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DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE

Case Hispanica

July 15, 1975

Professor Jose Ferrater Mora  
Dept. of Philosophy  
Bryn Mawr College  
Bryn Mawr, Pa.

Dear Professor Ferrater Mora:

I called your number earlier this summer and your wife told me you were in Spain, but I gathered that you would be back in July. I called you because I need your professional, very professional, help and advise.

You remember that when we last met (in Oberlin) you asked me if I would be interested in translating another of your books. (You remember I translated your book on Unamuno.) You may also remember that I was forced to decline your offer or request because, as I said then, I was working on a book on Ortega. That project has developed into two books. The first one, which I finished in '72 and then completely re-wrote this past year, is now finished. My problem is that there is virtually no one in the world who could be as knowledgeable a reader of my book as yourself. This means that I am turning to you to beg you to read my manuscript and correct and/or comment on it. It is only about 235 pages long, but I hope when you read it you will not feel that you have wasted your time.

I know this sounds like thesis direction; it is not. I count on your feeling the MS is ready to publish. What I need is someone to read it with a philosopher's eye and suggest last minute corrections. If you will do this for me, I will undertake to translate a book for you, if you can get me a reasonable fee, and if you have (it would follow from the fee) a contract with a publisher. I have already done a volume of essays on phenomenology by Ortega for W. W. Norton & Co. I would have sent you a

copy myself (they may have done so), but it is so full of embarrassing errors that I decided to wait for the paperback edition to send you one .

Because Norton has the exclusive rights to publish all Ortega in English, I put it to them that they ought to publish my new book on Ortega. They wondered about readers and I suggested Edith Helman, yourself, and Richard M. Zaner, a disciple of Dorion Cairns.

If you do agree to read my MS for me I will of course tell Brockway, president of Norton, of this, and then he may want to know what you think of it. If I decide to let them publish it.

My thought was that I wanted to publish this book in English first and then try Spanish. In view of this I have translated all the quotes into English. When you have read it perhaps you will have some suggestions about publishing.

Very sincerely yours,

*Philip W. Silver*

Philip W. Silver

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