

DÍAZ NOCI, Javier.

Euskarazko aldizkari, egutegi eta almanaken errolda (1834-I 959).

Donostia, Eusko Ikaskuntza, 1994.

ISBN: 84-87471-65-X

Three years ago, *Eusko Ikaskuntza*, the Society for Basque Studies, published a catalogue, compiled by A. Ruiz de Gauna, of periodical publications. This new book by Javier Diaz Noci takes a further, more detailed look at a very specific aspect of this field, one that no student of Basque affairs past or present can afford to ignore: periodical publications in the Basque language. To my mind, one of the dangers of research in this area is that interpretations ignoring Basque source material may lack a sufficiently broad scientific base.

Diaz Noci has compiled a catalogue providing an exhaustive list of the periodical publications totally or partially in Basque. The term “periodical publications” itself covers a fairly broad spectrum, as it includes almanacs. Basque speakers in the 19th century were not much given to reading in Basque, although literacy levels in Vasconia in 1860 —roughly 50% of the population— were high in comparison to the Spanish average. However, few were interested in intellectual issues, apart from the political élite, who preferred to use Spanish or French, the languages they needed as intermediaries between the Monarchy and the common people.

Some publications were, however, genuinely sought after: religious books, calendars and almanacs or yearbooks, *bertso-paperak* and, in Bilbao, *Gabonetako kantak*, or Christmas songs, which reviewed in verse the social and political highlights of the year.

Javier Diaz Noci, lecturer at the University of the Basque Country, has made an exhaustive study of the origins and development of Basque-language periodical publications, and the present book provides a useful catalogue of such publications as a whole.

Each publication is described in a catalogue card with 23 entries, designed to enable the researcher or general reader to find detailed information quickly; anything from a publication’s foundation to the date on which it closed, the use of Basque, the political ideology on which it was based, its distribution and a great deal of other material. Entry 21 reveals exactly where the publication is archived.

In short, this catalogue is an essential tool for any Basque studies’ researches

*Joseba Agirreazkuenaga Zigorraga*

LARREA MUXIKA, José María

Euskaldungoa erroitzurik,

Pamiela, Iruña 1994, 182 orr.

Herri orok joera dauka bere erruak kanpokoei aurpegiratzeko, eta euskaldunak ez gara salbuespena izan korronte horretan. Horrela, euskararen galerari buruz hitzegiterakoan, eskola erdaldunari, soldaduskari eta horrelako faktoreei eman diegu izugarrizko garrantzia, barruko kontraesak eta geure hutsegiteak gehiegi aipatu gabe. Txema Larrearen liburu hau, gai hauek aztertu arren, “*pentsakera horren aurka doa*”, euskararen erroitzearen benetako arrazoien hila.

Nekez definitu daitezke hitz gutxitan liburuaren lerro nagusiak, euskaldunok amildegi-runtz egindako (egiten ari garen) bidaiaren azalpenaren irudia ez baldin badugu erabiltzen.