

22nd October, 1954

Prof. R. F. Brown,
Department of Spanish,
The University,
LEEDS, 2.

Dear Professor Brown,

Thank you for your letter of 19th October.

There are few comments I feel called upon to make - I find your attitude perfectly understandable and thank you for your sincerity. None the less, I think I should make quite clear one or two points concerning the Anglo-Catalan Society and its members.

The Society was not formed 'quite suddenly', or at least no more suddenly than is formed any other similar society. It had long been the intention of some of us to see that such a society as ours should be formed, and after a long period of deliberation it may be said that our Society came into being in October 1953 - before the Sheffield meeting (and I believe also before the Dundee deliberations).

I think, too, that you have rather misunderstood my use of the word 'separatist'. I should stress that the Society does in no wise consider itself a separatist one; its one fear is that others may thus label it. I can state quite categorically that not one of the members of our Society considers that Catalan studies can in any circumstances be usefully pursued in vacuo; they must surely be considered in their relation to Castilian and Portuguese culture. We are, then, anxious that there should be the fullest possible representation of Catalan studies within the scope of the A. B. H., and that the activities of the two bodies should coincide rather than conflict; we consider that the best way of assuring that there is no conflict is to seek affiliation to the A. B. H. when it is finally constituted. Many of our members will in any event be ipso facto members of the A. B. H., and indeed the constituent

meeting of the A. B. H. will be acting as host to our President, Professor Frank Pierce.

You will appreciate, then, that we see no anomaly at this juncture in the existence of an Anglo-Catalan Society side by side with an at present non-existent A. B. H.; what we would assuredly consider anomalous and harmful would be the refusal of either body to cooperate with the other in the integration of Hispanic studies.

I shall have sent to you in the very near future a copy of the minutes of the foundation-meeting of the Anglo-Catalan Society.

Yours sincerely,

LEWIS S.

Dear Professor Brown,

Thank you for your letter of 12th October.

There are few comments I feel called upon to make - I find your attitude perfectly understandable and thank you for your sincerity. None the less, I think I should make quite clear one or two points concerning the Anglo-Catalan Society and its members.

The Society was not formed 'quite suddenly', or at least no more suddenly than is formed any other similar society. It had long been the intention of some of us to see that such a society as ours should be formed, and after a long period of deliberation it was held that our Society came into being in October 1933 - before the Sheffield meeting (and I believe also before the London deliberations).

I think, too, that you have rather misunderstood my use of the word 'separatist'. I should stress that the Society does in no wise consider itself a separatist one; its one fear is that others may think it so. I can speak quite categorically that not one of the members of our Society considers that Catalan studies can in any circumstances be usefully pursued in vacuo; they must surely be considered in their relation to Castilian and Portuguese culture. We are, then, anxious that there should be the fullest possible representation of Catalan studies within the scope of the A. B. H., and that the activities of the two bodies should coincide rather than conflict; we consider that the best way of ascertaining that there is no conflict is to seek affiliation to the A. B. H. when it is finally constituted. Many of our members will in any event be ipso facto members of the A. B. H., and indeed the consistent