CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

Name or Subject  Translation of Old Testament  File No.

Regarding  Date

SEE

Name or Subject  Smith, J. M. P.  File No.
Mr. G. J. Laing,
The University of Chi'go Press,
5750 Ellis Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Laing:

I have delayed my answer to the communication of the Secretary with reference to the publication of Professor Smith's proposed Translation of the Old Testament until I should receive a fuller statement of the matter which I requested some days ago. This has not yet come, but as I see no ground for hesitation except the financial one and as on reflection I am persuaded that it has, no doubt, received due attention, I beg now to say that the plan has my approval.

I am greatly pleased with the extensive sales of Mr. Goodspeed's Translation of the New Testament. I do not imagine that the Old Testament will command an equal sale, but its publication is no doubt justified on other grounds.

Very sincerely yours,

ERNEST D. BURTON
I have failed to answer to the
communication of the Secretary with reference
to the publication of Professor Clapp's Report
on the translation of the old Testament which I
hope to see in printed form. I have not yet come
to any conclusion as to whether I can undertake
the translation of any portion of the Scriptures. I
shall be glad to consider any portion of the
text, but I am not at all anxious to undertake
the work. I am, therefore, disposed to await the
publication of any part of the text before I
undertake any portion of the work.
February 5, 1924

Mr. Ernest D. Burton
The Hollywood
Southern Pines, N. C.

Dear Mr. Burton:

I was very glad to hear that the Trustee Committee on the Press at its meeting a few days ago approved the publication on Press funds of a Translation of the Old Testament under the editorship of J. M. P. Smith. The approval of the Committee, however, was subject to your consent, and I am writing to ask you to communicate with me in regard to the matter. I sincerely hope that you will approve of the project. I cannot help thinking that you will think well of it, and realize the great advantage to the University and to the Press in issuing this Translation. Professor Smith himself will translate the psalms and other poetical books. Other divisions of the Old Testament, like the Prophetic Books, The Hexateuch, and the Historical Books will be assigned by him to Old Testament scholars of good standing. He plans to give the preference to graduates of the University of Chicago, but asks that he be not restricted in this respect. As soon as his Translation is finished (he thinks it will take three or four years) our Press will be in a position to issue it not only by itself but as part of a University of Chicago Bible, for we are planning to bind it up with Goodspeed's Translation of the New Testament.

You will be interested to hear that the sale of this latter volume shows no diminution. Within the last two weeks we have received one order for 2,000 copies and another for 2,500.

I hope that you are enjoying your vacation. Please give my kindest regards to Mrs. Burton.

Sincerely yours,

GJL/MA

Editor
January 31, 1924.

President Ernest D. Burton,
University of Chicago.

My dear Mr. President:

You will notice in Mr. Bean's report submitted to the Committee on Press and Extension, at its meeting held yesterday, a recommendation for the publication of Dr. J.M.P. Smith's Translation of the Old Testament. The Committee voted to authorize a contract with Dr. Smith for editing the translation at an estimated cost for composition and plates of approximately $7,500, it being the understanding that this $7,500 would be charged to the Plate Account later on when the work begins. This action was taken subject to your approval. You will find the particulars of Mr. Bean's recommendation on page 13 of his report to the Committee. Will you please let me know your decision in the matter?

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Secretary.