INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE BRETON LANGUAGE



KUZUL ETREVROADEL EVIT KENDALC'H AR BREZHONEG

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The U.S. Branch of the International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language (U.S. ICDBL) was incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation on October 20, 1981.

**Bro Nevez** ("new country" in the Breton language) is the newsletter of the U.S. ICDBL. It is published quarterly: February, May, August and November. Contributions, letters to the Editor, and ideas are welcome from all readers and will be printed at the discretion of the Editors. Suggested deadlines for receipt of contributions for Bro Nevez are: January 20, April 20, July 20, and October 20.

Ideas expressed within this newsletter are those of the individual authors, and do not necessarily represent ICDBL philosophy or policy.

Membership in the U.S. Branch of the ICDBL includes subescription to Bro Nevez:

Voting Membership:

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The U.S. ICDBL provides Bro Nevez on a complimentary basis to a number of language and cultural organizations in Brittany; in some instances we are also very happy to establish an exchange of publications.

### FROM THE EDITOR

Lois Kuter

It is certainly fitting in this year of our 10th anniversary to start out by saluting the Founding Members of the U.S. ICDBL. The following people responded to a letter I circulated in September and October 1980 inviting individuals to help establish a branch of the ICDBL in the U.S. (a copy of that letter follows). All 24 of the people listed below (and in some cases couples) have stuck with the U.S. ICDBL to remain members today—ten years without a falter in their support:

Reun ar C'halan
Norman F. Beach
James J. Blake
Daniel Calvez
Réal de Mélogue
Margot de Chatelaine
and Kevin Gilligan
Christine Forster-Inga
Gweltaz Hamel
John S. Hennessey
John M. Jones
James W. Kerr
Javan Kienzle

Richard Laliberte
Roy and Alice Leake
Joseph McCloskey
Evan J. Parker
Br. Charles Quinn
Genevieve M. Ray
Michel Y. Roy
Edgar M. Slotkin
Thomas L. Standeven
Lenora A. Timm
Amy Varin
Marie-Louise Villamizar

Had they heard of the U.S. ICDBL in its earliest existence, the following five members would surely be in the list above. Technically these individuals joined us in 1982, but their nine years of steady support surely merits special recognition:

Mary Jessie Cosnard des Closets René and Corinne Facchetti Alex B. Kyle Barbara Morgan Yvonne Smith

The U.S. ICDBL has a truly solid core of support. Besides the 29 earliest members who have remained supporters, an additional 38 of our current members have maintained their membership for five or more years. They also deserve mention for their persistence in supporting the Breton language and culture here in North America.

Eight years of membership:

Ellen Badone Stephen DeVillo Richard Herr Alexei Kondratiev Leon and Barbara Kuter Joël Le Gall Jean and Huguette Le Gall Paul and Liz Nedwell Sean Scanlan Gregory Stump Laurie (Fadave) Vejby Seven years of membership:

Doris Creegan
Phil Davies
Brian Frykenberg
Roger Griffin
Serge Laîné
Dinah Lehoven

Thomas Clark Maurer Chris Merritt Walter A. Stock Alicia Williams Laurie Zaring

Six years of membership:

Katherine Branstetter David Brule Martha Cornog Barbara Eskew Stephen Griffin Lani Hermann Roderick Jacobs Ray S. Lenahan Joseph O'Callahan

Five years of membership:

William Cassidy Neil Garrity Paul Garvin John Hanley Stewart B. McCarty Cheryl Mitchell Judith Pendleton

The energy and ideas new members bring into any organization is always important, and the U.S. ICDBL has always had a steady growth of new members to replace those who drift away or find they simply have too many other important commitments in their lives. In our current membership 19 additional members have been with the U.S. ICDBL for the past two to four years. In 1990 we had nine new members and for 1991 we already have five new members.

While the U.S. ICDBL has a current membership of 100, over 200 other people have at one time been members—often as long as five or six years before leaving us. This does not include a dozen or so subscribers to Bro Nevez and several university libraries and the Library of Congress who also receive Bro Nevez. While our actual membership will never be enormous, our outreach has certainly grown over the years, and through Bro Nevez as well as each of our members we have truly served as a "clearing house" in the United States for information about Brittany. While only a small fraction of the people who have contacted the U.S. ICDBL for information have followed up with a membership or subscription to Bro Nevez, we have served to help many Americans learn more about the Breton language and culture.

Congratulations to all our members—new and old—for the support you have given and will continue to give to the Breton language and culture. I am sure I can express the feelings of all ICDBL members—here in North America and throughout the world—in stating that we will continue to support the efforts of the many Bretons in Brittany who have worked not just for one decade but for many decades to keep the Breton language a part of the very beautiful heritage of Brittany.

had 51 members from 21 different states and Canada. These individuals sent suggestions for other potential members Directors. The first newsletter (reprinted on this issue's front cover) did not appear until July 1981. We were United States primarily active in Celtic language organizations or scholarship. By November 1980 the U.S. ICDBL In September and October 1980, the letter reprinted below was sent to a variety of individuals throughout the and the letter made several more rounds. By the end of 1980, we were ready to elect officers and a Board of officially incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation by the State of Indiana on October 20, 1981.

KUZUL ETREVROADEL EVIT KENDALC'H AR YEZH VREZHONEK INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE BRETON LANGUAGE

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This letter is to briefly introduce you to the International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language and to invite you to help establish a branch of this organization in the United States.

### What is the Breton language?

Breton is a Celtic language spoken in Brittany, a peninsula in northwestern France approximately the size of Belgium with a population of approximately 3.5 million people. Breton is one of six Celtic languages spoken today. Irish Gaelic, Scots Gaelic, Manx, Welsh, Cornish, and Breton. Although no official statistics exist for the number of Breton speakers, it is estimated that approximately 1,200,000 people in Brittany know Breton, and 700,000 speak it as their everyday language.

### Why does Breton need to be defended?

Like other languages found within the borders of France--Basque, Flemish, Occitan, Alsacian and Corsican--Breton has almost no place in the highly centralized French administrative, educational, and media systems which have all worked to insure that French is the only "national" language of France. People in Brittany speak French and few would renounce their French citizenship, but people in Brittany also speak Breton and want to insure that their children and grandchildren are not denied the rich Breton cultural heritage which includes the Breton language.

For over 100 years Bretons have petitioned the French government to no avail for Breton classes in the schools. The Charte Culturelle of 1977 promised support of the Breton culture and language, but so far almost nothing has been done to impliment these promises. With no support from the French government, Bretons continue to create their own schools and classes to teach the Breton language, and their own media to allow Bretons to create and communicate in their own language.

# The International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language

The International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language was set up at the beginning of the 1975/76 school year to support the repeated demands of the teachers and people of Brittany that their language be recognized at long last, taught and accepted as a fact of daily life by the French authorities.

This Committee, which more than 500 personalities representing 40 different nationalities have joined, was set up on a voluntary basis by non-Bretons who in this way show that, while the issue does not personally concern them, they consider it to be one which merits the disinterested support of men and women of good will. The Committee, which is concerned purely with the defense of the cultural rights of the individual, is non-political and non-ideological.

The Committee is striving to make the French government aware of the fact that a liberal and positive policy towards the minority languages, which ethnic minorities in France wish to preserve, would improve the moral standing of France on an international level.

# The United States Branch of the International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language

The primary activity of the United States branch of the ICDBL will be to inform people of the United States about the Breton language as well as to let people Know how they as individuals can support Bretons in their efforts to insure the future of their language.

Membership in the U.S. Branch will require the payment of minimal dues of \$1.00 per year, but, more importantly, a commitment to become better aware of the Breton language and its problematical future. Members are invited to become active in initiating or participating in ICDBL projects. Whether active or not, all members will receive news of the activities of the U.S. and other branches of the International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language.

Please fill out and mail the enclosed slip to the following address:

Lois Kuter 312 West Dodds Street Bloomington, Indiana 47401 Should you have any questions or ideas concerning the International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language and the establishment of a branch in the United States, please do not hesitate to write to me.

My best wishes to you,

Lois Kuter Acting Representative for the United States International Committee for the Defense of the Breton Language

1añ c'hwec'hmiziad 90 1er semestre 90

Trizek vloaz goude e daol-esae kentañ e 1977 ez eo aet Diwan war-raok betek skoliañ 620 bugel e 21 ti-skol hag ur skolaj. Deut eur a-benn d'an disoc'h kaer-mañ, anat eo, dre youl tud ar vugale hag ar stourmerien bodet en-dro dezho, o deus mennet diorren a-zevri o c'hrouadurien en ur zerc'hel kont eus yezh Vreizh. Maen-sol an ensavadur eo ar skolaerien, pennaktored gwirvoud bemdez Diwan anezho, hag a garfemp ho lakaat anaout gwelloc'h hiziv.

### An diaraogourien

Denez ABERNOT a voe mestr-skol kentañ Diwan e penn ur c'hlasad pemp a vugale, d'an 23 a viz Mae 1977 e Lampaol-Gwitalmeze- hag a voe staliet en ur penn-ti lakaet e-ratre gant tud an ti-kêr.

Distro-skol 1977 a voe e miz Gwengolo e Kemper, en atant al Lenn-Du, gant Annaig Gwiban, hag e miz Here e Ploneour-Menez gant Erwan Kervella.

"Me a oa o stourm evit ar brezhoneg, mes dedennet e oan ivez gant ar vicher skolaerez", eme Gristina JEGOU, arruet e 1978 e skol Vrest hag hi hiriv henañ skolaerez Diwan.

Adal ar bloavezhioù-hont, reoù all a zo aet agevret ganto, lod anezho o kaout skiant-prenet war ar vicher skolaer pe gelenner. An deiz a hiziv ez eus 53 den (23 mestr ha 30 mestrez) er skipailh.

### An tuta

Tutet e vezo pep danvez-mestr war an diviz m'en devo gounezet un diplom eus ar Skol-Veur (pe un diplom kevatal) goude daou vloavezhiad-studi eno, da vihanañ. Ouzhpenn ma vourrint gant ar vugale -ha se a vo gwiriekaet gant prouadoù bredkalvezel- e ranko danvez-kelennerien Diwan lakaat anat o barregezh da vrezhonegañ. Enfredet e vezint goude un emziviz gant ar bodad-goprañ, ennañ skolaerien akuit war o micher, ar rener war ar c'helenn, rener melestradurezh Diwan hag un ezel eus burev-ren ar gevredigezh. Titlet da vat e vezint 12 miz goude un trede emziviz gant ar bodad-goprañ.

Thirteen years after the creation of its first class, Diwan has schooled 620 children in 21 schools and one secondary school (college). This result is the culmination of concerted efforts on the part of parents and supporters whose concern has been to insure an education including the Breton language for their children. The pillar of the institution is the teachers—the daily actors making Diwan a reality—who will be presented here.

### The pioneers

Denez Abernot was the first Diwan teacher, and he started his class with five children, May 23, 1977, in Lampaul-Ploudalmézeau in an annex of the Mayor's office provided by the town.

Annaick Guiban insured the beginning of the 1977 school year for Diwan in Quimper on the Len-Du farm, and in October, Erwan Kervella taught a class in Plounéour-Ménez.

Kristina Jegou who arrived at the Brest school in 1978, and who now has been longest with Diwan as a teacher, told us "I was a Breton language militant, but also attracted to teaching as a profession."

Since those years others have joined Diwan-some with teaching experience as primary or secondary school teachers. Today there are 53 teachers (23 men and 30 women).

### Recruitment

To be recruited as a teacher in training one must have a level of study at least two years beyond the baccalaureat, with a university degree or equivalent. Besides the ability to work with children—confirmed by psychological tests—future Diwan teachers must prove proficiency in Breton. Initial confirmation is made through a meeting with a recruiting committee made up of experienced teachers, the pedagogical director, the administrative director, and a member of the Diwan board. A teacher is finally confirmed after a third interview with the committee twelve months later.

### Ar stummañ

Da gentañ e vez stummet ar skolaerien e-pad daou vloaz, dre deori ha dre bleustr. Ar stummadur teoriek a vezo sevenet, evit un darn, gant skoazell kreizennoù-stummañ diavaez ha rannet e vezo e mozelloù dre dem pe dre ziuz, eleze dre zanvez kelennet. Tennañ a ra ar pennvozelloù d'ar gelennouriezh, d'ar skoliadur ha d'ar pezh a laka kelennerezh Diwan da vezañ dibarkaer: ar soubañ er yezh.

Graet e vez ar stummadur pleustrek e meur a skol Diwan, dindan atebiezh ar mestr-klas end-eeun. Hennezh eo an degouezh neuze d'an darempredoù kentañ gant ar vugale ha d'ar poelladennoù kentañ. A-benn e brantad-stummañ e vezo fiziet er mestr nevez e glasad kentañ. Padal, skoazellet e vezo en e garg kentañ gant ur mestr-skol akuitoc'h egetañ, e heñcher.

Tro en devezo a-neuze da oberiañ el laz-kelenn en ur gemer perzh er bodadoù-kelenn a-hed ar bloaz, er staj a vez e fin ar vakañsoù-hañv evit prientiñ an distro-skol, derc'hel gant ar stummañ-dibaouez, eskemm skiant-prenet ha lakaat war ar stern danvez-kelenn evit ar bloavezh.

### Sevel an danvez-kelenn

"En deroù e krouas o-unan ar mestroù an dafarkelenn: dornlevrioù, fichennaouegi, c'hoarioù... pe e troent, pe e kempennent diwar yezhoù all, saozneg, kembraeg, euskareg, galleg... pe e krouent penn-dabenn diwar nebeut a dra" a zispleg Michèle BEYER, bet skolaerez e Komana hag e karg bremañ eus an Dafar-Kelenn.

He zrevell a zo neuze strollañ, gwellaat hag embann an hollad-mañ o terc'hel ennañ kement danvez ha live a zo eus ar skol-vamm d'ar c'hentañ derez. Evit eskemm o skiantprenaennoù o deus krouet skolaerien Diwan ar gelc'hgelaouenn gelennel Skod-Tan elec'h ma tivizer a-zivout hentennoù-lenn disheñvel, an doare da aozañ c'hoarioù-diavaez e porzh an ti-skol, pe c'hoazh ar c'heriaoueg a c'haller ober ganti evit dizoleiñ an arvor. Savet ez eus bet ganto Kreizenn an Dafaroù-Kelenn (KDK) evit ar skolioù, e Treglonou, enni ouzhpenn daou vil oberenn ha kelc'hgelaouenn.

### Training

The initial training of a teacher is done over a two-year period and includes theory and practice. Theoretical training, undertaken in part by the Centre de Formation extérieur, is divided into fundamental, thematic and optional modules, according to the material taught. The fundamental modules include pedagogy, teaching and linguistic immersion—the specialty of Diwan.

The practical training takes place in several Diwan schools under the direction of the teacher there. This is the first contact with the children and the first chance to try out pedagogy. At the end of this training period, the teacher is given his or her first class. A teacher with more experience will guide the new one in the first appointment. The new teacher is integrated further through pedagogical workshops during the course of the year and at the end of the summer vacation when teachers gather to prepare for the new year by continuing their learning, exchanging experiences and putting ideas into practice for the year.

### Pedagogical creativity

"From the beginning teachers have learned to create and adapt manuals and materials for teaching in Breton. Everyone has created new lessons from academic manuals originally in French, but also in Welsh or Basque, or they have simply invented," explains Michèle Beyer, formerly a teacher in Commana, but today serving to gather, redo and distribute materials which have been proven in use by teachers.

Because of this situation, the habit of sharing experiences has been born. And thus, teachers created a pedagogical magazine called Skod-Tan which includes different teaching methods, the way to adapt outdoor games for indoor use, or perhaps the Breton vocabulary to use in exploring the seashore. This has been added to the Centre de Documentation Pedagogique in Treglonnou which today has more than 2,000 books and magazines for Diwan teachers' use.

### An darempredoù-diavaez

Adal an deroù ez eus bet skoulmet liammoù gant emsavioù-kelenn oc'h ober gant an doare soubañ er yezh. Er c'hiz-se e tileury Diwan Yann GWILHAMOD e-barzh Ar Greizenn-gelaouiñ ved war ar c'helennerezh divyezhek. Yann en deus darempredet eno brasañ arbennigourien an danvez-se, evel ar profesor MacKey eus Skol-Veur Krec'h-ar-Roue, anezhañ deskoniour ar c'helennerezh divyezhek e Bro-Ontario, kentizh ha 1964.

A-drugarez d'ar rouedad-darempredoù-se eo ez eus bet gallet sevel ar c'hendiviz war an divyezhegezh en Europa, e Landernev, e 1985 hag an divizadeg diwar-benn an deskadurezh divyezhek e-kerz c'hoariadegoù EUROSKOL e Brest, e 1988. "A-drugarez d'an darempedoù-se e pleustromp e skol Gemper gant un hentenn diouti hec'h-unan da zeskiñ saozneg, dre gleweled penn-da-benn, hep kelenner. Hounnezh a zo lakaet da dalvezout abaoe pemp bloaz e Brunswig-Nevez, er C'hanada", a spisa Yann.

### Ar gefridi-gelenn

Skolaerien Diwan a zo o freder digeriñ spered o bugale, diorren o fersonelezh hag o barregezhioù hiniennel. "Degemer a raimp muioc'h a vugale en ur reiñ dezho ul live mat hag en ur ziduiñ anezho" eme Gristina, ha Solañj KLOAREG o lavarout ouzhpenn: "Ne vevomp ket dastumet ennomp hon-unan rak digor-kaer eo hor skol war an diavaez..."

Ar skolaerien o deus gouezet arver o frankizkelenn evit aozañ ur gelennouri dibar hag ober kenglotañ o doug d'ar yezh ha d'ar sevenadurezh vreizhek ouzh ur c'helennadur nevezus, o tiorren galloudoù-yezhañ bugale a vo dec' halvet da vevañ en ur bed hep pimpatrom kulturel na peurwirionez ebet, elec'h mar bez pep dibarded un atoud en holl.

### Outside Contacts

Right from the start, Diwan teachers have been in the habit of nourishing relations with other pedagogical movements using linguistic immersion. In this area Yann Guillamot represents Diwan at the Centre Mondial d'Information sur l'Enseignement Bilingue (World Center on Information for Bilingual Teaching), and has contacted the leading experts in this area including Professor Mackey of the Université de Montréal who initiated bilingual education in Ontario in 1964.

It is this network of relations that fostered the colloquium on bilingualism in Europe held in Landerneau in 1985, and the discussion on bilingual education held during the Euroskol sports competitions held in Brest in 1988. "Thanks to these relations, we were able to adapt a unique English learning method—entirely audiovisual without a teacher—for use in the Quimper school which had been used on an experimental basis for five years in New Brunswick, Canada," specifies Yann Guillamot.

### The Pedagogical Mission

The Diwan teachers hope to expand the children's experience, to develop their personality and their individual talents. "We will attract more students by giving them a good level of education and in conducting attractive activities," explains Kristina, and Solange Cloarec of the Landerneau Diwan school adds: "We don't live in a sheltered world of our own. Our school is very open to the outside world and we participate a great deal in the public world by putting up displays and conducting workshops..."

The teachers have known how to use their pedagogical freedom to put together a unique pedagogy and to adapt their attachment to the Breton language and culture to the needs of putting an innovative teaching program into place for the development of the linguistic apptitudes of children who will live in a world without any one dominant cultural model or absolute truth—a world where creativity is a plus.

### Ar gefridi-desevel

Skolaerien a sant dreist-holl en o askre ar mennad da gelenn ha da ziorren. "Ar c'hlasad a zo anezhañ ur gevredigezhig ma c'heller ijinañ ennañ doareoù nevez da vevañ kevret gant ur spered kenskoazell" a zispleg Reun KINIOU eus Diwan Brest. Gouzout a ouzont e vo berzh o skolidi pennabeg ar berzh o devo en o buhez da zont ha n'ankounac'haont ket war un dro ez eo o finvidigezh-den an hini a raio berzh-mat o c'helenn.

Gant gred ha sederded, gant emroüsted ha micheregezh, skolaerien Diwan a ijin bemdez en-dro o micher evit brasañ mat ar vugale a zo fiziet enno. O dezev eo ober eus Diwan ar skol varrekañ a vo e Breizh. Bez' emañ en o c'halon ar goanag da stummañ keodediz da zont ar gevredigezh vreizhat arnevez, hêred penn-da-benn eus o c'hultur ha lorc'h enno eus

### The Educative Mission

The Diwan teachers feel that above all they are responsible for a mission of teaching and education. "The classroom is a society where we can invent new means of living together, in a spirit of solidarity and mutual support," explained Reun Quiniou of the Diwan school in Brest. Conscious that academic success is critical for the future of their students, they do not forget that it is the human quality that will mean the success of their teaching.

With passion and calmness, devotion and professionalism, the Diwan teachers reinvent their job each day, to the greatest benefit of the children entrusted to them. Their aim is to make Diwan schools the best of Brittany today.

At the heart is the training of future citizens for a modern Breton society, the full inheritors of their culture, proud of their origins, free, and responsible.

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### MORE ABOUT DIWAN

The most recent issue of the Breton magazine Ar Men (no. 32, janvier 1991) includes an excellent article on Diwan by Cristhine Le Portal: "Diwan, une autre école pour la Bretagne". In this 17 page article the author traces the history of Diwan's growth and presents the raison d'être of the Diwan schools. Also very clearly presented are Diwan's difficult relations with the French educational system and the financial as well as pedagogical challenges of creating schools and necessary teaching materials.

Most important to understand, and sometimes difficult for outsiders to grasp, is the challenge Diwan has faced from the Breton-speaking population of Brittany itself. The author sympathetically and eloquently describes the complex problem of gaining the trust and support of Bretons taught to be ashamed of their culture and now confronted by their grandchildren who cannot always understand why this heritage was held from them. While support of Diwan has grown slowly as Bretons have learned to take pride in their childrens' ability to master bilingualism (and trilingualism), considerable challenges remain for Diwan children, parents, teachers, and administrators.

Cristhine Le Portal describes very well Diwan's evolution and gives an honest portrayal of past and continuing challenges, but she also describes very well the success of the Diwan schools in helping both children and adults take charge of their own linguistic and cultural heritage. The many photos accompanying the article speak just as eloquently of Diwan's remarkable growth.

Ar Men (Abri du Marin, B.P. 159, 29171 Douarnenez, Brittany). Subscription for 8 issues (1 year) 510 francs (surface mail). Back issues are 60 francs each.

### BILINGUAL SCHOOLS IN MORBIHAN

Keleier arVro is a newsletter produced by Emglev Bro an Oriant, a grouping of 21 language and cultural organizations in south central Brittany (the Lorient area). Besides notes on collaborative work of this group and cultural activities in the Lorient area, the newsletter also includes interesting articles on the Breton language and its place in schools and public life. The following interview appeared in Keleier ar Vro 10 (November/December 1990). The translation from French is mine.

Lois Kuter

BILINGUAL TEACHING IN MORBIHAN -- AN INTERVIEW WITH YANNIG BARON

In the past months, the teaching of Breton has undergone some interesting advances in public and private schools. To enlighten our readers on this subject, we met with Yannig Baron who has done very important work in Morbihan to advance and institute the idea of bilingual Breton/French teaching in public as well as private (Catholic) schools.

Keleier ar Vro: What is the situation of bilingualism in Morbihan?

Yannig Baron: This year is characterized by a notable acceleration in the number of schools and students which use it. Diwan-Lorient was for ten years the only school where students could practice bilingualism, having two projects fail in Auray and Vannes. Then, in the past five years, bilingual schools were created in Lanester, Pontivy, Brec'h and Vannes. This year the number of students has doubled. Projects are planned in Guidel, Baud, Pont-Scorff, Carnac ...

KAV: How do you view the future?

YB: It is impossible to make predictions for the next ten to twenty years, but the context is favorable. Bilingualism is developing in many countries. In some instances it has almost won over everyone: in Wales, Catalonia, the Basque land in the south (Spain). Let's look at an example closest to us: that of the northern Basque land (in France). SEASKA was created about ten years before Diwan. If you add the totals from all three existing systems (SEASKA, public schools and private schools), one can state that 10% of the Basque children north of the Pyrennes are in bilingual schools, and that increases regularly each year. In my view, Brittany will have 20,000 children in the same situation in ten years.

KAV: Do you think that is possible?

YB: I am convinced of it... if everyone works for it. This will not in itself save the Breton language, but the climate will be so much changed that anything will become possible.

KAV: Let's get back to Morbihan. You are in on the origins of the latest news from Vannes, in private schools ...

YB: For me, Diwan has been the best thing to be done in Brittany in several decades. Nevertheless, one must be aware that there are 200,000 children in preschools and primary schools in Lower Brittany and almost as many at the secondary level. It is impossible to imagine that public and private schools would empty to the benefit of Diwan in the next twenty years.

### Bilingual Schools in Morbihan - continued

- YB: It is impossible to envisage a future for Breton without taking account of that. A year ago, no one thought about a bilingual school in Vannes. No one was talking either of Guidel, Baud or Carnac. Diwan is the locomotive that must be kept up and pushed to the maximum. Then it's necessary to attach train cars to it. Public teaching has followed and is well established. I'd like to see private schools do as well. It has been done in Morbihan and Finistère has also taken the train. Who could not rejoice in that?
- KAV: How many children are enrolled in Vannes?
- YB: Thirty children in preschool and primary school for the first year and a waiting list already. Next year there will be 50 to 60. No other school in Brittany has ever gotten off to a start under such good conditions.
- KAV: Ho do you see the relations between Diwan, public schools and private schools?
- YB: Diwan is first of all an irreplaceable symbol. Then it is a pedagogical system of immersion (in Breton) which is the best suited to achieve the goal we are all looking for: a balanced bilingualism. Public and private schools used a different pedagogical system, which is no doubt slower in helping to reach this goal—especially when parents are not Breton speakers in the home. In the future these two pedagogies will probably move closer together. Personally, I would like to see preschools everywhere be monolingual—in Breton, naturally. And Breton/French bilingualism would be introduced only at the primary level. The choices we make are often for political reasons ... to not frighten the State too much.
- KAV: But isn't there competition?
- YB: A little competition is healthy. Let's take the example of Lannion: the Diwan school developed very well, as did the bilingual public school. In Tregastel and Cavan one has gotten over 200 children. When private schools incorporate bilingualism, you will quickly have 300 or 400. Isn't that a good thing?

In Morbihan a climate of collaboration has grown between the academic systems which seems good. It is necessary that the maximum number of parents have an option to choose bilingualism. Everyone has the right to have the chance to have it in conjunction with their own laic or religious values. With Diwan, the choice is pedagogical as well. What needs to be done now is to work together to make a development plan for the whole department for the next five years. This is to plan for a Diwan school and bilingualism in several public or private schools in each town or village in response to demands made by parents, their dynamism, and also in view of realities. For the immediate future, we need at least ten teachers to respond to existent demands for the 1991 school year.

- KAV: What happens if there are not enough teachers?
- YB: It is urgent to make known our needs and, in this exceptional situation, we must call for exceptional measures! Since the State is incapable of resolving the problem in the next years to come, and assuming we will have the strength to do it, it is necessary to put into place an advanced training program financed by the General Council and the Region (of Brittany). Faced with

this responsibility, elected officials must contribute to the resolution of the problem and then act on the State to make it do its job. Never forget that Breton does not belong to any individual, but is the property of ALL; and monies controlled by our elected officials is not the State's, but ours.

"It's becoming fashionable to speak Breton"? KAV:

Entirely. This year, a dynamism has been created thanks to the perseverance YB: of many people--ten years of work in Lorient, five years in Lanester, Pont-Scorff, and Pontivy, and then in Brec'h and Vannes. Parents are beginning to know that Breton isn't such a silly idea after all, but to the contrary it is the only practical means to become bilingual today, and tri- or quatrilingual tomorrow.

The following article profiles Joseph Rio, who has taught Breton for eight years. Despite the fact that he must travel a dozen kilometers between two schools two times a week, and the all-too-common practice of scheduling Breton classes during the lunch hour, he remains optimistic. Parents are no longer ashamed to speak Breton, and each year the number of young people who share his passion to learn more about Breton culture and history increases.

### Ouest France 11 sept. 1990 Sa huitième rentrée Joseph Rio: prof de breton à temps plein

Joseph Rio, la quarantaine solide et une philosophie sereine, a rep »ris hier la route du collège de Quéven et du lycée Colbert de Lorient. Pour la huitlème année consécutive, il enseignera exclusivement la langue, l'histoire et la culture bretonnes dans ces deux établissements. Quinze heures de cours hebdomadaires pour cet agrégé de lettres modernes qui partageait avant 1982 son temps entre l'enseignement du breton et du français.

Rien à voir avec un militant Rien à voir avec un militant pur et dur de la cause bretonne. Même s'il converse tous les jours dans sa langue maternelle avec ses proches et ses voisins de Locoal Mentende de la contrata del contrata de la contrata del contrata de la contrata de la contrata de la contrata de et ses voisins de Loccai Meira don, Joseph Rio qui prépare une thèse sur la celtomanie au 18e siècle, est d'abord un lin-guiste confirmé (un licence de breton et un diplôme d'études celtiques) passionné d'histoire bretonne. Et c'est surtout par elle qu'il communique à ses potaches le goût de la langue.

### L'attrait et l'intérêt

Sept heures de cours cha-que semaine l'an passé pour les quarante-et-un élèves de la sixième à la troisième, à Ouéven. Au-dessus, au lycée, les cours se font sur deux ni-veaux, en fonction des connaisances déià acquises de la

Exactement le même nombre d'élèves que l'an passé à Coibert. Mais, au vu de l'entretien qu'il a eu hier avec les parents et les nou-veaux, l'enseignant compte pour cette rentrée sur un effectif qui y dépassera les cin-quante inscrits.

### « Les parents n'ont plus honte »

« En sixième et en cin-quième, les élèves sont très motivés ou surtout incités par quième, les élèves sont très motivés ou surtout incités par leurs parents à apprendre le breton », assure-t-il. Ensuite c'est moins évident. Mais à partir de la seconde, l'intérêt revient « Pour certains, c'est le moyen d'obtenir des points supplémentaires au bac; les autres sont accrochés naturel-lement. » Le festival de Lorient, en plus du lait que beau-coup d'élèves ont des parents originaires de Basse-Bretagne, explique aussi cet attrait pour une langue pas spécialement parlée au quotidien dans le port morbihanais.

Dans le premier cycle, Joseph Rio fait largement appel au film et à la vidéo pour intéresser ses élèves. Aux visites sur le terrain aussi (musée de Carnac, site de Gavrinis, etc.).

C'est incroyable comme les époque de préhistoire. »

Celle, justement, qui ne figure pas de manière automatique au programme.

Sur l'avenir de la langue, Joseph Rio se dit « non tout-àfait pessimiste ». Un avis qu'il fonde sur l'augmentation du nombre d'élèves qui suivront les cours en maternelle et primaire dans le Morbihan (il doit passer de 108 à 217, Diwan compris). A cela s'ajoute des compris). A cela s'ajoute des projets d'ouverture à Guidel, compris). A cela s'ajoute des projets d'ouverture à Guidel, Pont-Scorff et Quistinic (public) et Carnac (privé) « Et puls on constate aujourd'hui que les parents n'ont plus honte de la

parents n'ont pus nonte de la parler comme c'était le cas auparavant. »

Un professeur heureux, Jo-seph Rio ? Certainement. Sauf que l'organisation de l'emploi du temps l'a obligé jusqu'ici à un va-et-vient bi-quotidien entre les deux établissements distants d'une douzaine de ki-lomètres. Et, surfout, que la quasi-totalité des cours sont donnés entre midi et 2 H. Ce qui est loin d'être idéal. « Le Breton, c'est la dernière roue de la charrette pour l'Administration », se plaint-il un peu amer. Rien n'est parfait. du temps l'a obligé jusqu'ici à

J. C. PERAZZI



Moins pessimiste sur l'avenir de la langue bretonne

### **BILINGUAL TEACHING**

Lois Kuter

The following information and observations are based on materials received from **Unvaniezh ar Gelennerien Brezhoneg** (Union of Breton Teachers).

While it is difficult from this side of the Atlantic to keep up to date on everything happening in Brittany, it is easy to keep track of the many things that do not happen. Press releases and correspondence from various organizations working to meet students' demands for more Breton in the schools and the public's demand for more Breton on roads and in the media, make it clear that a great deal remains to be done. The government continues to grant support and minimal resources only grudgingly. As Bretons are all too aware, it takes massive demonstrations (like those in France by high school students this past Fall) or violence (like that in Corsica) to get the attention of the Department of National Education.

For two years Unvaniezh ar Gelennerien Brezhoneg (Union of Breton Teachers) has tried to meet with the Minister of Education, Lionel Jospin, to develop a plan to strengthen the teaching of Breton. While the Corsicans have obtained a coherent plan for strengthening the place of Corsican in their schools, the government seems to ignore the detailed proposals and documentation prepared by Breton teachers for such a plan.

The Union of Breton Teachers will continue to work on such a plan and to get a fair hearing for it in the Ministry of Education. The plan would include attention to the following needs:

- a training program for Breton teachers (still inexistant)
- an increase in the number of CAPES teaching posts designated by the government. In the past four years there was one per year in contrast to the fourteen granted for Corsica for 1991.
- the appointment of teachers to teach only Breton, or to teach through the medium of Breton (in bilingual secondary school classes). This would require modification of the current CAPES for Breton on the model of the Corsican CAPES.
  - Note that to qualify to teach Breton in the public secondary schools, teachers must pass through the CAPES university program. For Breton, this currently requires a student to have a double major and to pass exams in a second subject besides Breton.
- the creation of a permanent academic consulting council for Breton
- the creation of a specific service in the Rectorat (Regional branch of National Education) to take charge of managing teaching programs.

The needs outlined above are not new and none require a massive financial investment on the part of the State. But, getting all the stumbling blocks removed requires constant action on the part of Breton teachers, students and parents. In comparison to the progress made by Corsicans, the slowness of the government in even opening talks to develop a rational and effective plan for the full inclusion of Breton in the schools forces one to conclude that action may come only after more massive street demonstrations or the type of violence Corsicans have used in their fight for more linguistic and cultural autonomy

### A PIONEER IN BILINGUAL EDUCATION

Soaz Maria. Yann Sohier et Ar Falz, 1901-1935. Morlaix: Ar Falz, 1990

reviewed by Lois Kuter

Today the idea that bilingualism can be a positive part of a child's education is becoming more and more accepted -- and is backed by research. But, Bretons working to introduce Breton classes to public and private schools of Brittany in the 1920s and 1930s did not have such public support or studies to back them up. It took a great deal of courage and stubborness to persist in work to get even just a weekly half hour of Breton into a school given the attitudes of those times. In the 20s and 30s school officials were concerned with the education of "French" children of Brittany--and they had no intention of holding back what they viewed as the progress of children in Brittany who arrived at their first day of school without a word of French. Teaching little children to read and write Breton was unthinkable in this period. And, parents who had been taught in school and through experiences in the army that Breton was worthless for the future of their children, were certainly not ready to embrace the idea of bilingual education. Indeed, even today it is difficult to convince many that helping their children learn Breton is a "practical" step to take in helping that child face the future.

To understand the work of Bretons today to build programs for Breton classes, it is important to look back to their predecessors—individuals who laid the ground—work. One very important pioneer in work to make Breton a part of education in Brittany was Yann Sohier, the founder of Ar Falz in 1933. His work was certainly not lost when he died at the age of 34 in 1935, but one has to wonder what this remarkable man might have accomplished had he lived to continue his fight for Breton and Brittany.

The new publication by Soaz Maria, Yann Sohier et Ar Falz 1901-1935, is an excellent introduction to this man and his period. Supplemented by photos of Sohier and his contemporaries as well as reproductions of publications and correspondence, this 88-page work succeeds very well in placing Sohier's ideas and their practical application in the context of his times. Using a variety of written sources by and about Sohier (including long excerpts in Breton), the author debunks a few myths in her very straightforward and always interesting presentation of this man. Maria's honest presentation of Sohier in no way detracts from his remarkable work during just seventeen years of activity before his death ... which was no doubt hastened by his hard work for Breton.

The bulk of the book focuses on the creation of Ar Falz in 1933 and its first two years of activity. The stage is set to better understand the intensive activity of Yann Sohier as a teacher in the public schools by the author's discussion of his earlier activities as a language militant at the Ecole Normale (teacher training school) and in the army. Also important in understanding the creation of Ar Falz is Yann Sohier's perspective of international events and his attention to the fate of minority peoples outside of Brittany—in the Soviet Union in particular.

I found most striking in contrast to language militancy today the unabashed stance of Yann Sohier as a Breton nationalist. While work for the Breton language today involves by necessity a great deal of work to influence political leaders, the close ties between cultural militancy and Breton nationalism (and separatism) found in the 1920s through the 1940s in Brittany is not so clearly expressed today. There is no doubt that Breton language activists have a strong attachment to Brittany. Perhaps many Breton language supporters today would not hesitate to

Yann Sohier - continued

call themselves nationalists, but support of Breton seems to cut across more political and social lines than indicated in works about the Breton Movement of earlier decades. Bilingual education is not a cause restricted to Breton nationalists today. Perhaps fewer Bretons today feel that political autonomy is necessary before the Breton language and culture will have a chance for survival. Or, perhaps fewer Bretons feel the same urgent need expressed by militants of earlier decades to "convert" the Breton population to the idea of simply passing their linguistic and cultural heritage on to the next generation.

In some ways, things look easier today with the growth of more positive attitudes on the part of the Breton population as a whole and with support for the Breton language by a noticeable number of local elected officials. But many of the challenges remain to threaten the future of Breton language education in Brittany. Methods and rhetoric have changed some since Yann Sohier's days, but it still takes courage and a great deal of stubborn persistence to insure a healthy future for the Breton language and culture.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \*

Ar Falz remains extremely active in supporting Breton language teachers and students through a variety of activities and the production of a number of high quality publications.

Each year a six-day workshop for the Breton language and culture is held in early September. The 22nd annual **Kendalc'h Studi Brezhoneg** held in 1990 included six different Breton classes (4 hours per day), six bilingual workshops (2 hours per day), activities in Breton for children, song and dance workshops (each one hour per day) and various lectures, dances and celebrative events.

Skol dre Lizher is a correspondence course for Breton learners (using Fanch Morvannou's Le Breton sans peine).

Ar Falz is also the name of the quarterly magazine produced by this organization. Like the one reviewed above (no. 71-72) these can be special double issues on specific topics. Each issue includes descriptions of the activities of Ar Falz, but also fundamental studies on the Breton language and history (place names, bilingualism, Brittany in the French Revoluntion, etc.), and well prepared pedagogical materials (studying local streams and aquatic ecology through the Breton language, card games for children, stories, etc.). Also of interest are short notes on cultural activities, new publications, and recordings.

Skol Vreizh is a quarterly series of books that focus on different aspects of Breton culture, economy, history, or notable individuals. We have reviewed some of these in Bro Nevez and a short note on the two most recent in this series is included in this issue. Skol Vreizh is also the publisher of an excellent series of books on the geography and history of Brittany, a number of texts and recordings for Breton learners, and Breton language novels and short story collections for young people as well as adults.

Last, but not least, Planedenn is a quarterly literary review in the Breton language.

For more on Ar Falz and its publications see the catalog we reprinted in Bro Nevez no. 31 (August 1989).

### A Loss for the Breton Language: Raymond Delaporte

Lois Kuter

In December 1990 the Breton language lost one of its most faithful supporters, Raymond Delaporte. This scholar and activist devoted a lifetime to the study and development of resources for Breton teachers and students. Raymond Delaporte was certainly one of the best friends English-speaking Breton learners ever had. Whether publishing under the Breton version of his name, Remon ar Porzh, or simply R. Delaporte, this scholar and unabashed militant for the Breton language produced invaluable learning materials for English speakers who cannot or do not want to take the torturous route through French to learn Breton (or who do not have enough Irish or Welsh to use learning materials developed in these Celtic languages).

First to appear in 1977 was the translation and adaptation of Per Denez's Brezhoneg ... buan hag aes, a text for beginning level learners (Cork University Press). As a teacher of Breton at University College Cork for over thirty years, Raymond Delaporte was keenly aware of the need for such basic texts and he was anxious to give English speakers access to the Breton language. The task of adapting a text prepared for French speakers to the different needs of English speakers was not an easy one. The reward Raymond Delaporte hoped to get for his efforts was very simple, as he states in his introduction to Brezhoneg ... buan hag aes:

The writer of this English version wishes to thank heartily everyone who helped him in his task. He will consider himself fully repaid if this helps English speakers, especially those who are fellow Celtic speakers, to get to know Brittany and its language better and so further a deeper knowledge, understanding and friendship between Celts.

The next work to appear for English speakers is a classic: **Elementary Breton-English Dictionary/Geriadurig Brezhoneg-Saozneg** (Cork University Press, 1979). With 6,500 entries, this basic dictionary is the first to be published for English speakers and it is an invaluable aid to learners embarking on the study of Breton texts and trying to read Breton language magazines, articles or literature.

But this was just a stop-gap measure to help students while a "real" dictionary was being prepared which could deal with more subtle meanings and provide examples of use. Two volumes of this work have been published by Mouladurioù Hor Yezh:

Geriadur Brezhoneg-Saozneg gant skouerioù/ Breton-English Dictionary with examples.

Rann Gentañ: A-B (First Part: A-B), 1986 Eil Rann: CH-C'H-D (Second Part: CH-C'H-D), 1989

With a combined total of 450 pages these volumes are obviously just the beginning of a long and massive project. Already in his seventies when these volumes were published, Raymond Delaporte was fully aware that he would not live to see the final volume. I am sure I express the feelings of other English speakers in thanking him for truly opening some doors for our study of the Breton language. We hope that other scholars will pick up the work where Raymond Delaporte was forced to leave off.

It is common in obituaries to give some biographical information. Presenting the life of someone who was as active as Raymond Delaporte is indeed a challenge, but the very short sketch which follows will perhaps help American readers appreciate the vast amount of work this man did to make sure that Breton could be a part of the world his grandchildren and great-grandchildren will inherit.

Raymond Delaporte was born September 13, 1907, in Chateauneuf-du-Faou--a Breton speaking area of central western Brittany. He went to school at St. Yves College in Quimper, and then studied law at the University of Angers to later get a Doctor of Law degree at Rennes. He received a Diploma of Celtic Studies also at the university in Rennes, studying under Professor Pierre Le Roux.

Raymond Delaporte's deep attachment to Brittany and his horror at seeing the accelerating loss of Breton in the late 1920s and 30s led him to become active in various organizations. He was a militant for the Breton language in a period when such activism was certainly not stylish—unsupported by politicians and incomprehensible to many Bretons who felt it was necessary to abandon Breton to help their children get ahead in the world. Already active as a student in Angers to rally other Breton students found also at this university (beyond the borders of Brittany), Raymond Delaporte remained a leader throughout his life.

Faithful to his Catholic roots, Raymond Delaporte was active in and served as president of the Catholic organization Bleun Brug during the inter-war years. This organization worked to encourage Breton in Catholic schools as well as in more public domains by encouraging popular theater and festivals where Breton was honored. In 1933 Raymond Delaporte founded Breuriez ar Brezoneg er Skolioù to promote Breton in private (Catholic) schools. This organization worked until 1939 to develop materials for Breton teachers and to award prizes to students for their work in Breton. One of the most beautiful materials produced by Raymond Delaporte during this period was a large classroom map of Brittany with Breton language placenames (printed by Girard et Barrière, Paris, 1936).

It was a natural step for Bretons working to promote the Breton language during this period to become part of political groups working to secure the resources and power necessary to achieve simple goals like introducing Breton into the schools and media. Raymond Delaporte had joined the Parti National Breton in 1931 and was a leader of this nationalist party from 1940-1944. He remained vocal in his support for Breton political autonomy during the turbulent years of World War II. The history of the Breton movement during the war years is extremely complex. The collapse of France during the war was viewed by some Bretons as an opportunity to aquire independence for Brittany; for others it was a period when more autonomy within France was at least feasible. After the war the stigma of collaboration with Germany was indiscriminantly attached to all Bretons who had been active promoting the Breton language and culture -- whether they had actually taken up arms to fight France, remained neutral, or served in the Resistance to help defeat Germany. No matter how moderate a view Raymond Delaporte had of Brittany's political relationship to France, his role as a leader of the Parti National Breton guaranteed he would be included in a post-war roundup. He was given a sentence of 20 years of hard labor. With other Breton activists, he took refuge in Ireland. Once there, he appealed the sentence and was aquitted. Raymond Delaporte chose to remain in Ireland where he taught Breton at University College Cork for thirty

years until his retirement. In Ireland he married Madalen Couic and they raised their daughter Anna in the Breton language. Both his wife and daughter (now a medical doctor) have supported Raymond Delaporte in his Breton studies and work to develop learning materials for English speakers.

Upon retirement Raymond Delaporte spent more time in his home town of Chateauneuf in Brittany, but certainly did not cut his ties to Ireland. Retirement for this Breton who dedicated his life to the Breton language certainly did not mean a great deal of rest and relaxation, as the ambitious work of his Breton-English dictionaries shows.

I first contacted Raymond Delaporte by letter while doing my doctoral research in Brittany in 1978-79 and while in Brittany for several months in 1982, I had the good fortune to finally meet him. From the origins of the U.S. ICDBL in 1981, I had sent him news of our progress as well as a copy of each newsletter. Raymond Delaporte always took a moment to send a few encouraging words as well as occasional corrections or details to add to something we had printed in Bro Nevez. The following is part of a letter from Raymond Delaporte dated May 11, 1982, written in response to a copy I had sent of a letter the U.S. ICDBL had written to President Mitterrand to urge support for the Breton language.

... This note is to give yourself and your committee my warmest congratulations for the excellent work you do on behalf of the Breton language. It is obvious that an appeal, like yours, coming from abroad is much more likely to have an effect than a hundred petitions signed by "mere" Bretons. The French are very keen on having a good name abroad; so this might produce some effect. The danger of course is that they will try to cover up their profound hostility to the teaching of Breton or any other minority language by sending you protestations of good will, telling you that their interest for the well being of the Breton language is even greater than yours and that they are "studying" the problem in order to find the most effective way to deal with it. In the meantime, nothing will prevent the old native speakers of Breton to die out and to disappear, nicely taking away with them the chain that would have linked the old generations of the past with the young of the future. The French will then have really brought civilization to Brittany, for as one judge told me once I was judged for my work on behalf of my country: "Are you not speaking Breton to your daughter instead of French? And how can you see the light and refuse it. It is more than a crime, it is maddness!" So you see what we are up against!? Well, in spite of everything we will continue our fight, and are most grateful to those who show us comprehension and friendship. A thousand thanks to you and God bless you.

Raymond Delaporte predicted very well the type of response we got to our letter. While it would be nice to think that today in 1991 French government officials are more enlightened and better able to hear the persistent voices of Bretons like Raymond Delaporte, it is clear that the voices of people outside of Brittany like those who make up the ICDBL are also needed.

We will remember Raymond Delaporte for the practical tools he gave us to get to know Brittany and its language better. And I am certain he will be remembered by Bretons who, like him, persist in their work to keep Breton alive for their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

### The Order of the Ermine

Lois Kuter

To help Breton economic, political and cultural leaders better coordinate their work in the development of Brittany's economy and cultural life, CELIB (Comité d'Etude et de Liaison des Intérêts Bretons) was founded in 1950. This organization eventually disappeared as other local and regional development activities sapped it of its effectiveness. One of the many things initiated by CELIB was an award called the Order of the Ermine to honor Bretons who had worked long and effectively in the development of Brittany's economic and cultural future. In 1985 the Cultural Institute of Brittany (Skol Uhel ar Vro) reinstituted this award which has gone to such Breton leaders as Vefa de Bellaing, Per Denez, Pierre Roland Giot, Louis Lichou, Jean Mevellec, Polig Monjarret, Bernard de Parades, Henri Queffelec, and Maryvonne Quemere-Jaouen.

The 1990 honors have been awarded to four more Bretons who are indeed deserving of this high honor.

- Glenmor (Milig ar Skanv) is one of the few Breton poets/singers able to use the title "bard". Glenmor began his career in the early 1950s—a period when his texts expressing pride in being Breton, as well as the joys and tragedies of simply being human, were not always well received by fellow—Bretons. During the over 40 years of this poet's creative work the literary strength of his texts—mostly in French—and his ferocious attachment ot Brittany have made this artist famous and well—loved by Bretons who were often in need of his provocation.
- Joseph Martray was a cofounder of the CELIB with René Pleven, and a leader in research for the economic and maritime development of Brittany. A journalist by profession, he as written hundreds of articles on the Breton economy and the need for strong regional control of Brittany's future by Bretons. His interest in the protection and development of Brittany's maritime riches was put to service in his work with the Institut Français de la Mer and the Mediathèque de la Mer.
- Charlez and Chanig ar Gall were pioneers in Breton language television and radio and creative artists in literary and theatrical work as well. They were involved in the earliest Breton-language radio programs (between 1947 and 1958) and later pioneered in Breton-language television broadcasts (between 1964 and 1975).
- Albert Trevidic has been the least publicly visible of the four recipients of the Order of the Hermine, but his work has been no less effective. In the early 1950s he worked with the Kelc'h Keltiek Karaez (Celtic Circle of Carhaix) and was a key figure in the renaissance of kan ha diskan singing and the fest noz-revived as a new event where Breton singers, pipers and dancers as well as story tellers could enjoy these arts. Albert Trevidic was also instrumental in the renaissance of Breton wrestling--a traditional sport which never quite disappeared from central western Brittany, but certainly would not be so popular today if people like Albert Trevidic had not taken a hand in promoting this ancient style of Celtic wrestling. And Albert Trevidic modestly continues his work in Carhaix, patiently encouraging young people to learn and speak the Breton language. I had the honor of meeting this generous man in 1979 when I spent some time in the Carhaix area. He well deserves the Order of the Hermine. I thank him for the many things he taught me about Breton music and dance, the things he tried to teach me about the Breton language (I was not a very good student), the introduction to gouren, and the kind loan of his garden tools.

### LOIRE-ATLANTIQUE: REUNIFICATION

In 1974 the French government created "régions de programme" which led to cutting the Department of Loire-Atlantique off from the rest of Brittany for inclusion in a new region called "Pays de la Loire" (which also includes the departments of Vendée, Sarthe, Mayenne and Maine-et-Loire). The following communication from the Comité pour l'Unité Administrative de la Bretagne (C.U.A.B., Committee for the Administrative Unity of Brittany) explains why the reunification of Brittany is more important than ever as Europe moves from a Europe of States to a Europe of Regions.

### A REUNIFIED BRITTANY FOR THE EUROPE OF TOMORROW

As the construction of Europe accelerates, the C.U.A.B. considers the administrative reunification of Brittany more necessary than ever to build a stronger and more homogeneous region.

This territorial and demographic reinforcement must be followed by a much more important transfer of financial resources from the State to the Regions.

### A Reunified Brittany: a true European region

A Brittany of five departments is one of the largest regions of France by population (3,745,000) or by size (34,000 square kilometers). Added to this size is a vast submerged surface which borders the peninsula--a considerable source of resources and a spatial dimension to be taken into account.

But, making this European grade isn't just a matter of numbers. It is more the role played in European exchanges and the possession of a geographical, historical, and cultural personality recognized outside of state boundaries.

This is certainly Brittany's case, as it is the case for Wales which is even smaller in size (20,700 square kilometers) and in population (2.7 million).

The way Brittany is perceived in foreign places and the mark it makes are very important elements in the current context of economic exchange.

Brittany is a large region of Europe in at least three areas:

### a) Agriculture

Brittany ranks first in France as an agricultural region where the value of commercial production is the highest. Brittany is the principal center for milk production, but also ranks first—and by a long shot—in animal production:

Brittany has more pigs and cows than Belgium and raises as many turkeys as Great Britain. The administrative inclusion of Loire-Atlantique would bring more diversity to production (with wine and market gardening of Nantes) and is especially important in reinforcing agro-food industry research. In Nantes the Ecole Vétérinaire, the INRA, and the Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs des Techniques des Industries Agricoles et Alimentaires form indispensible training centers for the development of livestock and agro-food industries.

### b) Maritime

For fishing, the Breton production is close to 50% of the tonnage unloaded for France. The first-ranked region of France, Brittany is also one of the most active fishing and aquaculture regions of Europe (12 Community members).

It surpasses states like Ireland and Belgium. Reunification would consolidate the Breton fishing industry and, as with agriculture, would reinforce the potential for research which is based in both Brest and Nantes (IFREMER).

### c) Tourism

As shown in several studies by the INSEE, the Armorican peninsula is one of the largest European regions for seasonal tourism. It is well positioned by its geography, its length and variety of coasts, by its architectural and cultural patrimony, and by its gastronomy as well, and Brittany draws a significant foreign clientele. These visits show that the promotion of Brittany abroad is a serious business and Brittany's distinctive character is a plus which would be strengthened to the maximum with reunification.

### An Incontestable Character

Brittany is well known throughout Europe and even throughout the world, not just by the foreign tourists that are welcomed, but especially because of the following:

- o Its long history. From the year 851 Brittany had already incorporated the Pays de Retz (South Loire) and Nantes. That city was the capital of the Breton State from 937 to 1532—for 600 years! After the Act of Union to the Kingdom of France, the borders of the Breton State became those of the province of Brittany. In 1790 the Breton territory was divided into five departments, but with scrupulous attention to the borders of the province. Historical Brittany corresponds, through this fact, to the present five departments: Finistère, Côtes du Nord (now called Côtes d'Armor), Ille et Vilaine, Loire-Atlantique and Morbihan. Loire-Atlantique has thus been Breton since 851—fully Breton for more than 1,100 years. The Chateau of the Dukes of Brittany in the heart of Nantes is one tangible testimony.
- o Its culture which links it to other Celtic countries.
- o Its emigration with numerous associations and organizations which constitute an excellent vector for the promotion of Brittany and its products.
- o It products, exported with a Breton label.
- o. The quality of its countryside and geographic position at the point of Europe.

To integrate Brittany in a vast, soulless unity called "Le Grand Ouest" (The Great West) would risk the dilution rather than the reinforcement of all its strengths. One would weaken the most European of all regions of Western Europe in the name of a supposed European logic. This in no way means that one should ignore inter-regional solidarities.

### The Desires of the Population

The Comité pour l'Unité Administrative de la Bretagne (C.U.A.B.) gathers dozens of groups and organizations, representing thousands of members. Beyond its members, the C.U.A.B. represents a majority opinion in Brittany in the single purpose of its program: the administrative reunification of Brittany.

On several occasions the C.U.A.B. has demonstrated the popular character of its demands, most notably since 1977 in demonstrations of thousands of people in Nantes, St. Nazaire and Paris. For example, on October 11, 1981, nearly 8,000 people gathered in the streets of Nantes to demand of the newly elected powers administrative reunification.

In 1986 a survey conducted by FR3-Bretagne confirmed in a stunning way that the desire for reunification is held by the majority in Loire-Atlantique. To the question "Are you for the administrative reattachment of Loire-Atlantique to Brittany?" the responses were as follows:

- No, not at all: 16.37% = 36.65% - No, not really: 20.28%

- Yes, more or less: 28.11% = 63.34%

The demands of democratic opinion, economics, and respect for a history and human community with a strong cultural identity, require our elected officials to use their political will to reunify Brittany so that it can use its full opportunities in the Europe of tomorrow, which will be the Europe of Regions.



### **DASTUM**

Lois Kuter

By now the name Dastum should be familiar to readers of **Bro Nevez** from the number of times I have presented new recordings produced or co-produced by this organization. Dastum was founded in 1972 and is an "archives" for Breton music and culture. Calling it an archives gives this organization an air of lifelessness that does not at all apply. Dust has no chance to settle in the Dastum collections.

Unlike many archives, the central aim of Dastum is not to store recordings or manuscripts, but to actively use collected materials. The collection activity itself that is stimulated by Dastum has been an important means of getting performers—old and young— involved in creatively using oral traditions. Collectors are people who are a part of the communities in which they collect—not outsiders descending on a dying culture, but performers themselves putting new life into oral traditions.

It is this active role of Dastum which earned it (in May 1990) the grand prize of the Premier Salon du Patrimoine Sonore (sponsored by the Institut National de l'Audiovisuel and the Ministère de la Culture et de la Communication). Dastum works well because it is truly a grass-roots organization, but it has gained respect throughout France as a model in its archival techniques as well as exceptional ability to make the material in its archives accessible to all. In its 19 years, Dastum has published nearly 50 recordings and books in addition to the over 100 issues of the monthly magazine Musique Bretonne. Five recordings coproduced by Dastum have been given awards by the Académie Charles-Cros for their excellence.

In November 1990 Dastum opened its computer data base to the public—the first such ethnological data base to be made so widely accessible in this way. Working with a research group from the Université de Rennes 2, with assistance from the Centre Interuniversitaire de Calcul de Bretagne (Université de Rennes—Beaulieu), tens of thousands of references on Breton culture are accessible through a Minitel computer terminal. The first part of the data base to be made accessible is a collection of 18,000 photographs and old postcards covering all of Brittany and a range of subjects (musicians, dance, weddings, maritime and agricultural work, houses, mills, churches, costume. etc.). In future years other vast data bases for materials collected by Dastum will also be made more easily accessible. This would include, for example, an annotated discography of Breton music with over 2,000 references (including CDs, 33 rpm records, 78 rpm records, and cassettes) and a catalog of traditional songs published in the Breton language which includes 8,000 entries.

Dastum's collections are extremely rich, including 25,000 recorded documents (music, storytelling, radio programs), 30,000 pages of manuscript and printed materials, and over 55,000 press clippings in addition to the collection of 18,000 photographs. From its humble beginnings in 1972 when several musicians decided to pool resources, Dastum continues to develop new ways to support the oral traditions of Brittany--using the most advanced technological tools available.

Reprinted from Musique Bretonne 107 (December 1990), the following catalog presents some of the excellent recordings and publications Dastum has produced.

For more information, contact: Dastum
B.P. 2518
35025 Rennes Cedex
Brittany

### Catalogue annuel des éditions Dastum Janvier 1991

### Les nouveautés 1990

Trois cassettes-livrets dans la collection « Chanteurs et musiciens de Bretagne ». Chaque cassette est accompagnée d'un livret documentaire de 30 à 40 pages qui contient divers renseignements, la transcription des textes de chants, des commentaires sur les airs, une présentation des musiciens et chanteurs, des références complémentaires, etc. Chaque cassette-livret : 70 F.

Chansons traditionnelles du pays de Fougères: Mélanie Houëdry. Co-édition A.F.A.P., La Bouëze et Dastum, DAS-111.

Traditions musicales de la veuze en pays nantais. Co-édition Dastum et Sonneurs de veuze, DAS-112.

Bogue d'or 1989. Chants traditionnels de Haute-Bretagne. Co-édition Dastum et Groupement culturel breton des pays de Vilaine. DAS-113.







### Les documents de référence

Une série de disques (dont un coffret-compact) qui constituent un ensemble de synthèses sur divers aspects des traditions musicales en Bretagne. Chaque disque comporte un important livret documentaire.

Tradition chantée de Bretagne. Les sources du Barzaz-Breiz aujourd'hui. SCM-013. Coffret-compact avec livret d'accompagnement de 96 pages. Co-édité avec Le Chasse-Marée en 1989. Premier volume de la nouvelle série « Chanteurs et musiciens traditionnels ». Grand prix international du disque de l'Académie Charles-Cros, 1990. CD et livret: 160 F. K7 et livret: 130 F.

Sonneurs de veuze en Bretagne et Marais breton vendéen. SCM-010. Disque 33 tours, 30 cm, co-édité avec Le Chasse-Marée et l'association Sonneurs de veuze en 1988. Troisième volume de la collection « Musiciens et chanteurs traditionnels ». Livret intérieur de 14 pages. Grand prix international du disque de l'Académie Charles Cros en 1989. 110 F.

Sonneurs de clarinette en Bretagne/Sonerien treujenn-gaol. SCM-008. Deux disques 33 tours, 30cm. Double album, co-édité avec le Chasse-Marée en 1986. Deuxième volume de la collection « Musiciens et chanteurs traditionnels ». Livret intérieur de 18 pages. Grand prix international du disque de l'Académie Charles-Cros en 1987. 130 F.





Mari Harnay. Ocora 558603. Disque 33 tours, 30 cm, co-édité avec Ocora/Radio-France en 1982. Deuxième volume de la collection « Les traditions populaires en France ». Livret intérieur de 12 pages (textes en français, breton, anglais). Grand prix international du disque de l'Académie Charles-Cros en 1983. 80 F.

### Les cahiers Dastum : études sur les traditions des pays de Bretagne

Les Cahiers Dastum sont constitués chacun d'un livret d'étude sur le pays (danse, langue, costume, musique, architecture, chant...) accompagné d'un disque ou d'une cassette présentant des documents de collectage (chants et musique). Déjà huit cahiers sont parus; les trois premiers sont cependant épuisés. La collection disponible comprend:

Dastum 4: Pays de Loudéac. Cahier réalisé en 1976 sous la direction de Marc Le Bris et Alain Le Noac'h. Originalement, disque 30 cm et cahier d'accompagnement épuisés. Réédition partielle du livret (93 pages, 19,5 cm) avec cassette d'accompagnement en 1986. 70 F.

Dastum 5 : Pays Fanch. Disque 30 cm et livret d'accompagnement de 115 pages, 29,5 cm, 1978. Cahier réalisé sous la direction de Jean-Yves Thoraval et René Richard. 60 F.

Dastum 6: Chants traditionnels du « Bas-Pays » (Questembert, Muzillac). Disque 30 cm et livret d'accompagnement de 103 pages, 29,5 cm, 1982. Cahier réalisé sous la direction de Philippe Blouët. 90 F.

Dastum 7: Noal-Pondi (Pays de Noyal-Pontivy). Disque 30 cm et livret d'accompagnement de 99 pages, 29,5 cm, 1983. Également disponible en cassette. Cahier réalisé sous la direction de Jean Le Clerc de la Herverie. 80 F. (cassette seule: 50 F.)

Dastum 8: Chants et traditions. Pays d'Oust et de Vilaine (Redon, Rochefort-en-Terre, La Gacilly). Disque 30 cm et livret d'accompagnement de 102 pages, relié, 30 cm, 1984. Cahier réalisé sous la direction de Jean-Bernard Vighetti, Charly Bayou et Gilbert Hervieux. 150 F.

### Les autres éditions sonores

Gwerz. Volume 1. Das-101. Disque 33 tours, 30 cm, édité en 1986. Grand prix international du disque de l'Académie Charles-Cros en 1987. Existe aussi en cassette. 70 F.

L'Écho des Luths. Musique de Haute-Bretagne. Escalibur, BUR-822. Disque 33 tours, 30 cm, co-édité avec Coop-Breizh en 1987. Existe aussi en cassette (CE-1822). 70 F.

Boest an Diaoul (la boite du diable). L'accordéon en pays de gavotte suivi d'un recueil de morceaux pour accordéon diatonique, par Bernard Lasbleiz. Livre de 104 pages, 29,5 cm, broché, et cassette d'accompagnement. Co-édité avec Anche Libre en 1987. 120 F. (temporairement épuisé; retirage prévu en avril-mai 1991)

Chants du pays d'en bas: « La bande noire ». Cassette produite par Philippe Blouët et Le Camber en 1984. Livret d'accompagnement de 24 pages, 19,8 cm. 60 F.

Sonnenoù ar c'hornad, 1. Dastumerion ar c'hreizteiz, 1985. Livret d'accompagnement de 41 pages, 19,8 cm., avec relevés musicaux. 60 F.

Éléonore Le Provost. Mélodies du pays de Baud. Dastum, 1986. Livret d'accompagnement de 18 pages, 19,8 cm. 60 F. (temporairement épuisé; retirage au printemps 1991)

Rondes du pays de Loudéac. Chants et musiques. Dastum 106. Co-production Dastum-Cercle celtique de Loudéac, 1987. 60 F. Bourdin, Dautel, Marchand. Chants à danser de Haute-Bretagne. Dastum, 1986. (Treize chants de la région de Pluherlin, en Vannetais

gallo). 60 F. Dibedibedañchaou. Dastum 105. Kanaouennoù ha rimadelloù evit ar vugale, dastumet ha kanet gant Yann-Fañch Kemener. Kenembannet gant Unvaniezh ar Gelennerien Vrezhoneg, Yann-Fañch Kemener ha Dastum, 1987. (Chansonnettes et comptines pour les enfants recueillies et chantées par Jean-François Kemener). Livret d'accompagnement de 52 pages, 21 cm, comprenant la transcription des textes en breton, illustrés par Morgan. 80 F.

Airs et chants de Gouren. Le Gouren dans la tradition populaire. DAS-110. Chansons et musiques sur la lutte bretonne. Cassette et livrét co-édités avec la Fédération de Gouren, 1989. 80 F.

### Des contes sur cassette: la collection « Komz »

Chaque numéro de la collection est composé d'une cassette et d'un livret contenant la transcription intégrale des récits enregistrés.

Komz niverenn I. Mikael Madeg. Doareoù an Ankou. 22 témoignages en breton sur l'Ankou en Léon et en Cornouaille. Paru en 1984. Livret d'accompagnement de 31 pages, 21 cm. 50 F.

Komz II. Mikael Madeg. Margodig an dour yen. Kontadenn gant Jean-Louis Rolland (conte en breton de Jean-Louis Rolland, conteur de Kergrist-Moëlou). Dastum 1985, livret d'accompagnement de 48 pages, 19,8 cm. 60 F.

Komz III. Mikael Madeg. C'hwec'h kontadenn eus Arvor bro Vigouden gant Marsel Divanac'h. Six récits du pays Bigouden recueillis et contés par Marcel Divanac'h. Dastum, 1988. Livret d'accompagnement de 54 pages, 19,8 cm, illustré par Morgan. 70 F.

Komz IV. Ewan Pier er c'horr, gant Loeiz Bevan. Huit contes du pays Pourlet contés par Loeiz Bevan et transcrits par François Louis. Dastum, 1988. Livret d'accompagnement de 48 pages, 19,8 cm, illustré par Morgan. 70 F. (temporairement épuisé; retirage prévu en mars-avril 1991)

### Des éditions écrites

Patrick Malrieu. Histoire de la chanson populaire bretonne. Dastum et Skol, 1983, 109 p., 24 cm. 40 F.

Gwennolé Le Menn. *Histoire du théâtre populaire breton, XV-XIXème.* Skol, Dastum et l'Institut Culturel de Bretagne, 1983, 83 p., 24 cm. (Cet ouvrage constitue le cahier 79-80 de la revue *Skol*, novembre 1983). **45 F.** 

Gwennolé Le Menn. La Femme au sein d'or. Des chants populaires bretons aux légendes celtiques. Dastum et Skol, 1985, 145 p., 24 cm. (cet ouvrage constitue le cahier 86-85 de la revue Skol). 30 F.

Patrig Sicard. 150 airs à danser du pays vannetais. Livret de 36 pages, 29 cm, édités en 1985. 40 F.

Jean-Marie de Penguern. Dastumad Penwern. Chants populaires bretons de la collection de Penguern (fin du manuscrit 90 et manuscrit 91). Dastum, 1983, 396 p., 24,5 cm. 125 F.

Hervé Dréan. Autour de la Roche Bernard au début du XXè siècle (vie et traditions paysannes). Dastum, 1985, 191 p., 24 cm. 90 F. Job Jaffré. Yann ar Baluc'henn. Kempennet evit an embann get Daniel Doujet. Dastum, embannet gant skoazell Skol Uhel ar Vro, 1986,

Serge Moëlo et Jean-Pierre Le Bihan. Kergohann hag ar Vellad (Kergohann et la soule). Dastum, 1986, 93 p., 25 cm. 60 F.

Chants sur la mer et les marins. Edition spéciale de la revue Musique bretonne, nº 84-85, août-septembre 1988, 48 p., 29,7 cm. 30 F. Serge Moëlo. Guide de la Musique Bretonne. Co-édition DRJS, DRAC, SKV et Dastum, 1989. (Présentation générale de la musique bretonne : études et témoignages sur la formation ; répertoires d'adresses de musiciens, groupes, luthiers, associations, producteurs, etc...). 80 F.

### Des cartes postales

Jeux traditionnels bretons. Une série de huit cartes postales contemporaines, en couleur, représentant les joueurs en action. Jeu de palet, lutte bretonne, lancer du poids, jeu de boules, etc. Une co-production Awel-dro et Dastum. La série (8 cartes) : 20 F. L'unité : 4 F.

Anciens sonneurs de Bretagne. Une collection de 32 cartes postales anciennes divisée en trois séries : une série générale sur les musiciens traditionnels (9 cartes), une série sur les sonneurs de biniou-bombarde (16 cartes) et une série sur les représentations anciennes (7 cartes). Reproduction de documents anciens extraits de la photothèque Dastum. Collection complète (32 cartes): 90 F. Série 1 : 30 F. Série 2 : 50 F. Série 3 : 25 F. L'unité : 4 F.

### Une revue mensuelle: Musique bretonne

Revue mensuelle de 24 pages (21 x 29,5), imprimée offset, Musique bretonne présente depuis plus de dix ans des études, enquêtes, documents photographiques sur la musique et les traditions populaires bretonnes. On y trouve des textes, des relevés mélodiques de chansons inédites, des partitions d'airs de musique instrumentale (violon, accordéon), etc. C'est également une tribune où chacun peut exprimer ses opinions sur les phénomènes reliés à la musique traditionnelle, ou annoncer les activités locales à venir (concerts, festoù-noz, stages, cours, etc.). Musique bretonne est le seul périodique du genre sur toute la Bretagne. 107 numéros parus à ce jour (près de 90 sont toujours disponibles). Abonnement: 130 F./10 numéros. L'unité: 17 F.

## Catalogue 1991: Bon de commande

Report page 1

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G. Le Menn: Histoire du théâtre populaire breton		Kornog, vol. 4 (33t ou K7). YF. Kemener, « Gwerzioù ha sonioù» (33t seulement).
H. Dréan: Autour de la Roche-Bernard	90,00 70,00 90,00 40,00 80,00	3.2 Cassettes et cassettes-livrets Quadrilles natatais (Cercle breion de Nantes) (cassette)
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### SOME NEW RECORDINGS FROM BRITTANY

Lois Kuter

The notes below are based on reviews found in Ar Men 32 (January 1991), and Musique bretonne 106 (October/November 1990) and 107 (December 1990).

Jean Baron and Michel Téphaine. Bombarde et orgues en la chapelle de Kermaria. Cassette: 25 rue Guesde, 56650 Inzinzac-Lochrist. 1990

The combination of bombarde with organ for dance tunes as well as religious cantiques was made popular in the early 1970s through the innovative work of Jean-Claude Jégat and Louis Yhuel. But other pairs have followed who do credit to this relatively new combination of instruments. Jean Baron (bombarde) and Michel Téphaine (organ) are fine performers who continue to develop this style. Their new cassette includes twelve pieces from Galicia (Spain), Bavaria (Germany), Ireland, and Rumania, as well as Brittany. On the recording you can also find veuze, Galician gaita, and ocarina in some of the pieces.

Bagad Quic-en-Groigne. Self-produced cassette: Bagad Quic-en-Groigne, 18 rue Henri Barbot, 35400 Saint Malo. 65 francs. 1990

One of the oldest bagads of Brittany, Quic-en-Groigne is based in Saint-Malo. Their new cassette includes a variety of traditional Breton dances and melodies arranged side-by-side with a 13th century composition, a dance from Galicia and a new composition by Breton bombarde player Christian Faucheur. The innovative arrangement of old and new, near and far, is typical of the work of Breton bagads today, and this is certainly one of the best.

Dan ar Bras. Songs. Keltia Musique CD14, M312, 1990 (compact disc)

Dan ar Bras is an exceptional guitarist (both acoustic and electric) and shows off his talents as a singer on this new CD. He does not rearrange Breton song, but composes his own texts and melodies drawing on his own world as a Breton and world traveller. Influenced by New Age and World Music trends, this recording also includes Dave Pegg (former bass player for Fairport Convention) and Martin Alcock (keyboard).

### Coming in 1991:

- Yann-Fanch Kemener. Gwerzioù ha sonioù. A CD in progress which includes ten songs from La Villemarqué's Barzaz Breiz; accompanied by a 50-page booklet with song transcriptions translated from Breton into English and French.
- Bleizi Ruz This group is recording a CD and cassette from a live concert held in January to celebrate the 18th anniversary of Le Quartz-Brest.
- Dastum is working on a CD and book to document the biniou and bombarde. Based on their work in helping produce other documents on musical instruments in Brittany (veuze and clarinet) this will be an essential resource for pipers and those interested in traditional Breton music.

### **BOOK REVIEW**

Jakez Gaucher. Histoire chronologique des Pays Celtiques: Ile de Man, Irlande, Ecosse, Pays de Galles, Bretagne, Cornouaille. Guerande: Association Keltica International, 1990. 396 pages.

Reviewed by Lois Kuter

I have already noted this publication in Bro Nevez, but now that I have this massive work in my hands, a more detailed presentation is merited. This is a large book in its size as well as content: 396 pages which are approximately 8" x 12".

The chronology takes up over 300 pages, arranged in six columns across the two open pages of the book so that events in the six Celtic countries treated can be easily compared. In some cases there are blanks to be filled (especially for Cornwall and the Isle of Man), and the choice of particular events and their interpretation in such a sweeping presentation from 6 B.C. to 1987 is certainly open to contention. The notes are by necessity very brief. More could be said, of course, and perhaps other events or biographical notes could have been added, but this first chronology is indeed impressive and fills a big void. I hope this will be a book with many reeditions, including the one in English which the author intends to do if enough sales can support such an expensive undertaking.

Besides giving us the ability to look at and compare the history of these six Celtic nations, Jakez Gaucher includes a wealth of other information: the chronology is supported with 29 maps and 192 photographs and reproductions of historical documents. The 60-page appendix includes an additional 17 maps showing changes in the distribution of the Celtic languages and major cities. Also found in the appendix are tables and statistics on linguistic and demographic change; a chart comparing the basic stages of literary development of the Celtic languages; a short bibliography of classic works on early Celtic literature; and a comparative lexicography of words in each of the six languages.

Detailed geneological charts of kings and queens of the Celtic countries is also an important part of the appendix. Focused on more contemporary times is a list of twin cities between Brittany and the other Celtic countries (eight with Cornwall, fifteen with Wales, three with Scotland and forty-nine with Ireland). Of practical use are the listings of names and addresses: principal political and cultural organizations (including inter-Celtic organizations); book distributors and groups that sell by correspondence; book stores that specialize in Celtic materials; organizations that focus on documentation of Celtic languages; and libraries, archives and museums in each of the six countries.

For those who want to do more research, a bibliography is also included—which could be expanded just a little to be of much more value. Jakez Gaucher himself has written some 200 articles on Brittany, the Celtic countries and their history and cultures, as well as other minority peoples. These have appeared in the Breton magazines Breizh, Armor, L'Avenir de la Bretagne, and Dalc'homp Sonj. While some are short timely reports of a more editorial nature, most of Gaucher's articles are well researched descriptions of a specific historical period or aspect of culture. Fortunately, a bibliography of some of these articles is also included in the appendix.

This chronological history of the Celtic countries is long overdue and a very welcome and invaluable addition to any library of Celtic publications.

To order, contact:

Jakez Gaucher, Association Ketlic International "Ty Waroc'h", La Madeleine 44350 Guerande/Gwenrann, Brittany

The price should be 200 francs, but this may not fully cover postage for the U.S. Write in advance for the exact cost.

### SOME BOOK NOTES

Fanch Broudic. Langue et littérature bretonnes: Bibliographie 1983-1988. Brest: Brud Nevez, 1990.

This includes over 2,700 reference for books and articles published about the Breton language, literature and culture. It follows the 1984 publication of a bibliography covering the period of 1973-82. These not only allow scholars access to materials that are impossible to track down in American libraries, but through annotations and introductory notes, Broudic provides a very interesting view of trends in scholarship and language issues.

Jean-Yves Andrieux and Daniel Giraudon. Teilleurs de lin du Trégor (1850-1950). Skol Vreizh no. 18, juin 1990.

This book documents the importance of the flax industry in Trégor at the turn of the 19th century and the development of this industry. As with all Skol Vreizh issues, in approximately 80 pages the authors give a very good introduction to a particular topic and period, beautifully documented with photos.

Glaoda Millour. Les saints vétérinaires en Bretagne. Skol Vreizh no. 19, 1990.

Another basic text from Skol Vreizh, this time presenting Breton saints who are entrusted with the well-being of farm animals.

Yannick Pelletier (Editor). Histoire générale de la Bretagne et des Bretons. Paris: Nouvelle Librairie de France, 1990. 2 volumes. 1,524 pages.

A massive collection of articles by Breton scholars documenting the history of Brittany. This is a basic work for any library collection.

Bernard Tanguy. Dictionnaire des noms de communes, trèves et paroisses du Finistère-origine et signification. Douarnenez: Ar Men, 1990. 280 pages.

An indepth study of the origins and meanings of place names in Finistère, this book provides a wealth of information on the legends and people inhabiting this department of Brittany. The author also compares names with those of the same origin elsewhere in France and in the Celtic countries.

### The Old Quimper Review

With the modest subscription rate of \$9 for two yearly 8-10 page issues, The Old Quimper Review is a newsletter for collectors of faience—the earthenware from the Quimper area of Brittany which has become quite fashionable (and very expensive) in American shops. While several pages of the Review are filled with advertising by antique and faience dealers in the U.S., this publication also includes some very interesting articles on the history of this Breton art. As Quimper celebrates 300 years of faience making, the July 1990 issue of The Old Quimper Review (Vol. 1, no. 2) includes the first in a series of articles on five faience makers. For non-collectors like me, the article includes basic definitions (faience vs. earthenware vs. stoneware vs. porcelain), in an interesting historical account of this industry. A number of black and white and color photographs are effectively used to supplement a highly readable text.

For subscription or further information, contact:

Old Quimper Review Millicent S. Mali, Editor Box 377 East Greenwich, RI 02818

### The Irish Language in Schools of Northern Ireland

The following news release from the Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action concerning the withdrawal of government funding for Irish language work in Northern Ireland was provided by Celtic Network (26 Anne, Rohnert Park, CA 94928). It concerns "political vetting", or the withdrawal of funding because of alleged association with paramilitary groups. This has impacted a number of community groups in Northern Ireland and the impact of this policy for blacklisting organizations without clear evidence or a right to appeal is detailed further in a publication I have received called "The Political Vetting of Community Work in Northern Ireland". I have also received copies of press clippings about Irish language schools in Northern Ireland and would be glad to pass along copies to anyone interested in more details. (I will ask for a contribution to cover costs of copying and postage).

NORTHERN IRELAND COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY ACTION 127 Ormeau Road, Belfast BT7 1SH
September 1990

- 1. Glor na nGael is a small independent community group, registered as a charity under U.K. law, promoting the Irish language through the provision of classes to children and adults; its specialty has been the development of seven nursery schools in and around Belfast, using Irish as a medium. These have won widespread recognition and awards.
- 2. Their funding comes predominantly from a L90,000 annual grant from the Government's Training and Employment Agency, which enables them to engage 20 long-term unemployed people, providing them with skills, experience and confidence as they provide Irish language services to the nurseries and other classes.
- 3. Glor na nGael, although operating from the Falls Road, in the heart of Catholic West Belfast, is overtly non-political and non-sectarian. Its classes are held in neutral and different venues, and its support reflects wide respect for its work from both Northern Ireland's main communities.
- 4. Under a policy statement made in June 1985, the Northern Ireland Office withdraws funding from groups which "have sufficiently close links with paramilitary organizations to give rise to a grave risk that to give support to those groups would have the effect of improving the standing and furthering the aims of a paramilitary organization, whether directly or indirectly."
- 5. In this case funds were withdrawn at three days notice on 24 August. The group denies the allegations but has no right of appeal. This is the thirteenth such case to have occurred in Northern Ireland. Only in one case have funds been restored, after a two year campaign and a change of committee. None has made a legal challenge for "judicial review," for reasons of cost and bringing further public attention on to themselves and their members. Glor na nGael is willing to take such a case, if funds can be secured.
- 6. Support for Glor na nGael has been massive, from all sides of the community, from Irish language supporters and those more concerned about the principle. ...
- 7. You are invited to indicate your support for Glor na nGael in its campaign to clear its name and have its funds restored by:

### Irish Language

- (1) Writing to Glor na nGael at 145 Falls Road, Belfast BT12 6AF, Northern Ireland.
- (2) Writing to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Stormont Castle Belfast BT4 2GD, Northern Ireland.
- (3) Writing to the British Ambassador in your country seeking information about the case and asking why this "political vetting" of groups persists.
- (4) Writing to the Irish Ambassador in your country welcoming that government's opposition to the practice of "political vetting" and asking for further support of Glor na nGael through all available channels.
- (5) Raising the matter through any organization which might publicize its position.
- (6) Contributing to Glor na nGael's Emergency Fund, supervised by independent Trustees, to maintain their nursery work while the campaign is waged.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \*

### Irish in the U.S.

If you are an Irish speaker or learner (or potential learner) you may already be aware of **An Teanga Mharthanach**. This networking group includes individuals in 29 states of the U.S. as well as in Europe (outside of Ireland) and South America.

The quarterly newsletter includes a wealth of information on Irish classes and publications, as well as notes more generally on the language, its literature and history. Yearly membership for individuals is \$20 (\$30 for couples, \$40 for families).

Contact:

An Teanga Mharthanach 10 Sylvan Terrace Summit, NJ 07901

### **PUBLICATIONS**

from the U.S. BRANCH of the INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE BRETON LANGUAGE

In its work as a tax-exempt non-profit educational organization, the U.S. ICDBL has produced a series of working papers on a variety of topics. These are described below and an order form is attached for your convenience.

FACT-FINDING REPORT OF THE U.S. BRANCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE BRETON LANGUAGE

Lois Kuter, Lenora A. Timm, Laurie O'Keefe Fadave, Anne Habermehl, January 1983

Review of the situation of the Breton language in the early 1980s in the schools and media of Brittany, based on over 100 days of research and observation conducted independently by three members of the U.S. ICDBL during the months of July to November 1982. (\$2.00)

### THE BRETON LANGUAGE -- AN INTRODUCTION

Reun ar C'halan, 1984

This brief introduction to the Breton language will not make you an instant Breton speaker, but it does present in detail the basic linguistic features of this language, with generous use of examples and comparisions to other Celtic languages. 31 pages. (\$5.00)

### A GUIDE TO LEARNING MATERIALS FOR BRETON

Lenora A. Timm, Reun ar C'halan, Lois Kuter, Nathalie Novik (compiled from U.S. ICDBL Newsletters 4/5 and 6, with updates and revisions. September 1986)

A 22-page guide to materials to learn the Breton language: grammar books, readers, dictionaries, cassette tapes, correspondence courses and intensive summer workshops. Currently under revision, but still a good source for basic information. (\$5.00)

### DIWAN -- BRETON LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

A special report from Bro Nevez 15 (May 1985). This document includes reports from Diwan on the history of their work to establish Breton language pre-schools and primary schools in Brittany. It provides a good summary of the complex relation between the Diwan schools and the French educational system. Additional reports from Bro Nevez 19 and 20 (May and August 1986) are added. A revision is in planning. (\$5.00)

### A CHRONOLOGY OF BRETON HISTORY

Lois Kuter, September 1985

1,990 years of Breton history relating especially to the Breton language and its place in political, economic, social and cultural life in Brittany. (\$5.00)

### A GUIDE TO MUSIC IN BRITTANY

Lois Kuter, Revised November 1990

A 31-page dossier presenting some basic definitions and descriptions of traditional vocal styles and musical instruments. This guide includes an annotated bibliography of books and magazines on Breton music, a basic discography, and a descriptive guide to annual festivals of Breton music and dance. (\$5.00)

Note that several publications in this series are now out of print with no immediate plans for revision. Copies are available, but information is for the most part out of date: A Guide to Breton Festivals, Music Events, Book Stores and other Delights for Travellers to Brittany (most information incorporated into the Guide to Music above); A Guide to Language and Cultural Organizations in Brittany (this may be revised in the future, but needs considerable work and has been superceded by guides produced in Brittany). A collection of essays and contributions in Breton, French and English produced in 1983 by the Brussels Branch of the ICDBL is also no longer available: Breizh hag ar Bed, ar Bed evit Breizh/Brittany and the World, the World for Brittany.

BRO NEVEZ ("New Country") -- NEWSLETTER OF THE U.S. ICDBL

This quarterly "newsletter" of some 30-40 pages features the Breton language and culture with regular inclusion of: news of Breton language activities and issues in Brittany; a column in the Breton language; book and record reviews; reprints of Breton catalogs for books and recordings; notes on Breton cultural organizations, music and dance groups and tours by Breton musicians in the U.S.; translations of Breton legends and tales; short articles introducing Breton history, economy, culture and sports; and notes on Celtic language activities and resources, and issues in bilingualism and minority language education.

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(Subscription is included in U.S. ICDBL Membership)

Subject Index to Bro Nevez

Over 1,000 pages of information on Brittany and its language and culture have been published in the ten years that the U.S. ICDBL Newsletter has been produced. To locate articles and notes on topics of particular interest to readers an index (over 30 pages) was produced to cover 1981-1989. (\$5.00)

Back issues of most numbers of Bro	Nevez are still available (\$2.50 per issue).

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