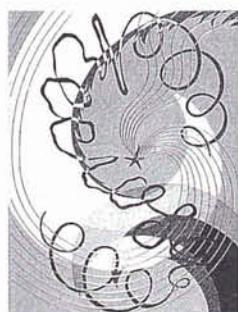


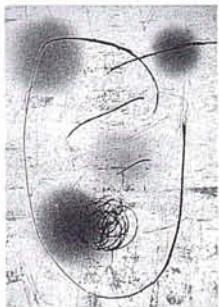
## EDITORIAL

In 1988 a total of almost twenty-eight million books were printed in Catalan. The figures for 1989 and, probably, for 1990 will be slightly higher. The publication of Catalan books is comparable to publication in other European languages corresponding to similar population groups with state structures of their own. The publication of Catalan books can be compared to that of Norway or Greece. The history of Catalan-language publishing has a lot to say about the history of the Catalan-speaking countries and of the successive phases of domination and freedom. At the moment we can say that we are living a period of normalisation in the field of culture, helped by the self-government institutions of the autonomous communities, the linguistic legislation, the growing use of the Catalan language in teaching communications media, especially the *lona* is one of the centres of the Euro-Catalan publishing activity, Barcelona than any other city in Spain. With their dustry, other towns in the Catalan cul-



and the existence of new Catalan television channels in Catalan. Barcean publishing industry. Alongside its also publishes more books in Castilian publishing initiatives and their book in-tural area also help to reinforce an ac-

tivity which is essential for the present and future of Catalan culture. All sorts of books are published in Catalan. In the report we are including in this number, the reader will find information on certain fields in which Catalan publishing activity is particularly noticeable. We give special attention to school text books and then to Catalan literature, but books are also published on science, technology, travel, eroticism, art and theology, as well as dictionaries and encyclopaedias. As happens in other languages, a large part of scientific or technical literature is available in English editions, because the Catalan language lacks a sufficient market for very specialised books. Catalan book production is similar to that of other European languages as regards the proportions of translations and original works. What often happens is that literary works are published in Catalan before they appear in Castilian, although the market is a small one in terms of numbers. There is a long tradition of reliable translations of high literary quality of Catalan authors produce work which is generally up to the usual European standards of quality and they take an active part in the great aesthetic movements of our times.



FÉLIX MARTÍ DIRECTOR