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OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

JOHN BROWN, *Publisher*

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Thibault House
Thibault Square
Cape Town

OW/LM

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
L. MARQUARD, *Manager*

19/8/58

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

LIFE OF JAN HOFMEYR

Dear Alan,

I have been meaning to write to you, ever since Mrs Hofmeyr's death, and your letter arrived before I could translate my thoughts into action.

I was delighted to see in the papers that you were getting on with the life and to have this confirmed by your letter. I've looked up the file and your recollection is accurate - that the Oxford University Press publishes in the Commonwealth (which includes, contrary to appearances, South Africa!) and Scribners in the United States.

This still leaves a number of points unsettled - for example, sales in Europe and South America.

In a letter of 1 October 1952 you told me that, in the case of CRY, THE BELOVED COUNTRY, Scribners sold the book to Cape who paid royalties to them from which Scribners deduct 10% before paying you in dollars. The position would probably be different now and I shall be glad if you will let me consult Mr Brown fully on the whole question and write to you in about a month's time? (I am taking a fortnight's leave at the end of this week to revise PEOPLES AND POLICIES OF SOUTH AFRICA - hence my suggestion of a month.)

I hope you will agree to our handling the negotiations with Scribners so that we can all be quite clear on the different territories where a particular edition may be sold. It might even be that, after the lapse of eight years, Scribners no longer object to our publishing in the United States. In that case, I presume you would have no objection?

(2)

In regard to an Afrikaans edition, could you tell Nasionale Boekhandel that you are consulting the Oxford University Press on the whole question and hope to let them know in about a month's time? For your own benefit I may add that it is improbable that we should want to do an Afrikaans edition.

If you agree on all the above points will you let me know at once so that I can write to Mr Brown? And there is one final question: have you any strong views about whether the book is produced here or in England? Publication (as distinct from production) will I hope be simultaneous.

Everyone here is immersed in the U.P. crisis. I wonder if this (plus Japie Basson) is the beginning of a thaw in our rather frozen party politics?

Warmest greetings to you both,

Yours sincerely,

W. J. ...