

DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH,  
THE UNIVERSITY,  
SHEFFIELD, 10.



TEL. 27451

28:vi:54

Dear Paul,

A line in a great hurry about our Anglo-Catalan Society. When examining in Belfast last week-end I had some talk about your circular with the local Catalanists (who were delighted that you had got moving if not got Batista moving!). Llubera seemed to think that we should consider changing the character or form of the thing, because he is afraid that the present name may cause people to think it is political rather than cultural and so keep down an already potentially small membership. I don't know what you think of this. He may or may not be right about the actual name but I think there is something to be said ~~xxx~~ for trying to link the society up to a larger organisation eg our Hispanists' Conference. What I have in mind here is that we might think about forming a Catalan section of the Conference to be attended by all interested which would at least be primarily academic and would function at a time and place when and where we could try to draw in the stragglers and even influence the unconverted. The question of allowing non-<sup>academic</sup> Hispanists into it would have to be tackled in the same way as for the Conference as a whole. By the same token there is no reason why a Portuguese section should not also be formed. These sections (if this is the word) need not exist

in vacuo from one another but could coalesce or split up for certain purposes.

I'm putting these thoughts to you for your consideration and for a possible agenda for our next meeting (which I think should be held before the year is out in any case, to discuss this and other matters. The Majorca might again be the rendez-vous). You can mention them to Batista, Llubera and others may write in the same strain. This note of mine is an addendum and correction to my own filled-in circular.

It was very pleasant seeing you again. I trust you have a good summer.

Yours, as ever,

Francis Pierce