

AL/1692

September 3th

1949

Rec'd 20 Oct "
copy sent to M.S.

Woodfold.

Orkney.

Malinesbury -
Wiltshire, England.

Dear Miss Howe - Martyn,

It was very kind of you to write to me about my article in the Sunday Times & I am most grateful. It is encouraging, though a little alarming, to find that one's words are read by such knowledgeable people.

I am sure that the most serious problem in Africa today is the question of increasing populations & shrinking, or at best barely expanding, food supplies. But, coupled with a loss of confidence among politically conscious Africans in the leadership of the white races, & rising colour feeling.

You are quite right in saying that the solution by birth control is very difficult & apart from political difficulties, not yet cheap enough to meet the needs of a peasant population. More research is surely urgently needed to find cheaper & easier methods. Some is of course being done, but not in Africa.

The Family Planning Association here is doing excellent work, but they have as yet barely turned their attention to tropical Africa. Their resources are very circumscribed. Meanwhile, I think all we can do as an individual is to draw attention whenever we can to the urgency of the matter. This I shall go on trying to do. Thank you for your encouragement.

Your sincere

Elizabeth Husley.