

New 'phone
52186

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My dear Take

I have moved to
another flat, though in the same house, &
my books & papers have been, & some still are,
in a rather chaotic condition. This has brought
further chaos in my work.

The greetings to the Felices are
herewith. Of course, it is only a draft & you
may alter it as much as you like.

The papers offered for the 8th
Conference form an impressive list. I still
had two more offers from young Cambridge
Scholars:

1) - "Lo Nou Testament" by Josep Melcior
Prat (1832) - Paper offered by Miss Tine de

Vries of Amsterdam University & Girton College (Cambridge). She is preparing a Ph. D. thesis on this subject. Probably she will start Catalan studies at Amsterdam in 1963

2) - "The progress of historiography in Catalonia during the 19th century & its influence on shaping Catalan ideals" by David Barrass. He has just won a fellowship in the new Churchill College.

I have not sent the synopsis of my paper because I am not sure of the topic you would prefer: Either "Catalan students at Montpellier University during the 17th & 18th centuries" (a subject on which I am now working: They studied Medicine & Botany. In the late 18th C. they contributed to the ~~the~~ introduction of enlightened ideas & of the seeds of liberalism),

or "How the marriage of Ferdinand & Isabella was arranged" (The schemes of Joan II to seize power in Castile. His bribes to Castilian courtiers to obtain their support to advise Isabella to marry Ferdinand. The important role played by the

Jews. The Jews ~~free~~ of Aragon want to protect the Jews of Castile. The joint affairs of ^{the} La Cavalleria family of Saragossa & ^{The Benveniste family} ~~Abraham~~ ^{Senor} of Burgos. The jewels promised to Isabella by Ferdinand are pawned at Valencia. La Cavalleria give the money to redeem them. Jaime Ram, a Jew from Saragossa, lends the money to Ferdinand for his wedding expenses. Ferdinand goes to Castile in disguise and hides at the house of Abraham Senor in Burgos. The marriage. The falsification of ^{the} a Papal bull. Excommunication of Ferdinand & Isabella)

or, "The Three Renaissances" (The first stirrs of a revival begin to be felt in Catalonia at the end of the 17th century. Fontanella, Felin de la Peña, Salvador, Bastero. L'Acadèmia dels Desconfiats. This Baroque revival is interrupted by the War of the Spanish Succession & the annexation of Catalonia to the Kingdom of Castile. - The second or Neo-Classical renaissance at the end of the 18th cent. The Acadèmia.

Preparation of a Catalan Dictionary. Id. of a Dictionary
of Catalan Writers. Catalan grammar. The "Comunica-
ció Literaria". - Vidal's poem "La glòria en lo Par-
mís", PuigBlanc's poem "El Temple de la glòria".

This revival interrupted by the Peninsula War & the
absolutism of Ferdinand VII - The third or Roman-
tic Renaixença. Aribau. Revolutionary romanticism
& archaeological romanticism. Physical eliminat-
ion of the supporters of the first. The second prevails.)

I understand you are coming to Cambridge
on Monday. We shall then have an opportunity
to discuss what paper seems preferable.

As you know Josep Carner is a candidate to
the Nobel Prize of Literature. I do not think he has
many chances of winning, but we must try. I
wonder whether it would be possible to send a peti-
tion to support him signed by members of British
Universities. To save time I prepared a draft
& we may discuss this matter on Monday.

Meanwhile I enclose copy of a letter sent
to the Swedish Academy against Carner. A mem-

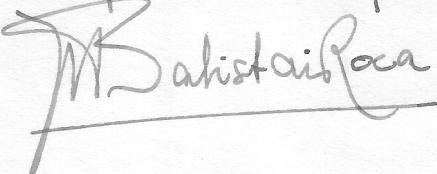
ver of the Academy sent it to Barcelona for
Comments. Of course, the whole thing is confidential.

On the draft of the Constitution I have
only a small comment to make. With the disor-
der in which my papers are now I have not
the text in front of me, but I think it says so-
mething like this "The Annual Conferences
will be the means by which the Society will
foster its aims". Could it say "... one of the
means ...", "the principal mean" ... or some-
thing similar so as to include the scholarship
or any other activity.

I enclose a copy of a report of the Catalan
PEN prepared on the occasion of the recent
session of the PEN International Council at Brus-
sels. Do you think it could be circulated
to members of our Society?

With all best regards

yours sincerely


M. Balistair Roca