

FROM THE BISHOP OF STEPNEY
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pa1113/2/150



20th March, 1972.

My dear Alan,

Many thanks for your letter of March 15th.
You must admit that I am pretty efficient in answering almost by return!

On the first question about Ned Patterson. I think that in fairness to Dorothy Maud it would be best if you could find it possible to omit the name of Ned Patterson, whilst telling the story as you know it. I don't think anything would be lost by this, and I am sure that Ned Patterson would be most unlikely to recognize himself in the story; but in any case it would ease Dorothy Maud's conscience, and I believe would be the right course.

Alas, I simply cannot now remember the name of the name of the Miss K. mentioned on page 211 of that book which stirred the conscience of the world - "Naught for Your Comfort" (and which incidentally still brings in its author quite considerable royalties). I suppose my reason for referring to her by her initial was that at the time I was being cautious and trying to make certain that nobody who was involved with me in any way would get into trouble.

I did indeed read the first half dozen chapters of your biography with great delight, and I returned them to S.P.C.K. because I understood that this was what you wanted me to do. I would much prefer now to await the final version, and then give you my full comments.

As to my time with Ambrose, it is really not so easy to recollect it after sixteen years, because of course I have had another life in Tanzania since then, and I have increasingly felt that I wanted to expound the joys of living in an African country under an African Government; and quite a lot of what I experienced in South Africa has been pushed fairly far into the background including that particular chapter with Ambrose. I think I would describe it like this: that at first it wasn't too easy really to make contact with Ambrose - I suppose because one had got so used to Geoffrey and the two men were so totally different in every way - but as the years passed I think our relationship grew much closer, and this was very largely due to the fact that he was interested and concerned with everything that I had been interested and concerned in. I suppose the highlight of our cooperation came when we went on a joint deputation to see the Bishop of Pretoria about the closure of the schools as a result of Bantu Education. On that occasion we found ourselves absolutely and totally at one. Similarly I suppose that that issue - the Bantu Education issue - was one in which both Ambrose and I differed fundamentally from Geoffrey, who really felt quite strongly that we must not take such a drastic and positive step - at least, that is my recollection. I honestly don't know enough about the relationship between Ambrose and Geoffrey to make any worthwhile comment.

Of course, I was not in England in 1945. I was in Sophiatown, and therefore I have no idea whether there was speculation in this country about Clayton becoming Archbishop of Canterbury. I don't think I ever heard

of it, but that is not to say that it didn't exist.
In my recollection, London was a more likely possibility
for Geoffrey, but I now have no way of telling why I
think this. Sorry I can't be more helpful.

Yours affectionately,

+ Inver. C.D.

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