

countries throughout the world. Some have lived in one country for a good number of years, while others have flitted from one posting to another. Still others have been sent out more recently, but all of them share an especially intense era. Currently there are numerous Catalan correspondents spread out over the globe. The coming pages reflect the experiences of reporters working in various countries and regions of the world: the Middle East, North Africa, Mexico, Great Britain, Japan, Russia, South America, etc. In short, *Annals* wanted to offer a broad-based and contrasting view of the world.

# 11 Renovation of the French Press

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OCTAVI MARTÍ

This article refers to the French media and the quality of its best-known journalists who, although not generating a great number of scoops, have commented so many with malice and have been right on the mark. The author considers that the written press in France is obsolete and inert, preferring opinion over reporting. An exception to the rule is the daily *Info-Matin*, which confines itself to putting the most important daily news in order. It is a newspaper which can be read in twenty minutes, designed to be consumed while riding to work on the metro or bus.

France lacks a solid information-based newspaper, in the opinion of the author. *Ouest France*, *Le Monde*, *Le Figaro* and *Libération* are the four most widely-read newspapers. Of these, *Le Monde* and *Libération* have undergone significant changes in recent years.

116

The transformation of *Libération* into *Libé3* has had its problems. *Le Figaro* mirrors the problems of the French right wing. Instead, the renovation of *Le Monde* has been successful, but it has one weak point: its financial base. Hence, the traditional independence of its editorial staff may eventually succumb to the demands of the paper's credit needs. *Le Canard Enchaîné* is a world apart - an independent, satirical weekly with brief, well-written accounts which takes no one to the altar.