

Minutes of the 34th Annual General Meeting, held at University College, Swansea on 24 September 1988, with the President, Dr Yates, in the chair

Dr Yates announced to the meeting the sad news of the deaths of Society members Dr Tine Barrass and Prof Frank Ll. Harrison, and of Mr Alec Grant, husband of Mrs Helen Grant. The meeting stood to their memory, and to that of Sr Josep Tarradellas.

He also informed the meeting of the sudden illness of the son of Srs Duran, which had prevented them from attending the meeting. He also offered the Society's congratulations to Dr Walker, who has been made a Comendador de la Orden de Isabel la Católica; and to Mrs Helen Grant, who has been awarded the Lazo de Dama de la Orden de Isabel la Católica. Both decorations were given by King Juan Carlos during his recent visit to Cambridge.

1. Apologies for absence

These were received from Prof Ettinghausen, Mrs Grant, Sr López de la Nieta, Prof Ribbans, Sra Rius, Dr Turull, Prof Terry, Sra Roura de Spink, Dr Lang, Prof Cardwell, Dr Sala, Mr Grigg, Sra Edo i Basté, Sr Gasòliba

2. Minutes of previous meeting

These had been circulated, and were accepted as a correct record

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

4. 10th Anniversary of the death of Dr Batista i Roca

Dr Walker informed the meeting of the publication of Víctor Castell's book, *Batista i Roca: acusat i acusador*. He also spoke about the October exhibition mounted by the Centre d'Excursionistes de Catalunya on Batista's life and work to commemorate the tenth anniversary of his death. There is, he said, a move to have a street in Barcelona named after Dr Batista i Roca, and the meeting agreed to send letters to the President of the Generalitat and to the Mayor of Barcelona signed by members who were present at the Swansea meeting, expressing our support for this project

5. President's and Secretary's Report

It was decided to combine the Secretary's Report with that of the President, as there was a good deal of overlap between the two. Dr Yates reported on the project to use Olympus satellite for dissemination of language teaching material. There is a chance that Catalan could be included in this and the organisers know of the Society's interest. The Fundació Bofill was planning to organise a conference on the Civil War

and exile in 1989, and the meeting agreed that the Society's support should be lent to the event.

Dr Yates that Jaume Planas, *cap de serveis* at Omnium Cultural for a long period, was retiring.

There was a lengthy discussion on the question of Catalan *lectorats* in the U.K. There was definitely to be a *lector* at Oxford for 1988-89, and also one to be shared between Salford and Manchester, but there was not to be one at Glasgow and St Andrews. Dr Keown expressed concern that the Society had not been consulted over the issue, and suggested that we made our displeasure known. Dr Walker urged caution, as the matter was at a delicate stage. The meeting agreed to Dr Yates's suggestion that the Officers should organise a sub-committee to monitor the situation, and to express the Society's views where and when it was deemed appropriate.

#### 6. Treasurer's Report

The Hon Treasurer presented the accounts, and received a vote of thanks from the meeting.

#### 7. The New Constitution and the Appeal

Mr Kelly presented his draft constitution to the meeting. Members present were asked to consider the draft document during the coming months, and agreed that all members should receive a copy in the near future. It was hoped that the new Constitution could be agreed at the 1989 AGM, and then sent to the Charity Commissioners for their consideration. This would, it was hoped, be the prelude to the launching of an Appeal.

#### 8. The Scholarship

It was announced that the Josep Sort i Jané, of Barcelona, has been awarded the scholarship which will be tenable for 1988-89. This is to assist him in his work on Batista i Roca's correspondence at the Foreign Office in London.

#### 9. Lectorats

There was no further discussion on this matter, which had been covered under item 5.

#### 10. Election of Officers

Dr Walker wished to resign as Hon Treasurer after 14 years' valuable service in the post, for which he was warmly thanked, and the meeting elected Sra Marta Cardona to stand in his stead. Dr George was reelected as Hon Secretary. Sr Ibarz and Dr Keown were elected to the Committee, to replace Sra Cardona and Mr Kelly, whose term of office had ended.

#### 11. Publications

Dr Yates reported that ACSOP V, his own and Eliseu Trenc Ballester's book on Alexandre de Riquer, had been published, and that ACSOP VI would

be Philip Pollack's translation of Espriu's *Primera història d'Esther*, with an introduction by Antoni Turull. Macmillans, Dr Yates reported, were no longer interested in the Balcells *History of Catalonia*, but several other publishers were: the most promising of these seemed to be Yale UP. It was reported that cooperation was being sought with the Institute of North American Studies who have published Espriu's *Sinera Cemetery*. The meeting expressed a vote of thanks to Dr Yates, and to Srs Duran for their work in selling the Society's publications in the PPCC, and at the recent AILLC conference at Toulouse.

#### 12. Future meetings

Dr Yates reported that the Molt Honorable President de la Generalitat, Sr Jordi Pujol, would address the Society at a special meeting in London on 10 December. It was hoped to hold the meeting at the London School of Economics, and that a circular would be sent to all members nearer the date by Dr Walker (who had agreed to continue making the arrangements with the Generalitat on behalf of the Society).

The meeting agreed that the 25th Annual Meeting of the Society should be held in London during the second weekend of November, 1989, and that the London School of Economics would be examined as a possible venue.

It was agreed to accept Dr Ruiz Veintemilla's offer to organise the 1990 meeting at the University of Durham.

#### 13. AOB

Dr Walker drew the meeting's attention to the publication of a new German journal, *Revista d'Estudis Catalans*, whose editors were keen to receive articles for publication.