

COPY

JACQUES WEISS  
28, Rue Cambaceres  
Paris VIII, France

Paris, December 26, 1956

URANTIA BROTHERHOOD  
533 Diversey Parkway  
CHICAGO 14 Illinois

Dear Sirs,

Upon receipt of Miss Rowley's letter of November 30, 1956, I gave more thought to the possibility of translating your book into French. Although such an undertaking must be meditated for years, and then needs other years for actualizing, the following considerations may not appear premature.

I have personally made several translations, such as the books of Spalding: Life and Teachings of the Masters of the Far East, published in French in 1946, and more recently Esoteric Healing, by Alice A. Bailey (Lucis Press, New York) which is being printed and will appear on the market early in 1957. Esoteric Healing represents approximately one sixth of the Urantia Book. It is already a serious effort for one man who is professionally occupied otherwise. It has an Index of 7,000 items, which had to be put in another alphabetical order after translation. Its references were also to pages numbered differently in French and in English.

You told me that you were preparing an Index. I therefore suggest that the references of this Index be related not to the pages of the book, but only to the number of the paper and the number of the section or paragraph inside each paper. This will make your Index translatable in any language. Of course, the number of the American page can be added in the American Index, but it is not indispensable.

As a second suggestion, I would say that in addition to the Index, you should establish a Glossary of the names taken from the cosmic tongue, such as Norlatiadek, Havona, Uversa, Salvington, Divinington, Melchizedek, Vorondadek, Morning, Star, Brilliant Evening Star, etc...

In the same Glossary, several combined words should also be explained, for example:

local universe  
universe  
superuniverse  
universe of universes  
central universe  
grand universe, etc....

As to the publishing the book in French, I think that it would be possible to find the money and the translators, an homogeneous group properly spiritually minded and competent. But the prospective buyers would be lacking. At the present time, you would probably find no more than two hundred buyers for a book of that kind selling for about 30 dollars. The cost of an edition of 3000 copies would represent about \$45,000, including three or four copies of a good manuscript in French, and the sales taxes. This means no profit if the book sells at \$30 through the general circuit of bookshops.

But the work is so important that a group may pass over this consideration. Yet the prospective buyers would still be lacking.

Perhaps this major obstacle could be overcome if the book was divided in three volumes, each of which may find a different public, beginning by the end.

First volume	Part IV	with its own Index
Second volume	Part III	with its own Index
Third volume	Part I and II	with their own Index and the Glossary

Each of these volumes could be sold at approximately 10 dollars. I cannot understand how you manage to sell the whole for 10 dollars. There must be an occult support behind. How many copies did you print in this First Edition[

I leave the whole matter to your meditation, and to the advice of the Thought Adjusters of your group. But the present letter will evidence that your message has found at least one deep echo in my country. May it be a good omen for your work in 1957.

Very sincerely yours

(Signed) J. Weiss

P.S. - Your two books have been well received, one on Dec. 20, the other on Dec. 24. One of them is already in good hands.

J.W.

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MTR  
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