

THE ANGLO-CATALAN SOCIETY.

FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

JUNE 1959.

REPORT.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ANGLO-CATALAN SOCIETY WAS HELD IN THE INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION COLLEGE ROOMS, LONDON, FROM 17TH TO 19TH APRIL, 1959. TWENTY-SIX MEMBERS WERE PRESENT, AND THE FOLLOWING UNIVERSITIES WERE REPRESENTED: CAMBRIDGE, GLASGOW, LONDON, NOTTINGHAM, OXFORD, SHEFFIELD. THE PUBLIC LECTURE, WHICH HAD BEEN ADVERTISED IN THE "NEW STATESMAN" AND "THE TIMES", DREW A TOTAL AUDIENCE OF SOME 45 PEOPLE, AND 8 NEW MEMBERS JOINED THE SOCIETY DURING THE CONFERENCE.

THE CONFERENCE OPENED WITH A SHERRY PARTY OFFERED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON AT SENATE HOUSE, WHERE SIR DOUGLAS AND LADY LOGAN RECEIVED THE GUESTS ON BEHALF OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR. THE SOCIETY WISHES TO RECORD ITS GRATITUDE FOR THIS KIND HOSPITALITY.

UNFORTUNATELY, PROFESSOR STANLEY M. SAPON, OF THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, U.S.A., WAS UNABLE TO READ HIS ANNOUNCED PAPER ON "A PHONETIC STUDY OF SOME FEATURES OF THE DIALECT OF FELANITX", OWING TO A SUDDEN INDISPOSITION. HIS ABSENCE WAS MUCH REGRETTED. OTHERWISE, ALL PAPERS WERE READ AS SHOWN IN THE PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE ISSUED WITH THE MARCH CIRCULAR, WHICH ALSO INCLUDED PRÉCIS OF THE PAPERS.

THE CONFERENCE WAS HELD UNDER THE GENERAL CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY, PROFESSOR R. B. TATE, OF NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY. AT THE INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS, THE CHAIR WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:-

MR. JOAN GILL, OXFORD, IN THE CHAIR FOR DR. BATISTA I ROCA'S "COM SE RESTAURAREN ELS JOCS FLORALS A BARCELONA EN 1859".

DR. J. M. BATISTA I ROCA, EMMANUEL COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, IN THE CHAIR FOR MR. J. ROBSON'S "CATALAN SEA-POWER IN THE REIGN OF PETER THE CEREMONIOUS".

PROF. R. B. TATE, NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY, IN THE CHAIR FOR THE PUBLIC LECTURE BY MR. J. H. HARVEY ON "CATALAN SPATIAL ARCHITECTURE".

PROF. FRANK PIERCE, SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY, IN THE CHAIR FOR MR. J. H. ELLIOTT'S "CATALAN BANDITRY IN THE EARLY 17TH CENTURY".

PROF. A. A. PARKER, LONDON UNIVERSITY, IN THE CHAIR FOR MR. R. D. F. PRING-MILL'S "THE ANALOGICAL STRUCTURE OF THE LULLIAN ART."

THE WORKING SESSIONS AROUSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST, AND ALL PAPERS WERE FOLLOWED BY LIVELY AND PROLONGED DISCUSSION.

THE CONFERENCE DINNER WAS HELD AT THE MAJORCA RESTAURANT ON SATURDAY, 19TH APRIL IN THE EVENING.

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THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MET DURING THE CONFERENCE AND DISCUSSED WAYS AND MEANS OF CARRYING OUT THE SUGGESTION, CONSIDERED AT THE LAST AGM, THAT ATTEMPTS SHOULD BE MADE TO INTEREST THE BBC THIRD PROGRAMME IN A TALK ON THE JOCS FLORALS, AND THE SECRETARY WAS ASKED TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CONTACTS. THE DRAFTING OF A "HANDOUT" DESCRIBING THE SOCIETY'S AIMS AND ACTIVITIES, WHICH COULD BE CIRCULATED AS PART OF A CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE MEMBERSHIP, WAS ALSO DISCUSSED. FINALLY, SUGGESTIONS WERE CONSIDERED REGARDING THE ORGANIZATION OF FUTURE CONFERENCES, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING THEM BIENNALLY (A POINT WHICH HAD BEEN RAISED AT THE LAST AGM). IT WAS FELT THAT NOTHING WOULD BE GAINED BY SWITCHING FROM AN ANNUAL TO A BIENNIAL VENUE, BUT THAT IT MIGHT BE ADVISABLE TO HOLD THE CONFERENCES REGULARLY IN LONDON, AT LEAST FOR A FEW YEARS, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ANNUAL LUNCHEON. IT IS HOPED TO SUBMIT A DEFINITE PROPOSAL IN THIS SENSE TO THE NEXT AGM FOR CONSIDERATION AND DECISION.

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THE ANNUAL LUNCHEON AND GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD THIS YEAR ON SATURDAY, 3RD OCTOBER. A FURTHER CIRCULAR WILL BE SENT OUT NEARER THE TIME IN THE USUAL WAY.

A. SOLÉ-LERIS,
HON. SECRETARY,
KING'S COLLEGE,
LONDON, W.C.1.