

BRO NEVEZ



INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE BRETON LANGUAGE
NEWSLETTER OF THE U.S. BRANCH



VENTS D'OUEST



Breton musicians and instrument makers in the U.S.
see pages 17-19.

KUZUL ETREVROADEL EVIT KENDALC'H AR BREZHONEG

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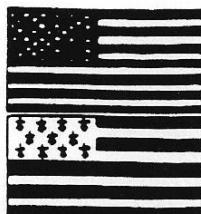
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FROM THE EDITOR:

As you will note by the 1991 Membership form enclosed it is time to renew your membership for 1991. Please don't wait for the reminder!

I would like to thank all 1990 members for your support of the ICDBL and the Breton language and culture. We are a unique group. Although there are some Bretons among our membership and subscribers we are **not** a Breton-American organization. We are people of North America who are concerned about the fate of the Breton language and the culture related to it. Through our newsletter we help stay informed and learn about Brittany--past and present. **Bro Nevez** is Breton for "new country" and through our work--limited as it is--we hope to support Bretons working to renew the use of the Breton language in Brittany and to keep it healthy.

Please continue to show support for the Breton language by renewing your membership in 1991, and by introducing **Bro Nevez** and the work of the ICDBL to others.

DIWAN

Lois Kuter

There is good news to report on Diwan's efforts to win the French state's support and official recognition, but like all advances in Breton language education--in public and private schools alike--the advance is small, won only after a tremendous amount of hard labor on Diwan's part. In the new agreement with National Education Diwan has the status of a cultural association which will run the schools. Starting in September 1990 the National Education system covers 51.5 teaching positions in their contract with Diwan. The salaries are, however, at the lowest possible level for teacher trainees, regardless of the years of experience Diwan teachers may have. Thus, Diwan must supplement salaries by as much as one-third.

Additionally, Diwan must organize the training of future teachers on its own. This remains a challenge given the lack of programs for training Breton language teachers in the regular teacher training programs. Problems of piecing together an effective training program which the French state will recognize continue. And, Diwan continues to buck the system in refusing to have 50% of the Diwan school curriculum in the French language. Financially, the contract is a great help in funding most of the teachers' salaries, but the huge debts Diwan has accumulated still remain and no action has been taken as yet by the Regional and Departmental Councils to cover these.

Diwan will continue to struggle in an educational system in France which has only grudgingly let them in--and only because of persistence on the part of Diwan parents and teachers, and pressure from local elected officials in Brittany who have had the courage (yes, unfortunately, it does take some courage) to support the Breton language.

Diwan administrators remain optimistic and firm in their resolve to continue to open new Breton language classes and to improve the quality of the Breton-language education now provided to some 700 students. In 13 year, the support gained from the French state has not been great, but the newly signed contract is a definite step forward given the attitude of the National Education system just two years ago that Diwan was "handicapping" children.

Écoles Diwan : la fin du conflit L'État va payer les maîtres

ouest France
28-29/7/90

Les enseignants des écoles Diwan rentrent dans le giron de l'Éducation nationale. C'est le point essentiel de la convention signée vendredi soir à Rennes, entre le recteur d'académie et le président des écoles bretonnes. 51,5 postes seront payés par l'État. Diwan devra se transformer en association culturelle.

La convention signée hier entre le recteur d'académie et le président de l'association Diwan met fin à treize ans de déclarations, de motions et de manifestations. Les écoles Diwan (600 élèves et plus d'une cinquantaine de classes) bénéficieront du même statut que les écoles basques, occitanes et catalanes. Au terme de cette convention, l'État s'engage à verser les salaires de 51,5 postes d'instituteurs. Ceux-ci auront le statut de maîtres contractuels de l'État pendant trois ans, renouvelable une fois. Ils devront mettre cette période à profit pour passer le concours d'instituteurs. « C'est un effort financier considérable de la part de

l'État, souligne le recteur d'académie. Sa participation va passer de 2,3 millions à 5,5 millions. »

Souci d'apaisement

Le ministre de l'Éducation nationale a débloqué la situation après avoir consulté les élus locaux. Le protocole d'accord signé en avril 1988 pouvait en effet durer encore deux ans. « Le ministre a pris cette décision dans un souci d'apaisement et pour mettre l'enseignement des langues régionales sur un pied d'égalité dans notre pays » précise le recteur.

Diwan et le rectorat ont convenu d'un commun accord de créer une commission par-

taire de suivi de la convention. Elle étudiera la conception pédagogique, les mutations des enseignants avant de les présenter aux instances officielles de l'académie. Pour toutes ces questions, les inspecteurs d'académie auront compétence comme dans toutes les écoles publiques.

Les dettes de Diwan

Le président de Diwan se félicite de cette solution, mais regrette qu'il ait fallu sept mois pour en arriver là. Il a toutefois émis deux réserves : « L'État paiera nos instituteurs à l'indice de suppléants, ce qui nous obligera à verser le complément de salaire. La

convention ne prend pas en compte la formation des futurs instituteurs », déplore-t-il.

Reste le problème des dettes de l'association. Les cinq conseils généraux et le conseil régional de Bretagne s'engageraient à payer les six millions dus au titre des charges sociales sur le salaire des maîtres. Quant au déficit d'exploitation de cette année, entre deux et trois millions, les responsables de Diwan espèrent trouver des solutions locales. A partir du mois de septembre, Diwan aura changé de statut et de mission. Elle se transformera en association culturelle.

François DANCHAUD.

Ouest France 3 Sept. 1990

Bretagne

Une association privée dans le public Diwan change de statut

Depuis longtemps, Diwan réclamait la prise en charge par l'Éducation nationale des salaires de ses instituteurs... C'est chose faite avec la convention signée le 27 juillet entre le recteur d'académie et le président des écoles bretonnes. Restait alors à préciser le statut de Diwan dans cette nouvelle distribution des rôles : une association culturelle, qui entretient un filot privé dans la fonction publique.

BREST. — Treize ans que Diwan existe et propose un enseignement bilingue, français-breton. Autant d'années à réclamer une aide financière de l'État, à coups de manifestations, de graffiti ou de discussions. Les membres de Diwan ne lésinaient pas sur les moyens. Et depuis plusieurs mois, les relations de l'école avec l'Éducation nationale étaient particulièrement tendues. Elle réclamait le même traitement que les autres écoles régionales, corses, occitanes, catalanes ou basques : une prise en charge complète de ses instituteurs par l'État. Elle l'obtient le 27 juillet.

Samedi, Diwan a tenu une assemblée générale extraordinaire, au centre An Oaled de Tréglonou, dans le Finistère, afin d'entériner l'accord conclu fin juillet et modifier ses statuts.

« Je n'ai pas encore le recul nécessaire pour juger le chemin parcouru en treize ans, confie Youn Bodennec, président de l'association. Nous sommes maintenant un type d'enseignement reconnu et géré par l'Éducation nationale. Alors qu'il y a deux ans, celle-ci nous démolissait. » Handi-

capant pour les enfants », disait-elle.

Du point de vue pédagogique, rien de nouveau. Des cours dans les deux langues. Les mêmes instituteurs. Ce qui change, c'est l'aspect juridique. Diwan devient « association culturelle », qui collabore avec l'Éducation nationale. « Elle s'occupe de la gestion. Les compétences, c'est nous et nous seuls. Tout le savoir-faire technique, pédagogique, c'est Diwan. »

Quatre classes privées

Résultat : des mélanges entre secteurs privé et public assez surprenants. Une école publique dans des locaux privés qui appartiennent à l'association. Des enseignants fonctionnaires qui perçoivent pourtant un complément de salaire par Diwan. Car la nouvelle grille les considère comme des stagiaires, sans tenir compte de leur ancienneté.

Certains même sont entièrement payés par l'association. « Il y aura quatre classes privées à la rentrée. Parce que nous avons obtenu cinquante et un postes et demi, alors que nous fonctionnons avec



Youn Bodennec, président de Diwan, et Michel Tallec, chargé des relations extérieures.

quatre de plus. Nous sommes aussi obligés de prendre en charge les remplaçants en cas de maladie. »

Complètement satisfait les Diwan ? Pas tout à fait. La formation des maîtres n'est pas prévue par l'Éducation nationale et la convention ne prend effet qu'à partir du 10 septembre, sans rétroaction à janvier 1990...

Ça fait des sous à tout ça. « Mais nous avons maintenant de l'expérience en matière de trésorerie. Et nous retournons surtout les aspects positifs. La Loire-Atlantique n'est pas exclue de cette convention. Et puis nous avons fini par l'emporter. L'Éducation nationale a signé contrainte et obligée. »

Emmanuelle MÉTIVIER.

Editor's Note: I receive a number of press clippings concerning Diwan and bilingual education in Brittany. Please contact me if you would like photocopies of information to supplement the news printed in *Bro Nevez*.

Additionally, I have collected articles and bibliographic materials on a number of subjects and would be happy to provide information for the cost of photocopying and postage.

APEEB report on bilingual education

The following is a report on bilingual programs in the public schools of Brittany prepared by the **Association des Parents d'Elèves pour l'Enseignement du Breton** (Association of Students' Parents for the Teaching of Breton). Reprinted alongside the report are some press clippings reporting on the APEEB General Assembly and lingering problems to be solved to guarantee that Breton children have access to Breton classes.

Report of September 16, 1990

**500 bilingual students in 1990,
10,000 for the year 2000!**

Assembled in Landerneau on September 15, 1990, for the General Assembly, the parents of the APEEB have the following conclusions on the conditions facing children involved in Breton language programs in the public schools of the National Education for the new school year.

Community	Levels	No. of Students
Cavan (Côtes d'Armor)	preschool	16
Lannion (Côtes d'Armor)	preschool, primary & secondary	129
Landerneau (Finistère)	preschool, primary	24
Pontivy (Morbihan)	preschool, primary & secondary	35
Lanester (Morbihan)	preschool, primary	67
Rostrenen (Côtes d'Armor)	preschool, primary	48
Rennes (Ille-et-Vilaine)	primary & secondary	80
Saint-Rivoal (Finistère)	preschool, primary	25
Brec'h (Morbihan)	preschool, primary	31
Trégastel (Côtes d'Armor)	preschool	13
Douarnenez (Finistère)	preschool, primary	36

Ouest-France 18 sept. 1990

Bonne santé des écoles bilingues

La formation des maîtres ne suit pas

LANDERNEAU. - 370 élèves en 1989, 503 cette année. Les écoles publiques bilingues bretonnes se portent bien. Mais les parents d'élèves — réunis en assemblée générale samedi à Landerneau — regrettent que l'évolution ne soit pas encore plus rapide. Des demandes d'ouvertures de classes restent insatisfaites à Quimper, Pont-Scorff et Guidel notamment. Dans d'autres écoles, les classes sont surchargées faute de création de postes.

L'association des parents (1) peut quand même se féliciter de l'ouverture d'une deuxième classe à Douarnenez et à Landerneau. Une satisfaction tempérée par le fait qu'à Landerneau, par exemple, il n'est pas certain que ce soit un enseignant bilingue qui occupe le poste. L'éducation nationale pourrait nommer un instituteur parlant uniquement le français. L'enseignement serait partagé entre les deux maîtres : l'un officierait en français dans les deux classes, l'autre en breton. Car les enseignants bilingues ne sont pas assez nombreux, il

n'existe en effet aucune formation spécifique dans l'Éducation nationale. C'est de cela que les parents veulent s'entretenir avec le recteur d'académie qu'ils doivent rencontrer prochainement. Ils lui parleront aussi du suivi de l'enseignement bilingue dans les collèges et les lycées. « Chaque enfant quittant l'école élémentaire doit trouver, dans la même ville, un collège où il pourra poursuivre sa formation en breton et en français » exigent les parents.

C'est à cette condition que sera atteint l'objectif des 10 000 élèves dans les dix ans, tel que l'a fixé leur hôte, Jean-Pierre Thomin, maire de Landerneau et père de deux élèves bilingues.

(1) Association des parents d'élèves pour l'enseignement du breton (APEEB). Président : Jean-Yves Broudic, 99 78 17 71. Elle organise les 27 et 28 octobre, à Douarnenez, la 4^e rencontre nationale sur l'enseignement des langues régionales dans l'enseignement public.

Ouest France 11 Sept. 1990

L'enseignement du breton : 12 000 élèves dans l'académie

Les écoles privées Diwan, désormais intégrées à l'Education nationale (plus de 600 élèves), ne sont pas les seules à pratiquer l'enseignement du breton même si leur originalité pédagogique (immersion dans la langue, apprentissage retardé du français) les distingue des établissements publics. Dans celui-ci, des cours sont en place de la maternelle au bac. L'an dernier, ils se sont adressés à plus de 11 000 élèves (sur 630 000 inscrits dans l'académie de Rennes).

Dans le primaire, l'Education nationale comptait l'an dernier en Bretagne 20 classes bilingues suivies par 340 enfants, dont 150 en maternelle.

1800 élèves dans l'enseignement pré-élémentaire, 3 750 du cours préparatoire à la fin du primaire ont suivi les cours de langue et culture bretones dispensés dans 150 écoles par 240 enseignants.

Dans les collèges, trois établissements offraient l'an

dernier des classes bilingues (à Lannion, Quimper Kermoyan et Rennes-Zola) groupant au total 38 élèves. 1995 potaches suivait des cours facultatifs de breton, 188 ont opté pour le breton comme seconde langue en quatrième.

Au lycée, 165 adolescents suivaient les cours de breton deuxième langue, 280 en option troisième langue, plus de 500 comme enseignement facultatif.

Avec les lycées professionnels, ce sont au total 3 613 jeunes qui étaient intéressés par l'enseignement du breton entre la sixième et le bac, dont un tiers dans le Finistère et deux autres tiers répartis dans les Côtes d'Armor et le Morbihan, la part de l'Ille-et-Vilaine ne dépassant pas 280 élèves.

Deux dates à retenir pour l'enseignement du breton : la charte culturelle présentée par Valéry Giscard d'Estaing en 1977 à Ploërmel ; la loi Savary de 1983.

The APEEB - continued

The following conclusions are drawn in reference to the above chart.

- The total number of students in bilingual classes is 504, an increase of 134 or 37%.
- This increase has been possible despite the fact that no new schools have opened in Brittany.
- Thus, it is due to the opening of new classes and the general increase of the number of students in preschools or in the C.P. of primary schools.
- This forward evolution confirms the success of these sections and the positive appreciation given them by parents.
- In the past two years the numbers have doubled, which allows the realistic projection that in the ten years to come 10,000 students will be taught in a bilingual education program--the objective proposed by Mayor of Landreneau, Mr. Jean-Pierre Thomin, who honored us with his presence at the assembly of APEEB delegates.
- Additionally, one can note that in many communities the number of students in bilingual classes is considerable and sometimes the majority of students enrolled in public schools. In several situations the number reaches several dozen, demolishing ideas about "minority" languages in small schools.

While this situation shows the permanence of the need for bilingual education, when it comes to the National Education offering this teaching, the problems linked to an insufficient number of trained bilingual teachers persist. In fact, in several schools the growth of students requires the creation of new classes and the appointment of a new teacher. But, as things now stand in Douarnenez, Rostrenen, Lanester and Landreneau, parents are still waiting for this appointment. If in certain school these positions have been created, it seems all the more contradictory that the local branches of the National Education are not keeping up in naming the necessary competent teachers to the posts. This underlines the urgency of a program to train bilingual teachers in Brittany--in the future IUFMs, and

Progression dans les classes bilingues breton-français

VANNES. — L'évolution la plus étonnante des effectifs scolaires sera enregistrée cette année dans l'enseignement bilingue breton-français. Ils passeront de 108 à 247 élèves en maternelle et primaire avec seulement deux créations de classes pour l'instant. Mais parents et enseignants font le forcing pour obtenir deux classes supplémentaires à Lanester et deux ouvertures à Guidel.

L'an dernier, les écoles bilingues étaient dans le public, Brech (19 élèves), Pontivy (29), Lanester (30) et, dans le privé, « Diwan de Lorient » (30). Au total, 108 élèves dans huit classes.

A la rentrée 90, on enregistre deux nouvelles classes dans le privé catholique à Saint-Guen de Vannes. Ces ouvertures se font sans création de poste. Il s'agit d'un transfert, sur la dotation globale de l'enseignement privé sous contrat, du secondaire au premier degré. Une trentaine d'enfants sont attendus dans ces deux classes (une maternelle, une primaire).

Rentrée difficile à Lanester

Avec ces ouvertures, on passe de 8 à 10 classes bilingues. Les effectifs évoluent beaucoup plus spectaculairement : Brech passe à 31 élèves, Pontivy à 34 (dont trois au collège), Lanester à 82 (au lieu de 30), Diwan Lorient à 40 (avec quelques enfants sur liste d'attente

Le Télégramme 18 Sept. 1990

Ecole bilingue

Il manque des classes et des maîtres

Favoriser le développement des écoles publiques bilingues (français-breton) en Bretagne, tel est l'objectif de l'APEEP (Association des parents d'élèves pour l'enseignement du breton) qui tenait son assemblée générale annuelle, samedi, au centre culturel de Kéran-don, à Landreneau.

Optimiste et déterminée... c'est ainsi que l'on peut qualifier la position des quelque 20 membres qui ont participé à cette journée. En effet, les 10 classes bilingues réparties sur les quatre départements bretons ont enregistré à la rentrée, 133 inscriptions supplémentaires portant ainsi à 503 le nombre d'élèves qui suivent dès la maternelle un enseignement bilingue. Mais qui dit effectifs supplémentaires, dit aussi création de classes et formation d'instituteurs bilingues, deux problèmes majeurs autour desquels ont tourné les débats.

Créer de nouvelles classes

Dans le Finistère, pas une des trois écoles bilingues n'a pu obtenir réellement ce qu'elle exigeait : à Landreneau, le nombre des effectifs a doublé en trois ans, atteignant aujourd'hui 24 élèves. Il manque un enseignant bilingue ; à Douarnenez, classe et maître manquent pour les 36 élèves inscrits cette année ; à Saint-Rivoal, idem ; Quimper souhaiterait une ouverture de classe mais les décisions sont « bloquées »... Dans le Morbihan, l'école à Pont-Scorff fonctionne bien mais sans enseignant ! Ce sont les parents qui se chargent d'assurer les cours. A Bréch, 31 élèves n'ont qu'un seul maître ; à Guidel, le directeur de l'école a reçu 27 demandes d'inscription mais il n'y a pas de classe. Les 48 élèves de Rostrenen (Côtes-d'Armor) auraient besoin d'une troisième classe. Seule l'école de Lannion est à l'heure actuelle relativement bien pourvue en classes comme en enseignants et ses 157 élèves continuent même l'étude du breton en sixième.

L'association des parents d'élèves, créée dans l'académie de Rennes il y a une dizaine d'années, a demandé une audience au recteur pour obtenir l'ouverture de nouvelles classes mais surtout pour demander qu'une réelle formation soit dispensée aux maîtres.

L'assemblée s'est achevée par l'élection du bureau de l'APEEP, Jean-Yves Broudic étant élu à la présidence de l'association.

Pour tous renseignements, contacter Caroline Trouin, BP6, 29172 Douarnenez Cedex, tél. 98.92.28.10 ou Jean-Yves Broudic, tél. 99.78.17.71.

d'hui on leur annonce les ouvertures espérées.

Si l'évolution des effectifs en Morbihan est spectaculaire, toute la Bretagne progresse : on passera de 1100 à 1400 élèves dans l'ensemble des classes bilingues, soit une augmentation de 30 %.

Ouest-France 7 Sept. 1990

The APEEB - continued

in the short run, a training at the end of the Ecole Normale. This action for training is equally justified by the absence of beginner's classes for Breton in the first level of various schools: in Ponstscorff (Morbihan) parents have been asking for this for four years and teaching classes themselves; in Trégor several dozen children previously in classes have been deprived of continuing them since the itinerant teacher who moved to different schools of the area to teach has not been replaced since his departure in September 1989.

The APEEB points out also that new requests to open bilingual schools will come about during the course of the year (as is now happening in Guidel, Morbihan), and that parents have decided to act to obtain official recognition of the right to Breton teaching for their children.

At the secondary level, bilingual teaching is being pursued at the "colleges" of Lannion, Rennes and Quimper, with Breton classes and the teaching of various subjects (such as history and geography, music and art) through the medium of Breton. But, they are still waiting for the art teacher in Lannion. Additionally, the survey the APEEB did in the department of Loire-Atlantique in secondary schools showed that 500 students wanted to take Breton--a demand to be met by the Recteur d'Académie (of Nantes)* by creating just one auxilliary teaching post, while another post for a certified teacher is necessary. The APEEB demands the creation of this post in Loire-Atlantique.

* The Academy of Rennes is the subdivision for National Education which encompasses schools in four departments of Brittany: Ille-et-Vilaine, Morbihan, Côtes d'Armor and Finistère. Loire-Atlantique is arbitrarily cut off from the official "region" of Brittany defined by France and also has a different Academy for its schools--that based in Nantes.

La Liberté du Morbihan 8 Sept. 1990

Classes bilingues : un second poste créé à Lanester

LORIENT. - Ce devait être un point de discorde pour la rentrée scolaire. Il vient d'être réglé et annulé de fait le mot d'ordre de manifestation lancé pour Vannes aujourd'hui s'en trouve annulé. L'association des parents d'élèves pour l'enseignement du breton à Lanester, qui annonçait dans ses prévisions 82 enfants désirant apprendre le breton dans des classes bilingues, a été informée hier en fin de journée par l'inspection d'académie qu'un second poste de professeur de breton venait d'être budgétialement créé.

Si les parents restent vigilants, en attendant que cette nouvelle se traduise dans les faits (cette création passe en commission jeudi prochain), ils exprimeront hier soir leur satisfaction, le problème devant être réglé dans les tous prochains jours. Jeudi soir, en inscriptions fermées, ils comptaient 27 élèves en primaire à l'école Eugénie Cotton et 39 en maternelle à l'école Romain Rolland. Par contre, aucune réponse n'a été apportée aux doléances des Guidélois, pour un poste semblable et des Scorbi-pontins pour un poste d'enseignant itinérant.

La Liberté du Morbihan
8 Sept. 1990

Manifestation pour la nomination d'enseignants de breton à Nantes

Une enquête réalisée par l'Association des Parents d'Elèves pour l'Enseignement du Breton (A.P.E.B.) en Loire-Atlantique, auprès de la moitié des élèves du secondaire du public, établit que 558 élèves ont demandé à bénéficier d'un enseignement de breton.

Plusieurs postes de professeurs sont nécessaires pour répondre à cette demande. Or rien n'a encore été prévu à la veille de la rentrée.

Dans les collèges du département, le breton est la langue facultative la plus choisie : quatre fois plus que l'anglais, trois fois plus que l'allemand « le pouvoir ne peut pas refuser d'y faire face, quand il accorde

trois professeurs de portugais et autant de russe pour moins de cent élèves », assure l'Union des Enseignants Bretons.

Pour dénoncer cette inertie administrative, voire la mauvaise volonté de l'Education Nationale, l'A.P.E.B. Dazont (le syndicat des étudiants et lycéens pour l'enseignement du breton) et Unvaniezh ar Gelennen Brezonneg (l'Union des enseignants de breton) appellent à manifester devant le rectorat de Nantes, mercredi 12 septembre à 16 h.

Si c'était insuffisant, d'autres manifestations seront organisées et la justice pourrait même être saisie.

Press-Océan 6 Sept. 1990

Enseignement du Breton : les parents se mobilisent

Réunis mardi soir à Nantes, les parents d'élèves de l'APEEB (Association de Parents d'Elèves pour l'Enseignement du Breton), devaient faire le point sur la mise en place des enseignements facultatifs de breton sur la mise en place des enseignements facultatifs de breton dans les lycées et collèges de Loire-Atlantique pour l'année scolaire 90/91. Leurs représentants ont fait savoir qu'aucune information sur le sujet n'a pu être obtenue du Rectorat d'Académie.

Les parents rappellent qu'un enquête, réalisée par leurs soins au cours du premier trimestre, a permis de recenser 559 demandes, « qui doivent normalement

se traduire par la mise en place de l'enseignement du breton dans une quinzaine d'établissements du département ».

Ils ont indiqué par ailleurs qu'un professeur certifié de breton, enseignant à Vannes, avait demandé son affectation en Loire-Atlantique. Rien ne s'oppose donc selon eux, à la satisfaction immédiate des besoins dans les établissements où la demande est la plus forte.

Les parents de l'APEEB qui se prévalent du soutien de plusieurs parlementaires du département entendent développer plusieurs actions. Une première manifestation est prévue le mercredi 12 septembre à 16 h devant le Rectorat.

The APEEB - continued

The delegates of APEEB have also put together the colloquium on regional languages in public schools to take place in Douarnenez, October 27 and 28 (see below). This gathering will allow a comparison of the French educational system with those of other European countries.

At the end of the General Assembly, the delegates present expressed the desire for collaboration with parents of Diwan children and those of children in private Catholic schools (where Breton classes have opened in Vannes and Guisseny) to develop bilingualism in Brittany and to work in common on projects such as teacher training, the development of pedagogical materials and the organization of a festival for bilingual children.

div yezh er skol / l'école bilingue

4vet KENDIVIZ
A-ZIVOUT KELENNADUREZH
AR YEZHOU-RANNVRO
ER SKOLIOU PUBLIK

4^e RENCONTRE NATIONALE
SUR L'ENSEIGNEMENT DES
LANGUES RÉGIONALES
DANS LES ÉCOLES PUBLIQUES

Douarnenez 27-28 octobre 90

Colloque organisé par :

• la **FLAREP**

Fédération pour les Langues Régionales dans l'enseignement public

31, rue Oberlin - 67000 STRASBOURG

• L'APEEB

Association des Parents d'Elèves pour l'Enseignement du Breton

B.P. 2507 - 35025 RENNES Cédex

Aozet eo ar c'hendiviz gant :

- ar **FLAREP**

(Kevrediged evit ar yezhou-rannvro er skolioù-stad)

→

- **KTKB**

(Kevrediged an tiegezhioù evit kelennadurezh ar brezhoneg)

B.P. 2507 - 35025 RENNES Cédex

RENSEIGNEMENTS :
TITOUROU DIGANT :

• Caroline TROUIN

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édito

Le plurilinguisme est l'une des caractéristiques de la culture européenne. Dans les douze pays de la Communauté Européenne, 40 millions de citoyens pratiquent quotidiennement une langue autre que la langue d'Etat. Ces langues représentent un capital historique pour la formation des générations futures et l'école constitue un enjeu important dans cette perspective.

La demande des parents d'élèves d'un enseignement des langues régionales est diversement prise en charge par les systèmes éducatifs. En France, il existe deux formes d'enseignement :

- des cours de langues dans le premier degré (initiation), ou dans le second degré (LV2, LV3), ils concernent 140 000 élèves, dont 10 000 en Bretagne ;
- un enseignement bilingue où les langues régionales sont utilisées dans la vie quotidienne des classes et comme langue d'enseignement de différentes matières ; le nombre d'enfants scolarisés dans les écoles publiques est de 100 en Occitanie, 500 en Bretagne et de 800 au Pays Basque.

L'apprentissage scolaire des langues régionales n'est pas en concurrence avec l'enseignement des langues étrangères. Au contraire, le bilinguisme précoce est favorable à l'acquisition rapide d'autres langues, il favorise l'ouverture vers d'autres pays.

La quatrième rencontre nationale de la F.L.A.R.E.P. (Fédération pour les Langues Régionales dans l'Enseignement Public) se propose :

- de faire le point sur la situation de cet enseignement dans l'Education Nationale
- de présenter les acquis de différents pays européens
- d'être un lieu de débats sur le sens de cet enseignement à l'aube du XXI^e siècle.

Liesyezhek eo sevenadur Europa : 40 milion a geodedourien a ra bemdez gant ur yezh disheñvel diouzh ar yezh stad, en daouzek bro eus ar Gumuñiez Europat.

Un teñzor istorel divent eo ar yezhou-se evit stummañ ar rummadoù da zont hag a-bouez bras eo ar skol er c'héñver-se.

Goulennoù kerent ar vugale evit o c'helennadurezh a vez dalc'het kont anezho e lies-doare gant ar sistemoù deskadurezh. E Bro-Frañs ez eus daou vod :

- kentelioù er c'hentañ hag en eil derez heuliet gant 140 000 skoliad, 10 000 anezho e Breizh ;
- klasou divyezhek a implij ar yezh er vuhez pemdeziek hag evit kelenn a bep seurt danvezioù : 100 krouadur en Okitania, 500 e Breizh hag 800 e Bro Euskadi a zo skoliataet en doare-se.

Deskiñ ur yezh-rannvro er skol ne ya ket a-enep deskiñ yezhou estren. Er c'ontroll, pa vez boas abred ur bugel ouch daou zoare sonjal, e vez c'hoant gantañ anavezout broiou ha yezhou all.

Pevare kendiviz broadel ar F.L.A.R.E.P. (Kevrediged evit ar yezhou-rannvro er skolioù-stad) a zo e bal :

- reñ da anaout e peseurt stad emañ kelennadurezh ar yezhou-rannvro en Deskadurezh-Stad,
- diskouez ar perzhioù-mat a zo gant meur a vro all en Europa war an dachenn-se,
- bout ul lec'h prederiañ diwar-benn talvoudegezh kelenn ar yezhou-rannvro war dreuzoù ar c'hentañ kantvet warn-ugent.



INTERVENANTS*

- M. Brian BOLGUER, Professeur à SUPDECO de Montpellier, Président du Centre Culturel Irlandais de Montpellier
 Mme Odile CIHIGOYENETCHE, de l'Association des Parents d'Elèves IKAS-BI au Pays Basque
 M. Jean-Yves COZAN, Député du Finistère, Premier Vice-Président du Conseil Général
 M. Thierry DELOBEL, Président d'IKAS-BI, Président de la FLAREP
 M. Yves DOLLO, Député des Côtes d'Armor
 M. Jacques FUSINA, Président du Conseil de la Culture, de l'Éducation et du Cadre de vie en CORSE
 M. Lukian KERGOAT, Professeur de Breton à l'Université de Haute Bretagne
 M. Jean-Yves LAGADEG, éditions AN HERE, éditions en langue bretonne pour les enfants
 M. Loïc LAURENT, Directeur régional de l'INSEE
 M. Pierre LE TREUT, Vice-Président du Conseil Régional de Bretagne
 M. Gerald MORGAN, de l'Université d'Aberystwyth, Pays de Galles
 M. Donald O'RIAGAN, Secrétaire Général du Bureau Européen pour les langues moins répandues
 M. Joan Jaume PROST, Président de l'Association des Parents d'Elèves pour l'enseignement du Catalan
 Mme Jantsje SIKMA, de l'Académie de Frise
 M. Pavel STRANJ, de l'Institut de Recherche Slovène à Trieste
 M. Bassam TAHHAN, Vice-Président du Département des Langues de l'École Polytechnique
 M. Pierre-Yvon TREMEL, Député des Côtes d'Armor, Vice-Président du Conseil Général
 M. Jean-Marie WOEHLING, Magistrat, du Cercle René SCHIKELE en Alsace

et :

- l'Union des Enseignants de Breton (U.G.B.)
- l'A.P.L.E.C. (Association Pour l'Enseignement du Catalan)
- la F.E.L.C.O. (Fédération pour l'Enseignement de la Langue et la Culture d'Oc)
- un représentant de la Catalogne Sud

* Sous réserve

DIMANCHE 20 OCTOBRE

De 9 h à 11 h, RÉUNIONS EN ATELIERS :

1 - LA FORMATION D'ENSEIGNANTS

Quelle possibilité de créer des I.U.F.M. (Institut Universitaire de Formation des Maîtres) spécialisés dans la formation de maîtres bilingues ?

Interventions de l'Union des Enseignants de Breton, de l'Association pour l'enseignement du Catalan, de la Fédération pour l'enseignement de la langue et de la culture d'Oc.

2 - LANGUES RÉGIONALES, PRODUCTION SCIENTIFIQUE ET PRATIQUE PÉDAGOGIQUE

Le bilinguisme nécessite une adaptation des langues à la vie moderne.

Interventions de J.Y. LAGADEG, ed. An Here, de L. KERGOAT, professeur de Breton, de O. CIHIGOYENETCHE, sur le Basque, d'un représentant de la Catalogne-Sud.

3 - ÉVOLUTION DE LA SOCIÉTÉ, ÉVOLUTION DE L'ÉCOLE

Quels rapports peut-on analyser entre les transformations des sociétés, l'évolution des pratiques linguistiques et la demande sociale d'une intégration des langues régionales à l'école ?

Interventions de M. LAURENT, sur la pratique linguistique en Bretagne, de M. PROST sur les blocages au bilinguisme en Catalogne-Nord, de B. TAHHAN sur identité nationale et variétés linguistiques : l'exemple de l'Arabe en France.

4 - LES LANGUES RÉGIONALES ET LE DROIT

L'Europe de 1992 va-t-elle modifier le cadre législatif et réglementaire français qui se rapporte aux langues pratiquées sur le territoire ?

Interventions de M. WOEHLING, magistrat, sur la jurisprudence en France et de M. O'RIAGAN sur le niveau européen.

De 11 h à 13 h, SÉANCE PLÉNIÈRE

- Communication des rapporteurs des différents ateliers
- Conclusion de la F.L.A.R.E.P.

programme rolladur

SAMEDI 27 OCTOBRE D'AR SADORN 27 A VIZ HERE

12 H. CONFÉRENCE DE PRESSE DE LA F.L.A.R.E.P. EN SÉANCE PLÉNIÈRE : 14 H. COMMUNICATIONS SUR L'ENSEIGNEMENT DES LANGUES RÉGIONALES EN FRANCE ET EN EUROPE	KREISTEIZ KENDAEL KELAOQUIN GANT AR F.L.A.R.E.P. ER SAL VRAS : 14 EUR A BEP SEURT KEMENNÖU DIWAR BENN KELENNADUREZH AR YEZHOU-RANNVRO E BRO-FRAÎNS HAG EN EUROPA GANT :
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. FUSINA, sur la situation actuelle en CORSE • M. MORGAN, sur le système éducatif au PAYS DE GALLES • M. STRANJ, sur les écoles slovènes en ITALIE • Mme SIKMA, sur la Frise aux PAYS-BAS • M. BOLGUER, sur le gaélique en Irlande 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an Ao. FUSINA, diwar ar stad a-vremai e Corsika • an Ao. MORGAN, diwar ar skolioù e Bro-Gembra • an Ao. STRANJ, war ar skolioù slovenek en Italia • an Ir. SIKMA, a zivout bro-Fris en Izel Vroïou • an Ao. BOLGUER, diwar ar gouez-eleg
16 H 30 PROJECTION DE 2 FILMS VIDÉOS : « Divyeth er vro, divyeth er skol » avec C. HAGEGE, linguiste, professeur au Collège de France « De l'école vers la vie : le bilinguisme au Pays Basque »	16 EUR 30 FILMOU VIDEO : « Divyeth er vro, divyeth er skol », gant Claude HAGEGE, yezhonior kelemer er c'h/College de France « Eus ar skol trem a vuhez, an divyethgezh e Bro Euskadi »
17 H. DÉBAT entre associations de parents d'élèves, élus représentants des collectifs locaux sur le bilinguisme à l'école et la formation des enseignants <small>Sont invités à ce débat des représentants de l'Education Nationale.</small>	17 EUR Diviz etre ar c'hevredigezhioù kerent hag an dilennidi diwar ar divyethgezh e vrø hag er skol, ha stummadur ar skoliennoù <small>Da gemer perzh en diviz-se ez eas bet kouvet kargidi eus an Deska-durezh Stad.</small>

D'AR SUL 28 A VIZ HERE

Azalek 9 eur betek 11 eur : BODADOU LABOUR

1 - STUMMAN MISTRI-SKOL

Ha posubl e vo krouiñ un I.U.F.M. (ar skol normal nevez) a stummo skolaeien divyethzek ?

Kemennoù gant U.G.B. (Unvaniezh ar Gelennerien Brezhoneg), an A.P.L.E.C. (Kevredigezh evit kelennadurezh ar c'hatalaneg), ar F.E.L.C.O. (Kengenredigezh evit kelennadurezh yezh ha sevenadur Okitania).

2 - AR YEZHOU-RANNVRO, AL LEVRIOU SKIANTOU HAG AL LEVRIOU KELENN

Gant astenn an divyethgezh er skol, e kresk an ezhomm da vodernaat ar yezhou.

Prezegennoù gant J.-Y. LAGADEG, diwar ar geriadur hollvrezhonek, L. KERGOAT, diwar ar geriaouiñ e brezhoneg, gant O. CIHIGOYENETCHE war ar c'heñnen en euskareg en eil derez.

3 - EMDROADUR AR GEVREDIGEZH, EMDROADUR AR SKOL

Peseurt darempredou etre kemmoù ar gevredigezh, implij ar yezhou hag ar goulennoù evit reññ dezho o flas er skolioù ?

Kemennoù gant L. LAURENT, diwar implij ar brezhoneg, J.-J. PROST, war skol-hou an divyethgezh e Katalonia an hanternoz, gant B. TAHHAN, diwar ar vroad hag al liesydhgezh : an arabeg e Frañs.

4 - AR YEZHOU-RANNVRO HAG AR GWIR

Gant unvaniezh Europa 1992, daoust hag-eñ e vo ur c'hemm bennak e lezennoù hag e reliadur Bro-Frañs e keñver he yezhou ?

Prezegennoù gant J.-M. WOEHLING, gwirour, a-zivout barnadennou e Bro-Frañs ha gant D. O'RIAGAN war dachenn Europa.

Azalek 11 eur betek 13 eur : ER SAL VRAS :

- un diverradur gant pep bodad-labour
- ur c'hlouzadur gant ar F.L.A.R.E.P.

UNVANIEZH AR GELENNERIEN BREZHONEG

The following motion was prepared by the Union of Teachers of Breton at their annual General Assembly held September 22, 1990.

As the 1990 school year begins, the Unvaniezh ar Gelennerien Brezhoneg, gathered for its General Assembly at the Lycée Joseph Loth in Pontivy, is forced to observe grave deficiencies in the way the teaching of Breton is handled by the National Education, and to recognize its bad will in failing to assure its mission of public service when it comes to the Breton language. Its "educational politics" are, in effect, characterized yet again this year by:

- the insufficiency of resources put to work for Breton,
- bad management of existing resources, lacking an adaptive service for this,
- the absence of provisions for and insufficiency of current teacher training,
- indifference to those who want to use the program; many making a demand for Breton classes are not being satisfied,
- indifference to teachers facing an uncertain contract or career in teaching.

All that can be found despite the recognized value and success of teaching Breton. We have long been done with the exploratory stage. Undeniably positive conclusions can be formed from the experience gained over a good decade either in Diwan schools or the bilingual classes of National Education schools, the success gained in secondary school and university exams, and the putting into place--largely thanks to militant action--of a complete university program. The youth of the five Breton departments must have the means to obtain, where they wish, an education which cannot help but to contribute to their personal enrichment and professional opportunities.

The time has come to stop with the evasions, delays and other incoherencies. The U.G.B. demands a meeting as soon as possible with those responsible at the Ministerial level to put into place a studied plan for the development of Breton teaching which will assure everyone access to this education in a timely manner.

The U.G.B. calls on all those involved, and political, economic, union and cultural leaders, and all Bretons to work in this direction using the best means you have.

Pontivy, 22 September 1990

Unvaniezh ar Gelennerien Brezhoneg continues to have five basic goals in the development of Breton teaching:

- the development of resources and the creation of jobs for Breton teachers;
- the training of teachers;
- freer access to Breton teaching;
- careful fiscal management of Breton teaching;
- recognition and the promotion of Breton as a tool in the economic and cultural development of Brittany.

DUDI

In Remon ar Porzh's **Breton-English Dictionary** the Breton word "dudi" is given the meanings of "pleasure," "delight," "amusement," and "interest"--not a bad string of words to describe activity centers for children which use the Breton language as the basis of all communication. The Dudi centers were established to provide a place where children who were learning Breton in schools could use their knowledge in play activities and other informal activity with other children outside a classroom. Such centers are especially important for children who do not live in Breton speaking communities and they add a wider dimension to the use of Breton by introducing it to a world outside of the formal classroom.

Breton is used in sports (from Breton wrestling to judo) in singing and dancing, in games and theater sketches, and just "hanging around" with friends one's own age. Three such centers have been established: Dudi Roazhon was set up by Lena Louarn in 1985, a second center opened in Sant-Brieg in 1989 and the newest is in Lanuon set up just in 1990.

More information on the Dudi Breton language centers for children is available from:

Riwall Ar Menn
Burev kreiz dudi
8 straed Hoche
35000 Roazhon

* * * * *

Bremañ

Since its beginnings in 1980 the now monthly Breton language magazine called **Bremañ** ("now") has produced 110 issues. Published by the organization Skol an Emsav, the tone is "militant" (and unapologetically so) with news of demonstrations and the activities of various language support organizations. But, the 20 pages of this publication are full of information, and readers need not fear being overwhelmed by militant rhetoric.

Bremañ serves very well as a Breton-language medium for current news about the Breton language in schools and the media. And it also includes historical notes and news of political and cultural issues touching a variety of other peoples of the world as well as Brittany. For example, Issue no. 110 (November 1990) includes articles on Bretons working in Mali, the fate of Jews in France in the 1940s, a portrait of Iceland, and conflict between China and Nepal. Articles focused closer to home in this issue examine Breton road signs, a demonstration in favor of Breton language teaching in Nantes, the situation of Breton in television, and the Dudi centers for Breton-speaking children. Shorter notes in each issue report on lectures and conferences, new books in Breton, Breton classes, concerts and festou-noz. Photos, drawings and cartoons are liberally used to bring articles to life and the print style and quality and layout of the magazine are pleasant. I regret only that I have not worked harder on my Breton studies to take full advantage of the wealth of information available in this Breton-language publication.

A yearly subscription is 200 francs, and a check in French francs should be made out to "Bremañ" and sent to the following address: Bremañ, 8 ru Hoche, 35000 Roazhon (Rennes).

Ur Sellboent all war Dispac'h 1789

Reun ar C'halan

Warlene e voe lidet daou c'hantvet deiz-ha-bloaz an Dispac'h gant gouarnamant Bro-C'hall. War an ton bras e voe lidet, met al lidoù-se ne voent ket kavet gwall blius e pep lec'h, ha dreist holl e Breizh, o vezañ ma voe lamet diganti he frankizoù diwezhañ gant gouarnamant an Dispac'h. Ar frankizoù-se a oa perzhioù pouezusañ ar feur-emglev etre Breizh ha Bro-C'hall sinet e 1532, met evit dispac'herien Pariz ne oa ur feur-emglev nemet un tamm paper mat (respet deoc'h) d'en em dorchañ. Kaset a rejont soudarded e Breizh da lakaat ar Vreizhiz da sentiñ. Ar re C'hlas e veze graet outo abalamour da liv o lifre. Peurvuañ en em renent evel chas kounnaret, ha soñj o zorfedoù a zo chomet fresk bev e spered ar Vretoned a-hed ar bloavezioù, evel ma vez lakaet anat gant Kervarker er Barzhaz Breizh, gant Lan Inisan en e romant *Emgann Kergidu*, ha gant Erwan ar Moal (kemeret en doa an anv-pluenn Dir-na-dor) e kontadennou *Pipi Gonto*. Diouzh al levr-mañ eo bet tennet an arroudoù da-heul.

Da gentañ, komzoù ur beleg heskinet gant ar re C'hlas dirak korfoù ar gouerien lazhet ganto: "Setu amañ labour an Drouk-Spered e-touez an dud; setu amañ labour an dud kri ha dizoue a zo o ren en Pariz en eur-mañ. N'eus nemet ur blâ pe zaou, ar re a zo aze kousket maro a veve evel breudeur. Hirie int deut d'en em lazan." ("Un novez Nedelec"). En ur gontadenn all, ur c'hoareg yaouank a zo bet barnet da vezañ dibennet gant barnerien an Dispac'h evit bezañ stourmet evit difenn e iliz. Tennet eo bet diouzh skilfoù an archerien gant e vreur-mager Kevarek hag e vignoned, ha setu ar vrezegenn entanet a ra dezho: "Ha sonjet a teus bet, Kevarek, petra 'vije bet ar bobl-man, ma vije torret he chadennou? Sonjet a teus nag a boan he deus o stlejan bouled ar Gall? Sell ouz he daouarn kaledet o labourat evit eun all, ouz he dremm distummet gant giziou estren; taol plè d'he spered dallet gant un deskamant iskiz. Ar bobl-man a zo en argoll aboue m'he deus, etre daouarn ar Gall, kollet he gwerc'hded... Bemde e tiskenn mui-ouz-mui. Stag ouz he mestr, eo red d'ai heuilh ar memes planedenn gantan. Biskoaz n'he deus grêt nemet labourat, sevel da Vro-C'hall madou, bugale, ha senti bepred... Ar mestr a dle ren warnomp hag hon gouarn, daoust ha n'eo ket en Breiz e tle bean ganet?... Ni 'zo bet hon mestr pell amzer; ni hon eus bevet en hon zi hon unan, hag an estranjour ne grede ket läret: 'Digor an nor-man din!' Pa garemp, ni 'digore hon dor, ha, pa garemp, ni he zerre. Ni hon devoa eur c'hrusifi koz a-uz d'hon oaled, ha pa deue ar Gall en hon zi, e renke stoui e Benn dirakan; ni hon devoa eur yez enoret, ha, pa gare an estranjour komz ganimp, e teske hon yez, ar brezoneg; ni hon devoa madou serret war hon leuriou, ha n'hon devoa kont ebet da renti anê, na gwenneg ebet da baean diwarne, nemet da c'houarnamant Breiz-Izel. Hirie ar Gall a deu da furchal hon zier, hon frechou, hon grignoliou, ha beteg hon c'halonou; mont a ra gantan ar c'hrusifi eus an oaled hag ar

bugel eus a zivrec; h e vamm, hon yez eus hon geno hag hon eost diwar hon grignol, hon zud yaouank eus hon c'hériadennou, ha beteg an esperans eus hon c'halon, mar gallje. Hon enebour-ni, Bretoned, kouls ha hini an Norman, ar Gaskon hag an Auverniad, eo ar Gall, ar Gall suner, ar Gall gwasker, ar Gall tager, ar Gall dizanaoudek ha digar... Santout a ret kement-se?... Santout a ret en ho kreiz gwrienn al liberte-goz, al liberte-ze dizanaveet hirie war an douar hag a oa he hano gwechall al Liberte vreton?" Hag evit gwir, da vare an Dispac'h ez eus bet Bretoned evel Ar Rouëri hag e genvreudeur e *Breuriez Breizh* o deus stourmet betek ar marv evit difenn frankiz hor bro.

Summary

(Another look at the French Revolution of 1789 - A year ago, the French government held a huge celebration in honor of the bicentennial of the French Revolution. Many people, especially in Brittany, did not join in, since it was the Revolutionary government which took away the ancient Breton liberties guaranteed by the 1532 Treaty of Union between Brittany and France (a treaty, by the way, imposed on Brittany by military force), and which sent troops to Brittany to force the Breton people into compliance. These soldiers, called the Blues because of their uniforms, behaved like raiders in enemy country, looting, killing and raping, and the memory of their excesses survived for generations in the memory of the Breton people. They appear in the ballads collected by La Villemarqué in the *Barzhaz Breizh*, in Lan Inisan's historical romance *The Battle of Kerguidu*, and in the tales recounted by Erwan ar Moal (aka Dir-na-dor) in his collection *Pipi Gonto*, from which I have taken the extracts quoted above. And indeed there were, at the time of the Revolution, Bretons like La Rouërie and his companions in the *Brotherhood of Brittany*, who sacrificed their lives to defend Breton liberties).

Reun ar C'halan

Some other thoughts on the Revolution

The celebration of the French Revolution was also a topic provoking ICDBL member Paul Garvin to use his creativity in eloquently presenting the Breton language to radio listeners. Paul Garvin, a member of the U.S. ICDBL for five years, prepares a brief weekly radio commentary on languages for WBFO in Buffalo, New York (a National Public Radio Station). Quite a few months ago he sent me a cassette from which I transcribed his comments in honor of Bastille Day 1990--the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution. In the very brief time of his radio program, he does a very good job of presenting the Breton language and the inheritance it received from the French Revolution to American radio listeners. Lois Kuter

The radio commentator begins ...

You're listening to "Local Edition" on WBFO. With Bastille Day just behind us, language commentator Paul Garvin's thoughts turn to one of France's little-publicized language problems.

Paul Garvin ...

France is usually thought of as linguistically uniform. Doesn't everybody there just speak French? Well, not quite. France, of course, has the guest workers and other immigrants that are found in many other European countries. These, needless to say, arrive speaking their own languages. But France, in addition, also has a number of what are called "regional" languages. These are languages other than French that have for centuries been spoken in various regions of France. Some of these languages are more or less closely related to French; some are not at all.

I shall focus on two of the latter: Basque and Breton. Basque is spoken mainly in Spain but there is a fair number of Basque speakers on the French side of the border as well. The latter appear in the news mainly when they harbor Basque separatist fugitives sought by the Spanish police. Quite independently of this, they also try to maintain their language and culture in their own region of France. Basque is a language rather different from all other languages of Europe, and it is not known what languages it may be related to.

Unlike Basque, Breton is spoken only in France, more specifically in its western-most region. This is the region of Brittany which faces Cornwall across the English Channel. Breton is a Celtic language, or as scholars in the field say, a Keltic language. It is most closely related to Welsh. Breton language activists like to maintain close contacts with not only the Welsh, but also the Irish.

French governments, both before and after the French Revolution, have not looked with favor upon the regional languages. Breton language activists accuse the French state of being Jacobinist; that is, they accuse it of following the extremist line of the French Revolution which denied the validity of the regions and claimed that French was the only language worthy of expressing the ideals of the Revolution.

At present, Breton language activists are demanding recognition for their language. This means, among others, bilingual road signs and the use of Breton in education. The current French government, which is of the political left, pays lip service to the regional language cause, but in fact they drag their feet when it comes to concrete support. It is interesting to note that political democracy does not always guarantee linguistic democracy.

This is Paul Garvin for WBFO.

BRITANNY: STIFLING THE LANGUAGE

Henri Lécuyer

The last Celtic language on the continent of Europe and a cousin to Irish, the Breton language is a sister to Welsh, from which it gradually moved away as the Bretons distanced themselves geographically from Great Britain: in the 4th to 6th centuries, they emigrated to settle in the Armorican peninsula, now called Brittany. The Welsh language is currently taught in Welsh schools, has its own television and radio channels and benefits from a positive tolerance by the British government, however conservative and authoritarian the latter may be considered to be. The Breton language, on the contrary, is even today exposed to systematic hostility by the French government, thereby perpetuating an age-long tradition of linguistic repression. It is perhaps a miracle that the Breton language still continues to exist, so severe and implacable have been the efforts in the last two centuries to eliminate it.

The space allowed enables me merely to relate the more outstanding facts of the long Calvary of a language condemned by a foreign power. In 1488 the defeat of the Bretons by the French tolled the knell of an eight-century old sovereignty and led up to annexation in 1532 after the marriage of Anne of Brittany to the King of France. From then on, the door was open to the facts and events that followed and are eloquent in themselves.

Policy of Elimination

1792: While having its propaganda translated into regional languages, the Revolution asserted that linguistic unification was an absolute necessity, for France was the language of liberty and of a France one and indivisible.

1831: The prefects in Finistère and the Côtes-du-Nord impressed upon the Minister of Education the necessity by any means, 'of encouraging the impoverishment and corruption of Breton to a point such that one commune will not be able to understand or get along with another. The necessity for communicating will then oblige the peasants to learn French. It is absolutely essential to destroy the Breton language.'

1903: Minister Combes issued a circular forbidding sermons in Breton. Faced with the hostility that aroused, the government waived its application. In the same year, the Côtes-du-Nord school inspector, Danziger, requested the collaboration of the Church so that only French-speaking children would be permitted to make their first Holy Communion.

The 1914-1918 War: The number of Breton-speakers was estimated to be 1,300,000 at the outbreak of war. Out of a population of 3 million inhabitants, 240,000 Bretons perished at the Front. In October 1914, one of them, Franch Laurent, who did not understand French, was accused of being a German spy camouflaged in French uniform...and was shot.

1957: The Deixonne law 'authorized' the introduction (very marginal) of minority languages in French education. The administrative memorandum making that effective was not published until 1971, twenty years later, more time gained for the stifling of the Breton language.

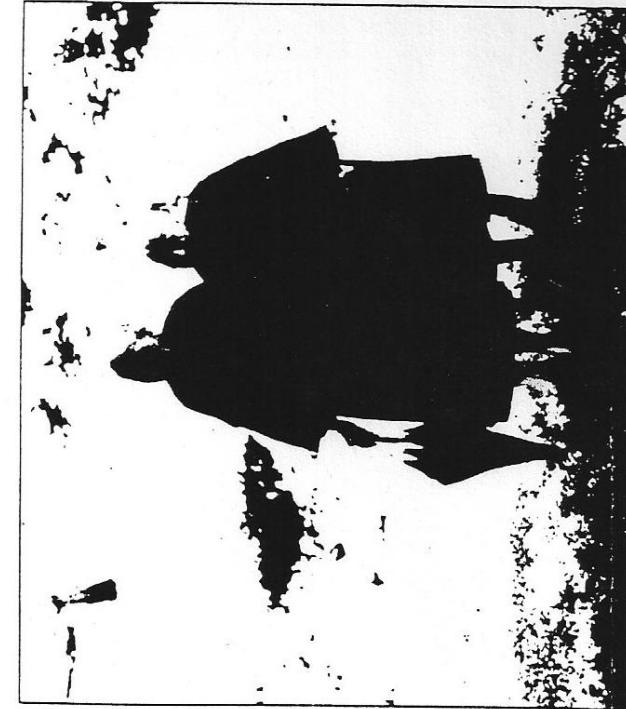
1972: The President of the Republic, Georges Pompidou, declared 'there is no room for regional languages in a France destined to stamp its seal on Europe.'

October 7, 1975: Day of action by teachers, pupils and their parents calling for the teaching of Breton language and culture in accordance with international agreements protecting minorities, which France had signed. November 1975: Brussels. Aware of the negative policy of the French government regarding the right to teach the Breton language, a group of non-Breton personalities and academics founded the 'International Committee for Safeguarding the Breton Language' (in Breton: *kuzul etrevoadel evit kendalc'h ar brezhoneg*). In 1990 that Committee is represented in 20 countries worldwide and keeps international public opinion informed about the discriminatory treatment meted out to the Breton language.

The Time of Promises with No Tomorrow

May 14, 1984: Lorient (Brittany). A candidate for the Presidency of the Republic, François Mitterrand, declared: "The time has come to throw open the doors of schools, radio and television to the languages and cultures of France, to allow their diffusion and give them their rightful place in everyday life."

May 17, 1984: Paris. In the French National Assembly, draft bill No. 2157 on the promotion of French languages and cultures was put forward by 282 Socialist Members of Parliament in conjunction with others (in particular, Lionel Jospin, the present Minister of Education), possessing an absolute majority. The text of the bill, which in itself constitutes an avowal of deficiency signed by elected representatives of France, refers textually to: the tradition of cultural repression by the French State in regard to minority languages; the requirement of democracy and the duty constituted in international law for the possibility for minorities to have their own cultural life, to use their own language, to open their own schools and receive teaching in their own language.



Reactions of Agony and Despair

February 17, 1989 : Brussels. Fifteen Breton militants occupied the cultural services of the French Embassy in Belgium to protest against the present situation of the Breton language and call for Breton to be taught in every school in Brittany. Called to the rescue, the Belgian gendarmerie cleared the premises of the demonstrators. The French State lodged no complaint and so avoided the Bretons using Belgian courts as a tribune for their claims at the international level.

March 16, 1990 : Strengthening at grass-roots level the wishes expressed by the Regional Council and the Economic and Social Committee of Brittany, 520 Breton Municipal Councils adopted resolutions demanding that the French Parliament should, of its own accord or under government pressure, debate a law protecting the regional languages and cultures of France by legal statute.

Scorn for the Central Authority and Recourse to Europe

Scorning the express commitments entered into by the President of the Republic and by the present Ministers of Education or Culture, it seems to be the constant strategy of governments to turn a deaf ear to appeals from the people's elected representatives and to wait for the disappearance of the Breton language, deliberately stifled by its almost total banishment from the media, the administration and school curricula.

Recourse to European institutions (the Commission and especially the European Parliament, in line with the 1981 Arte Resolution) represents some hope, to be sure, in the eyes of the 500,000 or so people who use the Breton language. Though there can still be blocking by the French government at this level, the weight of international opinion may be especially decisive in regard to a government which presents France as the fatherland of human rights. At the price of discreditable double talk, it renders itself guilty in its own territory of attacks on the rights of minorities, for which it claims to impose respect by other States.

Henri Lécuyer is a former senior administrator of the European fund for Regional Development (FEDER).

1985 : Paris. Mr. Laurent Fabius, the Prime Minister, refused to place on the Assembly agenda this draft bill No. 2157 on the regional languages and cultures of France, despite the speeches of Breton Socialist Members and the existence of a majority of Members in its favour.

August 3, 1985 : Lorient. In order to erase the disastrous impression left by the setting aside of draft bill No. 2157, Jack Lang, Minister of Culture, announced the creation of an advisory National Council of Regional Languages and Cultures. Placed under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister, that Council has met only once since 1985. In the eyes of even the best disposed politicians in regard to power, that still-born body was but a poorly disguised way of burying the question of regional languages. As a result, the traditional repressive situation of those languages, denounced by the signatories of draft bill No. 2157, persisted in France in the most insidious forms: refusal to integrate into the national educational system 37 of the 49 teachers of Breton in schools set up by the Diwan association; an insufficient number of teachers of Breton in State schools; scheduling the teaching of Breton at inconvenient times (lunchtime or after the school buses had left, for instance); an almost total absence of the Breton language among the media, etc.

A QUICK LOOK AT THE BRETON ECONOMY

Lois Kuter

Information below was drawn from: "Forces et faiblesses de l'économie bretonne" by Corentin Canevet. In **Bretagne, clés en mains**--a special issue of **Historiens et Géographes**, no. 318, mars-avril 1988, published by l'Association des Professeurs d'Histoire et de Géographie de l'Enseignement Public, with Skol Uhel ar Vro/Institut Culturel de Bretagne.

Basic statistics can often present an overly simplistic idea of the state of the world, but I found the following information from the above-cited article quite interesting. It is very difficult to find statistics which cover all of Brittany and not just the four-department area officially designated by the French state as "Bretagne". Left out of this official region is the department of Loire-Atlantique which includes the historical capital of Brittany, Nantes.

We have done very little so far in **Bro Nevez** to present the economy of Brittany. Since one cannot separate the health of a language and culture from the health of the economy, this short presentation will at least be a start. For those interested in getting a good overview not only of Brittany's economy, but also demography, geography and history, the collection of short articles cited above is an excellent place to begin.

Population of Brittany (all five departments: 3,814,000, or 6.94% of the population of France. Brittany has an average density of 112 inhabitants per square kilometer. The population of Brittany has increasingly shifted from rural to urban areas. Rural central western Brittany has long been losing its population as young people leave to find work, leaving behind only retirees. A less extreme exodus is found in rural eastern Brittany. While there is still a small natural increase of population here, this area also loses a number of young people who go to cities to find jobs. Urban zones have been the destination of migrants--large cities such as Rennes, Nantes or Brest as well as Paris which has long had a sizeable Breton community.

As of December 1986 the following statistics reflect the occupations of the active population of Brittany (1,327,000).

Agriculture, forestry and fishing

152,000 employed - 11.4% of the active population of Brittany

Industry

270,000 employed - 20.5% of the active population.

57% of this is found in the agrofeed industries (27.5%), electrical and electronic work (11.2%), naval construction (9.6%) and automobile industry (9.2%)

Construction and roads

97,000 employees - 7.3%

Commerce and services

808,000 employees - 60.8%

In 1985 the four departments of "official" Brittany made up the largest agricultural region of France, contributing 12.1% of the total value of French agricultural production. For fishing this region also ranked first, with 48% of the total value for catches made in 1985.

Economy - continued

Although this looks good, unemployment in this four-department region is at 11.9%, and the average income of Bretons is 10% below the national average for France, ranking Brittany 17th of 22 regions.

Brittany's underdevelopment industrially has provoked a high emigration and loss of population for a century and a half. This was only reversed in the period of 1968-1982 when the natural increase in population and incoming population outnumbered deaths and emigrants. But, despite a peripheral geographic location in France in an age when the sea has lost its importance as a primary transportation route, Brittany fosters a strong entrepreneurial spirit. Three major supermarket chains have come out of north Finistère: Leclerc (Landerneau) and a splinter group from it called Intermarché, and Rallye (Brest).

Other examples of major companies initiated in Brittany include:

Bolloré-Technologie - a world leader in equipment for the fabrication of special papers and films for condensers (with branches in the U.S.).

Brittany-Ferries - This grew out of the agricultural zone of north Finistère to establish ferry lines across the channel to Ireland, England, and later southward to Spain.

Yves Rocher - a cosmetics firm with 3,700 employees (2,000 in Brittany) and 614 beauty centers in France and 470 outside of France.

Pinault - a forestry industry now ranked first in France, with 48 factories and 10,000 employees in Brittany and Normandy.

La Brioche Dorée (Le Duff) - originated in Brest and can also be found in the U.S. and Japan.

Next time you are in the supermarket, look for cookies with the name LU in big red letters on the package. Launched in Nantes in the mid 19th century this company has grown to be the 3rd largest cookie/cracker company in the world, with several offices in the U.S. (an interesting article about LU can be found in Ar Men: "Les biscuits LU--un siècle d'industrie gourmande" Ar Men 11, oct. 1987, pp. 2-33).

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THE BUSINESS OF SELLING TO NON-PROFITS

As Secretary for the U.S. ICDBL I get a steady stream of junk mail from people who hope to have us book our next business meeting in their luxury hotel in Miami, or peddlers hoping we will order thousands of coffee mugs inscribed with our name. A request of the latter sort was recently received--a lovely pocket calendar that we could use as a promotional item. Unfortunately the computer had a bit of trouble with our name, so the inscription on the calendar (a "Gilt-Edged Pocket Pal") appears as INTERNATIONAL COMM FOR DEFEN. The letter to me began as follows: "Surprised to see the INTERNATIONAL COMM FOR DEFEN name on the enclosed Pocket Pal sample? Looks good, doesn't it!" Well, it really doesn't look too good and would hardly serve in making the U.S. ICDBL a household word. I will pass up the offer of a free AM/FM digital clock radio telephone that I would have received if we pursued this wonderful offer.

Lois

VENTS D'OUEST

BRETON MUSICIANS AND INSTRUMENT MAKERS COMING TO THE U.S. ...

The group called **Vents d'Ouest** (Winds of the West) will make a quick stop on the (north) east coast of the U.S. this December. The four individuals who make up this group are all professional wind instrument makers, as well as seasoned performers, and while in the U.S., they will give concerts, dance workshops, and present the wind instruments of Brittany they make. Pipers, take note--this is an opportunity especially exciting for you! Using instruments they craft themselves, Winds of the West combines song with bombardes, the biniou koz, the veuze, accordion, fiddle, clarinet and oboes.

The introductions below (provided by Winds of the West, with some augmentation by me) should serve to describe the many talents of these musicians.

Olivier Glet (bombarde, clarinet, bass fiddle)

Olivier Glet has played since 1976 and has crafted musical instruments since 1981. He has worked in other musical trades including the manufacture of organs. He played with the groups ULM and Bramm Diaoul, and has performed at the festivals of Rennes, Quimper, Saint-Chartier, Washington, D.C. (Festival of American Folk-Life), and Canterbury (England), to name a few. In pair with Gilbert Hervieux he manufactures more than 40 different models of bombarde in nine different keys, the biniou koz in whatever key, wood or trim desired, wooden flutes, oboes, clarinets, saxophones, whistles, Scottish bagpipes, and the veuze.

Gilbert Hervieux (song, bombarde, oboes)

Gilbert Hervieux has played since 1972 and has a passion for research and collecting. He played a very important role in the creation of Dastum's research book/recording Chants et traditions du Pays d'Oust et de Vilaine (Dastum No. 8). With his partner, Jacques Beauchamp, he has placed in many traditional music competitions for bombarde and biniou koz: Monterfil, Lanrivain, Rennes, Lorient, Redon, Branderion, etc. He has performed on tour with Na Cabarfeidh (Rare Air) at Philadelphia's Folk Festival and at Owen Sound, Halifax. He also played with ULM at the festivals of Rennes, Lorient and Saint-Chartier. Gilbert sings with the "Chanteurs des Pays de Vilaine". He has manufactured musical instruments with Olivier Glet since 1981.

Address for contacting these craftsmen for a catalog and information on their instruments: **Hervieux & Glet, Luthiers**, Le Val, 56350 Rieux, France.

Thierry Bertrand (veuze, violon, biniou koz)

Thierry Bertrand is originally from the Breton-Vendéen marshlands and interprets the old traditional music of his region and of the south of Brittany, in solo or with the group Trio de Veuze. He is a member of the Association des Sonneurs de Veuze, and he took part in the historical and technical research of the veuze and its tradition found in the album Sonneurs de Veuze en Bretagne et Marais Breton Vendéen (Le Chasse-Marée/Ar Men SCM 010, 1987). Thierry Bertrand has placed in many different competitions and he has taken part in a number of musical compositions (music of Puits du Fou, by Georges Delerue with the Paris Opera orchestra, and the music for the movie "Vent de Galerne" by Bertrand Favre). He has also presented the veuze in many festivals: Rennes, Nantes, Paimpol, Kervignac, and abroad in Bulgaria, Cambria (England), and Washington, D.C. (Festival of American Folklife).

Address for contacting this craftsman for details on his instruments (veuze and oboes): **Thierry Bertrand**, Le Bourg, Chateauneuf, 85710 La Garnache, France.

Eric Martin (accordion, fiddle, song)

Eric Martin has played since 1976 and has crafted musical instruments since 1983. He learned his trade with Marc Savoie who has also influenced his musical style. He has played with the band Vermillion Plage (Cajun music) since 1974, touring and recording with them. He has played with many other bands and musicians as well, touring and recording with Cajun Aces, Dewey Balfa, ULM and Hughes Auffray. Eric has performed in a great number of festivals including: Rennes, Saint-Chartier, Womad (Great Britain), Dran Outer (The Netherlands), Oviedo (Spain), and El Paso (Texas).

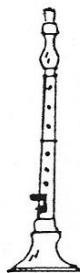
Address for contacting this craftsman of accordions: **Eric Martin**, 1'Hermitage, Maxent, 35380 Plélan-le-Grand, France

THE TOUR

Not all dates for the tour by Vents d'Ouest have been set (as of this typing), but the following reflects what I know. Anyone who would like to try to set up a concert, workshop or other events for these musicians in the New England area from Decemeber 11 through the 14th should contact their U.S. contact person, Winnie Lambrecht, work number, 401-277-6996, or home number, 401-726-6317.

- December 7 **Green Willow Folk Club, Wilmington, DE**
 8 p.m. concert at the Immanuel Episcopal Church, 17th St. & Riverview Ave., Wilmington. For information call Michael Densmore 302-994-0495 or Suzy Wallinberg 215-444-0446.
- December 8 **Folklife Center, International House, Philadelphia, PA**
 1:30-3:30 dance workshop cosponsored by the Beaver College Folk Dancers, held in Hopkinson Hall, International House, 3701 Chestnut St., Philadelphia. 8 p.m. concert also held at Internatinal House. For tickets and information call the Folklife Center of International House, 215-895-6537.
- December 9 **New York City Dept. of Parks & Recreation, Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY**
 3 p.m. concert to be held in the Picnic House at Prospect Park, Brooklyn. for information call Mr. Chris Wangro (NYC Parks & Rec.) 212-360-8157.
- December 10 **Brown University Music Department, Providence, RI**
 5:30 workshop to be followed by an 8:30 concert will be held in the Grand Recital Hall at Brown University's Music Department. For information call Willie Lambrecht 401-277-6996.
- Bookings for the 11th through the 14th are still being made--if you have ideas for the New England area for dance or instrument workshops, school programs, or evening concerts, contact Winnie Lambrecht--see above.
- December 15 **World Music Institute, New York, NY**
 An evening concert will be sponsored by the World Music Institute, to be held in Greenwich House, Manhattan. For information call 212-545-7536.

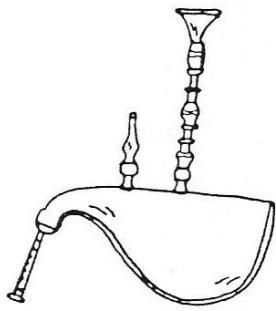
The Bombarde (Breton shawm)



The bombarde is an instrument of the oboe family with six or seven holes and sometimes one key, with a range of two octaves. It is made of ebony, boxwood or occasionally of the wood of fruit trees.

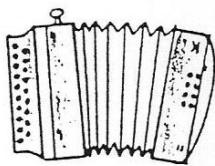
The bombarde has been played throughout the southern half of Brittany accompanied by the biniou koz (Breton bagpipe), and for several centuries it has been the most popular instrument used for dance music. Since 1950 it has been found in the Breton pipe band (bagad) and is used for many styles of modern music. It is an instrument which undergoes constant development, and groups now exist which play chromatic bombardes of all sizes: soprano, alto and tenor.

The Biniou Koz (Breton bagpipe)



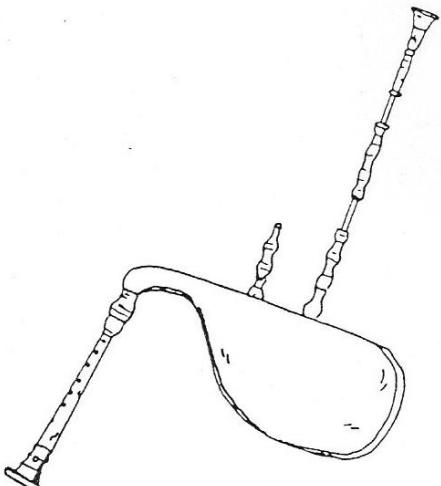
This is a bagpipe with just one drone and a chanter pitched an octave above the bombarde. The biniou koz & bombarde duo was very popular until the turn of the century, and became even less so after the First World War--partly because of a radical change in life styles, but also because of the rising popularity in Brittany of the violin and the diatonic accordion. Today, however, this instrument is making a comeback.

The Diatonic Accordion



This instrument arrived in Brittany at the beginning of the century and was at the height of popularity between the two World Wars. It was well adapted to the traditional circle dances, but the accordion also brought a new repertoire inspired by the French and English country dances: mazurkas, scottishes, polkas, etc.

The Veuze (bagpipe)



This bagpipe is one of the oldest types played in France; it has survived practically unchanged since the Middle Ages. The veuze was used in the north of the region of Vendée and widely in southern Brittany, disappearing in the 1920s to be replaced by the violin and the accordion.

The Association of Veuze Players has done much to resurrect the instrument, publishing books, producing records and creating exhibits. Today the veuze has come back alongside the other traditional instruments of Brittany.

Record Reviews

Lois Kuter

Pennouù Skoulm. **Pennouù Skoulm** SLOG 038 (self-produced cassette). 1990

As reported in the last newsletter, the group Pennouù Skoulm toured the U.S. for two weeks in October, concentrating on the West and East coasts with stops in Wisconsin and Montréal, Québec. If the concerts on this tour were anything like the one at their final stop in Convent Station, New Jersey, they must have found many Americans ready for their next tour. The only problem with their New Jersey stop was that there was no room to dance--and since the musicians of Pennouù Skoulm are masters of a variety of Breton dances, this was frustrating. But, the group's music has enough interesting twists and turns in the compositions and arrangements to keep audiences tuned in.

The cassette brought by the group disappeared before they made it to New Jersey, but I thank Christian Lemaître for kindly sending me one when he got home. The cassette includes many of the pieces performed during the U.S. tour--dances found in eastern or western Brittany such as the ridée, fisel, plinn, laridé, an dro, gavotte, schottische and waltz, as well as several beautiful slower melodies.

Four of the five musicians of Pennouù Skoulm toured in the U.S.: Christian Lemaître and Jacky Molard (both fiddlers, but each with their own unique style), Soïg Siberil (guitar), and Jean-Michel Veillon (wooden flute and the bombarde/oboe Bretons have invented for such acoustic ensembles). The fifth member of Pennouù Skoulm who was unable to tour with the group is Patrick Molard, who uses the Irish uilleann pipes in this group. His presence on the recording adds more texture to the already rich sound Americans had the good fortune to hear from this group on their tour.

Archetype. **Archetype.** Escalibur, CE 1831. (cassette) 1990

Although this cassette recording has already been noted in **Bro Nevez** (no. 34, May 1990), it's worth presenting once again now that I have had a chance to hear it (thanks again to Christian Lemaître). Archetype is unique in Brittany in its sound and composition as a mini-orchestra. It is made up of six fiddlers (Pierrick Lemou, Hervé Bertho, Christian Lemaître, Jacky Molard, Fanch Landreau, Yvon Rouget), a cello player (Thierry Moreau) and a bass fiddler (Pierre Lecompte). Although the fiddle has a strong tradition in eastern Brittany, such a grouping is quite new in Brittany and allows for some experimentation and a departure from the unison and largely solo style of traditional Breton music.

Archetype pulls from the dance traditions of Brittany, but also performs new compositions and arrangements of tunes from Eastern Europe, the Klezmer bands of the U.S., and Scotland. It is in the East European arrangements that the group is especially outstanding in my personal view. This is perhaps not surprising since in that part of the world such fiddle ensembles are certainly well developed already. The melodies and rhythms are enhanced by this combination of strings. But, all the arrangements on the cassette are exceptional--allowing the different fiddlers of the ensemble to show off their skills both as performers and composers in some cases. Archetype does not perform "typical" Breton music, but they perform great music for the fiddle from Brittany and other areas of the world where this instrument is just as well-loved.

Record Reviews - continued

Kevrenn Alre. **Kevrenn Alre.** GREM G9002 (CD) and G4901 (cassette). 1990

Recordings of the Kevrenn Alre have also been noted in earlier issues of **Bro Nevez** (no. 33, February 1990), and, like Pennoù Skoulm, this group has also recently toured in the U.S. They performed in April at the 4e Festival Internationale de Louisiane (held in Lafayette) and in late July they performed at the Folkmoat Festival in Waynesville, North Carolina (The North Carolina International Folk Festival). In early August they then moved on to perform at the EPCOT Center in Walt Disney World, Orlando, Florida (and part of the International Festival Program) and in Jacksonville, Florida, at a special concert sponsored by the Sister Cities program of Jacksonville (which is twinned with Nantes, among other cities of the world). Judging from news clippings and letters of thanks from festival organizers and city mayors which were sent to this ensemble of pipers and dancers, the tour was a great success and they should be back again.

Several days after the ensemble got back to Brittany, the dancers of the Kevrenn Alre became the dance champions of Brittany for the fifth year (so much for jet lag). And the bagad Kevrenn Alre has produced an exceptionally fine cassette/compact disc to document why they have been one of the top-ranked bagads of Brittany.

The CD and cassette both include 58 minutes of dances and melodies whose arrangements attest to the genius of Roland Becker, the musical director and arranger for the bagad, as well as to the skills of every musician in the ensemble: 11 pipers (cornemuse, or Scottish style bagpipes), 8 bombarde players, and 10 members of the percussion section. Eight other musicians perform as well using biniou koz to add some new threads to the already complex weave of this ensemble. Also impressive is the work of clarinet players from the Ecole Municipale de Musique d'Auray. The sound quality of this recording made by Denis Vanzetto and Xavier Bellenger at an outdoor performance is excellent.

The accompanying booklet to the CD (which does not come with the cassette) is in three languages: Breton (which appears first), English, and French. The short text traces the history of the Kevrenn Alre and gives an idea of the instruments found in a bagad. A very interesting and poetic philosophy of Breton music is also included which is worth reproducing here:

"Expression through Breton music involves the synthesis of the total auditory environment, in other words, the level of musical quality which reaches the spiritual, intellectual and human level and the realm of our conscience. The sounds that surround us influence in a direct manner our lifestyles and the quality of our existence. This is why we affirm that playing an active part in Breton music makes a powerful contribution towards the search for our identity."

Pierre Guillet, founder of the Kevrenn Alre, refers to Breton music as Celtic music and feels that it has visceral and human qualities. Duke Ellington spoke frequently of humanity when he evoked black music. The ancient Celts used to say that music consisted in making humanity spiritual."

This cassette and CD are available through any distributor or store which carries a good selection of Breton recordings, but it can also be ordered directly from the Kevrenn Alre: Jacques le Tallec, Les Quatre Cheminées, 46400 Pluneret, FRANCE. The cassette is 70 francs; the CD is 125 francs. Include at least 10 francs extra for postage and send your check in French francs.

The following short reviews are based on information drawn from **Musique bretonne** (no. 105, september 1990) and **Ar Men** (no. 30, septembre 1990).

Chanson traditionnelles du pays de Fougères: Mélanie Houëdry. L'A.F.A.P., la Boueze & Dastum. 1990. Cassette and booklet.

Any recording that involves the collaboration of Dastum is sure to be extremely well documentd. And the organization La Boueze also has a very strong track record in collection and documentation of Breton traditional music. Over 80 songs from the repertoire of Marie Houëdry can be found in the archives of Dastum and la Boueze. This exceptional 79-year old singer is featured on this recording.

Pays nantais--tradition musical de la veuze. Sonneurs de Veuze & Dastum. 1990.

A cassette with accompanying booklet which is bound to be of excellent quality given the high standards of its co-producers, Dastum and Sonneurs de Veuze. The performers on this recording of the veuze, a bagpipe traditional to the south-eastern area of Brittany around Nantes, include: Patrick Bardoul, Thierry Bertrand, Roland Brou, Roland Guillou, Pierre Guillard, Thierry Lahais, Pierre-Yves Le Goff, Hervé Lorre, Thierry Moreau, Lydie Péicot and Jean-Yves Séveno. This tape and booklet can be ordered for 70 francs (plus at least 10 francs postage) from Dastum (B.P. 2518, 35025 Rennes-Cedex) or Sonneurs de Veuze (c/o Thierry Moreau, 10 rue du Pin, 44300 Nantes). Make a check (in French francs) out to either organization.

Cabestan. Gwerz Penmarc'h. Le Chasse-Marée SMC 016. CD, 136 francs.

It has been several years since this group produced a record (see **Bro Nevez** 22, February 1987), and Cabestan has changed a bit in those years. Two former mainstays remain: Arnaud Maisonneuve and Christian Desnos. Two new members have been added: Erik Marchand (whose voice is a good addition to anything), and Thierry Moreau, veuze player and arranger of many of the songs on the CD.

Tammles. Sans bagage. Excalibur CD 832 (Diffusion Breizh). CD or cassette.

Just when I was wondering what Tammles was up to (if anything), they have produced a new recording to reassure us that this talented group is still at work. According to Breton reviews this recording is a departure from their earlier records which highlighted Breton dance. Like other Bretons long active in producing great dance music, Tammles is experimenting with a concert format and some less-traditional compositions.

Penfleps. Le Lagon Bleu (Distributed by Keltia Musique) M110. Cassette, 84 francs.

Although Brittany produces a large number of creative musicians who compose new pieces and arrange traditional music in highly innovative ways, a relatively small number today choose rock as their medium. The young rock band Penfleps sings in Breton and uses traditional melodies as a basis for its music.

* * * * *

COMING SOON...

The ICDBL has produced a series of bibliographies, chronologies and basic guides to the Breton language and culture which are now under revision. The revision of the **Guide to Music in Brittany** is now almost complete with updated bibliographical notes, a discography, some basic definitions, a list of basic music festivals in Brittany and some tips on how and where to find Breton recordings. Watch for a note on this an other ICDBL publications in the February issue of **Bro Nevez**.

A Letter to the Editor

from Mary Primel, Cumming, Georgia ... September 20, 1990

... I have just returned from Brittany and had a great time. The land is beautiful and the people wonderful. Since I do not speak French or Breton, I shopped for records and school books. At the wonderful bookshop in Paris*, "American" and "Diwan" immediately produced a copy of our newsletter with a big smile and hearty handshake. ...

I have just toured the prehistoric sites of Brittany. Little did I know that Brittany had such a rich treasure buried away. Dr. Aubrey Burl, noted British archeologist, led the tour group. We crossed the Channel at Roscoff and headed to Perros Guirec along the Granite Coast. Needless to say, we stopped at the great standing stones and passage graves whenever we could. Seafood and cider, this is Brittany! More surprises were yet to come. After a few days, we headed south to Carnac. Up across the mountains and deep forest of central Brittany and down to the sea once more. Not only more seafood but pancakes filled with the most delicious goodies. The language could be heard and the occasional headress could be seen. We toured the great rows of stones at Carnac and saw the great area of monoliths around the bay. By this time, Dr. Burl was in shock. In May he had to pull out maps to find the sights. Now, all of a sudden, there were sign posts erected pointing the way. Even more amazing were the signs at the sites in French, English, Spanish, and Breton--new signs which had just been placed. Yes, signs in Breton! Dr. Burl said that it must have been done because his guide to Brittany was now out in French. Whatever the reason, it should help bring more tourists to this wonderful country. I filled my bags with pictures, lace, Breton music, and school books. I will go back some day; I hope all of you can get a chance to go.

* Librairie Breizh, 10 rue du Maine, 75014 Paris. See Bro Nevez 34 (May 1990) for a catalog.

* * *

and a note from the Celtic League

With the Celtic New Year (November 1) now past, the Celtic League American Branch wishes to alert you to its yearly publication of a unique Celtic Calendar. Starting on the traditional Celtic New Year's Day on November 1st, the Calendar is illustrated with twelve panels of original Celtic artwork by noted contemporary artists Patrick Wynne and Adam Christensen, each panel depicting a scene from the rich mythology of the Celts.

In addition, the name of each month is highlighted in one of the six Celtic languages: Irish, Scottish, Welsh, Breton, Cornish, and Manx, and each month also has a Celtic proverb in its native language and in English, with the days of the week also noted in the Celtic language of the month.

To commemorate the diverse history of the Celtic nations, every day of the year has noted one or more anniversaries of notable people and events from Celtic history, nearly 700 notations in all. The back pages of the calendar carry more material on the languages and traditional festivals of the Celtic peoples.

Copies of this unique Calendar can be obtained for \$6.00 postpaid per copy from: Celtic League Calendar, 2973 Valentine Avenue, Bronx, NY 10017.

Y MONITOR CYMRAEG
The Welsh Language Monitor



Cyfrol 3 Rhif 5 (Vol. 3 No. 5)
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WELSH LANGUAGE EDUCATION IN DYFED

A major controversy is underway in Dyfed County as citizens debate the policies of the Dyfed Education Committee and the Dyfed County Council favoring Welsh-medium education.

In traditionally Welsh-speaking areas, it is the policy to teach the majority of subjects in primary schools through the medium of the Welsh language. In areas where Welsh speakers are a minority, Welsh is taught as a subject only.

Labour MP Dr. Alan Williams of Caerfyrddin and a parents' group called Education First support offering English-medium education throughout the County. On the other side of the debate are Pont ("Bridge"), the organization for teaching Welsh to immigrants, and Rheini Dros Addysg Gymraeg (Parents for Welsh Education). Education First supporters stress the right of parents to choose the language of their children's schools, and question whether it is in their children's best interest to be educated in what they see as a dying language. The opposing view is that Welsh-medium education is necessary in order to save the language, and cites the studies which show increased scholastic abilities among bilingual children. Having long since lost control of their borders and immigration into their country, some Welsh ask if it is too much to require that the newcomers at least learn the native language.

Dr. Williams was recently re-selected as Labour party candidate in Caerfyrddin, 60% of whose 16,000 people speak Welsh. With heavy pressure from both sides, the Education Committee will review its policy in November.

IN BRIEF

Language grants: The government's Welsh Office is offering grants for projects and activities promoting the Welsh language. The Minister of State for Wales, Sir Wyn Roberts, has invited various organizations to put in their bids.

Development ban: Planning inspector Shane Rees of the Welsh Office has upheld the decision of Aberconwy Borough Council to reject a housing scheme in the village of Eglwysbach, Gwynedd, on the grounds that it would harm the Welsh language there.

The decision sets an important precedent. Throughout areas of Gwynedd traditionally solidly Welsh-speaking, housing developments for immigrant English have rent the linguistic fabric of the communities.

Urdd Eisteddfod: Organizers of the Urdd Eisteddfod report that fund-raising is ahead of schedule. The Urdd Eisteddfod is the young people's parallel to the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol, Wales' national cultural festival. Thousands of Welsh youth will be coming next spring to participate in the Welsh-language event in Tonyrefail, Morgannwg Ganol.

English geography: Cymdeithas yr Iaith (the Welsh Language Society) has attacked the proposed National Curriculum geography courses as Anglo-centric and potentially harmful to Welsh children's education. Ffred Ffransis of the Society cited the Geography Working Party's report: "The needs of both [England and Wales] could be met within a common framework and it is unrealistic to foster a Welsh perspective on the world."

English out: Noted poet RS Thomas has called for ostracism of English immigrants and painting their property with anti-English slogans. He is one of few people who have publicly expressed sympathy for Meibion Glyndwr, the shadowy arsonist group noted for burning houses of English immigrants. The elderly poet learned Welsh late in life after gaining fame for his English-language poetry. Cymdeithas yr Iaith has disassociated

itself from his remarks, and authorities are investigating his remarks as an incitement to racial violence.

Ystryd Sesame? HTV has launched a new TB program for youngsters learning Welsh. Parablu has been devised by Jocelyn Smith, who worked on Sesame Street.

Welsh Not: The Porthmadog, Gwynedd engineering firm of Dawson Wales reportedly gave £1,000 and a written apology to Sharon Lewis, 19, after she quit for being forbidden to speak Welsh on the job with clients and colleagues. The compensation was awarded following the intervention of the Commission for Racial Equality and Cefn, the Welsh Language Rights organization.

PROFILE:

PONT: Bridging Welsh and Immigrants

The flood of immigrants into rural Wales threatens to drown the remaining Welsh communities. The 600,000 who have arrived in the past decade are approximately equal in number to the entire Welsh-speaking population.

Seeking to counter the dilutive effects of this influx is PONT ("Bridge"). Founded last year by the venerable Dr. Gwynfor Evans, the organization seeks to assimilate newcomers by offering Welsh language classes, educational events, and community activities to bring Welsh and immigrants together.

With about 500 members and six chapters in early 1990, the organization is seeking funding for its programs. Contributions may be sent to:

PONT
c/o Irena Paxton
Ty Llwyncrwn, Llanybydder,
Dyfed, UK SA40 9QE

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Y MONITOR CYMRAEG
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Bellingham, WA 98226

Bro Nevez readers -
This will not always be
inserted into our newsletter, but
please note the existence of the
welsh language Monitor and get
yourself a subscription!

* Please photocopy and distribute *

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