

Abstract of the Minutes of a meeting of the Anglo-Catalan Society held in the Majorca Restaurant, Brewer Street, W.1. on Saturday, October 2nd, 1954

Those present included members of staff of the Departments of Spanish of the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, Liverpool, Nottingham and Sheffield, and representatives of the B.B.C. and the Hispanic Council. Mrs. Helen Grant, Girton College, Cambridge, was in the chair.

The Acting Secretary reported in detail upon the response elicited by the circular letters sent out during the months May-July of this year.

In view of the suggestions contained in some of the returned circulars that the A-C.S. might usefully and profitably form a subsection of the proposed Hispanists' Conference, or Association of British Hispanists, a general discussion ensued upon the advantages and disadvantages that any association, complete or in part, of the A-C.S. to the A.B.H. might imply.

As a result of this discussion it was recommended that:

1. The A-C.S. should go ahead with its plans as originally laid down, but should keep the organizing committee of the A.B.H. fully informed of its activities
2. The representatives of the A-C.S. should propose at the A.B.H.'s forthcoming Dundee meeting (April, 1955):
 - (a) that a Catalan section of the A.B.H. be formed, being a part of and enjoying all the privileges of the Conference, with the right to invite speakers and associate members
 - (b) that similar sections be formed devoting themselves especially to Luso-Brazilian, Hispano-American and possibly also to Basque studies.

The following representatives of the A-C.S. were then elected:

President: Professor Frank Pierce (Sheffield)
Secretary: Mr. Paul Russell-Gebbett (Nottingham)
Treasurer: Mr. Geoffrey Ribbans (Sheffield)
Committee members: Dr. J.M. Batista i Roca
Sr. Joan Gili
Professor J. Trueta

A provisional subscription of 10/- was approved, payable at the beginning of each academic year. It was recommended that it should be pointed out in the minutes that the subscription rate will be revised in the event of any fundamental change in the status or aims and activities of the A-C.S., and that

meanwhile it should be understood that the activities of the A-C.S. have begun. It is hoped to arrange an 'acte d'homenatge' in honour of Dr. Carles Riba upon his arrival in this country, probably in the Spring of 1955.

As a result of further discussion by some members of the Committee of the A-C.S., it was decided that there should be laid before the A.B.H. at its constituent meeting in Dundee a proposal whose gist should be:

"In view of the active interest shown in Catalan studies in several British universities and of the recognized place of the subject as an established branch of Hispanic studies, it is proposed that the Hispanists' Conference consider a recommendation that a subsection of the Conference be set up with the aim of co-ordinating the special interests of Catalan studies through discussion and the reading of papers. Such a subsection would normally meet at the same time as the Conference and, like the subsections of the British Association, could hold meetings open to all members of the Conference although primarily intended to cater for the exchange of views of the members especially interested. Such a subsection would abide by and exist within the constitution of the Conference itself and could be required to present a summary of its meetings to the general meeting; it might also be represented as a subsection by one or more of its own committee members on any standing committee of the Conference."

Finally, it is brought to the notice of members and intending members of the A-C.S. that subscriptions for the year 1954-1955 may now be paid to the Treasurer, Geoffrey Ribbons, Department of Spanish, The University, Sheffield, 10.