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MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF METALLURGY  
CAMBRIDGE 39, MASSACHUSETTS

June 11, 1953

Prof. Hans Thirring  
Boltzmann-gasse 5  
Wien IX, Austria

Dr. Maria Telkes  
160 East 89 St.  
New York 28, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Thirring:

Thank you for your letter of June 6th. I congratulate you on your plan to write a book on "Power Production, Present and Future". If you are a defender of the idea of a more direct use of solar energy, you will be interested in my article on solar house heating, using a chemical heat storage method. I am sending these under separate cover by regular mail. Please quote as much as you like and I shall be very glad to send you the illustrations you need. I should like to mention the book by Eugene Ayres: "Energy Sources" ( McGraw-Hill, 1952), which is probably known to you as it deals with the energy production in the U.S. The recent volume: "Centennial of Engineering" edited by L.R.Lohr may also be of interest, because it contains articles on energy, including my latest article on "Warmth for Comfort" that I have sent you.

My article: "Fresh water from sea water by solar distillation" appeared recently and I shall send you a reprint as soon as this is available. Another article on the "Efficiency of Thermoelectric Generators" may also be of interest. I enclose a list of some of my publications for the references.

I can read German very well and I know Vienna, having been there for a short time as a child. I should be very glad if you send me reprints of your articles (please send them to 160 East 89 St, New York 28, N.Y. where I shall be during the summer).

I believe that solar energy may become a very important factor in the life of the tropical regions, where there is a shortage of water which could be produced from sea water or from salt-water wells. In time photovoltaic cells may be developed to convert at least 10 % of solar energy into useful electric power output and this would change the conditions in the tropics.

It is a pleasure to hear from you and of your interest in solar energy developments

Sincerely

*Maria Telkes*

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