

pa/111110/64



as from... P. O. ANERLEY,
South Coast,
Natal.

22nd June, 1949.

Dear Mrs. Hackel,

I tried to explain in my post-card to you why I have been so remiss about answering letters. I have had a very bad bout of sinus which seems, however, to be clearing up at last. We are staying on a farm near Ixopo and are trying to wipe out an accumulation of about a hundred letters, so I expect you will have some pity for me.

Now for some business.

- (1) I understand the notes very well and am very satisfied with them.
- (2) The matter of the title I also quite understand. I leave this battle to you.
- (3) I am sending you a copy of "Sanna". Can you remember the names of the other poems I promised to send ?
- (4) I am also enclosing the letter which I received from the German people and would be very glad of any help that you could give me.
- (5) I still think that a bilingual evening would be very successful but I think it should be in some place more private and intimate than the Carlton.
- (6) When are you going to Germany ? Are you likely to be gone before the end of July ? I am coming up then for a few days and we could discuss whether leisure is the proper climate for writing or not. I should like very much to meet your missionary friend again. I would have been willing to come and stay with him except that I have by this time completely organised myself until the end of August. Of one thing I am quite certain that this must stop, because I am sure that it is really mixing up two things.
- (7) "Stalingrad" was originally written in German. It is

/by.....

by Theodor Plievier. It is a pity you cannot get it because then you could read the book and stick to German at the same time.

(8) Thank you very much for sending me the extracts from pages 13, 19, 63, 76, etc. As you said, I was able to understand them quite well and believe that you have truly rendered the original. I have only one small point to make. On page 263, your last words are Ja, das weiss niemand. I don't think that is quite the same as "Why, that is a secret". I think the implication is that it is something known to God. Do you think it could be changed?

Kindest regards to you both from my wife and myself.

Yours very sincerely,

Alan Paton.

Your letters were very
encouraging. I am working
on a story - I might even
bring it up in July if
you are to be there.