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23/6/64

Mr Alan Paton,
23 Lynton Road,
KLOOF,
Natal.

HOFMEYR Proofs

Dear Alan,

Randolph Vigne has just asked me, in connexion with the talk that U.C.T. would like you to give in August, when you might be coming down to Cape Town to read page proofs. My attitude about this is as before: that as far as we are concerned it is not essential for you to come all the way to Cape Town for this purpose, but that if you would prefer to do so, we should be very glad to have you here to settle any last-minute problems. What it comes to is that though we do not think it worth your time and trouble and expense to come to Cape Town for this purpose, we would rather have you in Cape Town than in Durban at that time.

As you know, page proofs are due to be ready from the printers at the end of July, and all of them must be returned to the printers not later than 15 August. This depends very much, of course, on how quickly you can finish the last of your galley proofs. It is important that you should send these off not later than Wednesday, 1 July, the date you mentioned over the phone on Saturday night, if we are to be able to keep to our side of the bargain with the printers. If we do not keep to our schedule, we have no moral justification to keep them to theirs. I have, however, arranged an extension of time for the balance of your galley proofs.

If you would like to come to Cape Town the best time would be between Monday, 3 August and Saturday, 15 August, preferably the latter of these two weeks. I told Randolph about this and suggested that he find out from U.C.T. which dates would suit them best during that time. He will let you know and you can decide whether to come.

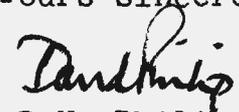
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I hope I do not sound too tough about the sending of proofs but we have had to be tough with the printers, who have had to be tough with their employees. Everything is geared to publish the book in October. Any date later than this will be too late for the Christmas trade in South Africa and the U.K. From all this you will see that, if the schedule is to break down, I want to make sure that it is not because of you or me.

The correction of the galley proofs, I myself am fully realizing at the moment, is a large labour and I am sorry to urge you in this way.

With good wishes,

Yours sincerely,



D.H. Philip
EDITORIAL MANAGER