

ANGLO-CATALAN CONFERENCE, OXFORD 1962.

Summaries of Papers so far received.

Wednesday 12th September, 8.30 p.m.

J. Gulsoy, University of Toronto:

"La lexicografía valenciana."

Nos proponemos destacar el desarrollo de la lexicografía valenciana, refiriéndonos a todos los textos disponibles: desde las primeras compilaciones hasta el último diccionario escrito en el siglo pasado. Nuestro análisis subrayará la importancia de cada texto para su época, la valoración del contenido léxico, los problemas relativos a las fuentes utilizadas, métodos del lexicógrafo, y la influencia del texto sobre los posteriores.

Thursday 13th September, 8.30 p.m.

A.H. Terry, The Queen's University, Belfast:

"The Recent Poetry of Salvador Espriu."

Esriu's recent cycle of poems, La pell de brau (1960), has been generally recognized as one of the most outstanding collections of Catalan poetry since the Civil War. Its major theme - the collective tragedy of the Spanish people - is presented obliquely, through a series of parables taken from the history of the Jews. These determine the nomenclature of the poems (e.g. Spain = Sepharad) and much of their imagery and rhetoric. This paper sets out to examine the stylistic resources of the poems and their relation to Esriu's earlier, more personal work. It will be particularly concerned to show how the poems achieve dramatic tension through the interplay of lyrical, satirical and didactic writing, to form what the author has called "un llibre obert a l'esperança, a l'esperança de la gent honesta i de la joventut".

Friday 14th September, 10.0 a.m.

P. Russell-Gebbett, Nottingham University:

The Preparation of a Chrestomathy of Catalan Medieval Texts.

1. The raison d'être of such a compilation; virtual lack of a reasonably comprehensive collection of medieval texts, literary and non-literary, edited with the student of romance philology in mind.

2. Sources available, published and unpublished; their reliability or lack of it.

3. Transcription and editing of medieval Catalan texts: the problems of word separation and accentuation; shortcomings of the "standard" system of accentuation. The problem of punctuation.

4. The relative value of popular and erudite sources; both increase in interest and value through juxtaposition.

5. Medieval dialectology and Provençal influences; the well-known unity of Medieval Catalan.

6. The form taken by the Chrestomathy prepared by the speaker; selection of texts, critical apparatus, glossary.

Friday 14th September, 11.30 a.m.

F. Pierce, Sheffield University:

"Tirant lo Blanc and the question of realism."

The realism of the Tirant lo Blanc has been noticed since Cervantes made the famous statement: "Dígoos verdad... que por su estilo es este el mejor libro del mundo: aquí comen los caballeros y duermen y mueren en sus camas, y hacen testamento antes de su muerte, con otras cosas de que todos los demás libros deste género carecen." Certain more recent commentators, notably Dámaso Alonso, have been fascinated by these features and it is with one of them, namely the role of sex in this work, that the present paper is concerned. It will be its aim to show that in this respect the Tirant is uninhibited and detailed in a way for which the obvious parallel is not the Decameron, the Romance of the Rose, Chaucer or the Celestina, but rather something like the Golden Ass.

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