

4 copies

EARL PARKER HANSON

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February 18, 1974

Mr. Hallgróir Laxness
Reykjavik
Iceland

Dear Mr. Laxness:

As an admirer of your work I ask for your cooperation in a project which means much to me. My regard for "Independent People" as one of the great novels of our time stems not only from my position as a writer and critic, but also from my personal knowledge of your country and admiration for it.

My father, Albert Parker Hanson, made the first surveys for your overland telegraph system and was known throughout Iceland under the nickname "Fallege Hanson." My lifelong friendship for Vilhjalmur Stefansson brought me still closer to your country, as did my own work there as a geographer and journalist. In 1953 I was honored by the award of the Knight's Cross of the Icelandic Order of the Falcon.

I am now interested in doing what I can to secure justice for another great modern writer, the Brazilian, Jorge Amado, whose country also ranks high in my personal affections. I enclose a copy of a self-explanatory letter which I recently wrote to the Swedish Academy, urging the award, to Amado, of the Nobel Prize for Literature. Convinced that you share my admiration for his work, which has been published in Icelandic, I suggest urgently that you add your own letter to mine, since a recommendation from a Nobel Laureate counts for much more than does one from a lay person who is unknown to the Nobel Prize Committee.

Will you do me the honor to advise me whether or not this letter reaches you and whether or not you feel free to act on my suggestion?

With greetings and thanks

Sincerely

Earl P. Hanson

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