the information in session variables. This provides better protection for the private data of the user.

The classes that implement the method `displayPictures` are changed so that the common implementation of the function is in a class `RecordPic` instead of in the base class Record, which eliminates the need for the other classes to define the class `LegacyPicture`.

The class `LegacyPicture` now exploits the PHP automatic class loading service to avoid including all of the class definitions for which it is used.

The class `User`, which implements common services for instances of a contributor, is changed to perform password validation. The method `User::getUsers` is changed to handle a search for all pending users in the way that the administrator management script expects.

The management script for contributor accounts is improved to only display the action buttons when the account information is presented in input fields.

The menu script for management functions, some of which are available to all contributors, is changed to use the enhanced `User::getUsers` to get the count of the number of pending user registrations.

Family Tree Enhancements

Some interesting causes of death are now explained including the terms "Paris Green" and "Pott's Disease".

When editing the description of a location, which is accessible to all registered contributors from the popup that appears when you hold the mouse over a location name, ensures that the map information has been obtained from the Google geo-location function if the user clicks on the "Get Map" button.

The `ancestorReport.php` and `descendantReport.php` scripts now use cookies rather than sessions to keep track of user preferences.

The script `changeLocations.php` now uses cookies rather than sessions to keep track of user preferences, and uses method=post rather than method=get.

Census Database Enhancements

The implementation of status displays about the census transcription is changed to improve performance by maintaining the statistics in the table of Districts rather than recalculating from the census transcription tables. This speeds up the display of the list of censuses and each of the transcription progress reports. This adds a new method `synchPopulation` to the class District, which is called after each census transcription database update to update the statistics for the current District.

Some initial support for non-Canadian censuses is added.

Vital Statistics Enhancements

When entering the duration of cause of death field in a transcription of a death registration the abbreviations 'y', 'm', 'd', and 'h' are expanded to 'years', 'months', 'days', and 'hours' except if the preceding word in the text is the single digit '1' in which case they are expanded to the singular form.

Bug Fixes

- The method `LegacySurname::getSurnames` returned an incorrect count value.

- The main display page presented by `LegacyIndivid.php` crashed if it encountered a URL with certain unexpected characters.

- The constructor for the class `User` did not handle being invoked with an existing record, and the constructor did a redundant construct from the parameters username or email when it had already done a construct using the record id.

- The common initialization script displayed the error message for an invalid userid and password combination before the HTML header.

- The `Signon.php` script handling of password changes is fixed.

- The `Account.php` script handling of password changes is fixed.

- There was an error in the use of PDO execute in scripts `confirmUserXml.php` and `deleteUserXml.php`.

- There was a conflict between the use of the PHP automatic class loading feature and the explicit definition of the class `User`.

- There was an error in script `reportIndivids.php` in the join of table tblER to tblIR.

- An obsolete alert in `LegacyTemple.js` was removed.

- A number of scripts had missing help popups.

- A instance of a death registration in the `Deaths` table that is created from a citation now has the sex of the individual correctly set.