

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN 49001 U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Paton,

I am happy to tell you that both Praeger and Scribner have responded to my exploratory letters about the Long View. Praeger, immediately, and with some enthusiasm; Scribner almost as quickly, but perhaps a little more cautiously. I enclose copies of both letters. I would like to know if you have a preference. Meanwhile I will respond to the Praeger request for an outline and a representative selection of the materials, stating this is being done on a provisional basis pending your approval of the method presented in the outline, your agreement to including some pieces not forming part of the Long View, and, of course, your acceptance of Praeger as publisher. I was going to wait until I heard which publisher you preferred before doing anything, but on reconsidering the status of the correspondent -- the Managing Editor -- the fact that they had already conferred on the matter, and that since they have been specializing in African materials they might have a more understanding editorial staff, I thought it expedient not to keep them waiting. If you prefer to work through your more normal publisher, Scribner, I will send the materials to them. I enclose a copy of a draft outline of THE LONG VIEW by Alan Paton that I prepared in response to the Praeger request. It is experimental only, but it attempts to give the kind of unity that strikes me as best suited to a book.

This outline tries to do three things:

1. Get all, or almost all, The Long View in print.
2. So arranged as to give a perspective on the Liberal Party and the non-racial approach.
3. So arranged as to reflect the history of Contact.

To achieve this it seems best to keep the chronology of your three series; January, 1958-to January, 1959; April to August 1960; and 1964 to the present. Within these three sections, I have attempted to group related things (observing chronology when possible) in chapter equivalents; I suggest including some things that didn't appear in The Long View column for the sake of completeness and continuity, and sometimes for their own sake also -- like "A Deep Experience" as Prologue to the whole non-racial approach. I feel tempted to omit one or two pieces that might confuse the unfamiliar reader, e.g. , Contact, Nov., 21, 1958, "Invited Mr. Ekkis Blindendoof to take the short view".

You will note that the Praeger editor inquires about an Introduction; naturally, they would like to have you provide this if possible -- as would any other publisher. Alternatively you might want to suggest some other person they could approach for an Introduction. I could supplement this with a Prefatory Note or notes to the sections, as well as providing the machinery of footnotes, Index, Bibliography, and the like. I presume you wish to keep the title The Long View.

Since I have referred to the advantages of grouping related pieces in the book, I should draw your attention to possible disadvantages also. For example a grouping might throw more weight of emphasis on some topic than an occasional passing treatment of it -- and this might distort your intention. Again, if the groupings are to be given titles, care should be taken that they do not distort your views. Keeping these things in mind, I would like to know your reactions to the method proposed in the outline which I enclose.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely

Edward Callan