

THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

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NOTTINGHAM

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PRG/SS

May 1954.

Dear

On 7th October, 1953 a meeting was held in the Majorca restaurant, Brewer Street, London, W.C.1. under the presidency of Dr. J.M. Batista i Roca. During the course of this meeting there was discussed the possibility of forming in this country a Society for the furtherance of Catalan studies. It was felt that there would be considerable support for this scheme not only among University and other teachers of Spanish and Catalan, but also among those interested in other aspects of the culture of Catalonia.

As a result of the enthusiasm shown by those present it was decided that arrangements should go ahead for the formation of an Anglo-Catalan Society with as wide and representative a membership as might be possible. Consequently, a copy of this letter is being sent to all those known to be interested in one aspect or another of the culture of Catalonia, informing them of the meeting held last October and of the decisions reached there, and asking them for their co-operation.

I would, then, be grateful if you would fill in the enclosed questionnaire and return it to me at your convenience so that a rather more definite idea may be obtained of the number of members such a Society as the proposed might expect, of their particular interests in the Catalan field and of their opinions upon the points tentatively discussed at the meeting in October and reproduced below.

Anglo-Catalan Society. This was the name most favoured by those present at the meeting.

Composition of the Committee. It was felt that the President should be a Professor of one of the Universities of Great Britain, and that there should further be a Secretary, Treasurer and Organizing Secretary.

Subscription. It was felt that a subscription of £1 was ample for ordinary members, but that the opportunity should be given for those who should feel so inclined to become honorary members at an increased subscription. It is anticipated that this proposed subscription level will be sufficient to finance the invitation of at least one speaker every year, whether from Catalonia or from another European country.

Meetings of the Society. It was proposed that these should be held annually in one of the Universities of Great Britain, and that the best time for their holding was during the earlier part of the Christmas vacation at which time the great majority of the members would be in the country. The purpose of the meetings should be among other things the reading of papers and discussion of the work done during the previous year.

Yours sincerely,

P. Russell-Gebbett,
Department of Spanish.