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## LJUS FÖRLAG

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EN/LA  
POSTGIROKONTO NR 93 • TELEFON 228040

STOCKHOLM, October 23rd, 1954.

Mr. Alan Paton,  
Lynton Road,  
KLOOF.

Natal South Africa

Dear Mr. Paton,

I thank you for your kind letter with your declaration about your two books. Though it came too late to be used at the introduction of **TOO LATE THE PHALAROPE**, I think that I all the same can have good use of your lines.

**TOO LATE THE PHALAROPE** was most favourably received by practically all Swedish newspapers. Certainly, some of them regarded your book as too much a novel, giving too little place for discussion of the racial problem, while others pointed out that the racial problem somewhat encroached on the artistry in the book. However, after the conditions in this country, the sale is getting on rather well - we hope during the autumn to sell about 10.000 copies. That, in spite of our intensive advertising, we do not dare to calculate on higher figures, may be depending on the aversion of the Swedish people to read books that end with a tragedy. I am sorry to have to pronounce this fact, but to my regret it surely is the truth about the attitude towards literature of the great public. The interest among the booksellers has of course been very great, and the book is well placed in all book stores, and it is included in practically every reading circle, arranged by the booksellers.

I have also the pleasure to tell you that "All Världens Berättare" /"All the World's Storytellers"/, a monthly magazine of good literary quality, has chosen **TOO LATE THE PHALAROPE** as "Book of the Month" for October.

I am most interested to know, if you have any new literary plans, and in which direction they might show. Have you possibly written some short stories or any political polemical pamphlet or anything else small-sized which could be of interest to Swedish readers? I should then be most interested to take part of this material. Even if the publication of such material should not be any matter of business, it would all the same be of great and sure value of attention.

Finally I would only say that to me personally it has been a great pleasure and something of an event first to read **TOO LATE THE PHALAROPE** and then also to bring out the book to a rather great public in this country.

Yours sincerely,

/Tage Nilsson/