

Rotary Exchange Student Writes From Holland

# Annabelle Ambrose Has Thrill Of Lifetime Sees Queen Of Netherlands In Golden Coach

Not many people these days see a queen passing in a golden coach, but Annabelle Ambrose, in Holland on a Rotary Exchange program, saw the Queen and the Royal Princess on their way to the opening of Parliament. The two hour wait was tiring, but Annabelle says it was worth it, even if she did have to stand on a box in order to take pictures. Annabelle, a Westmoreland graduate, is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Ambrose, Elmcree.



Here is Annabelle, herself, as revealed in excerpts from her letters:

When the boat pulled out I felt sad of course! Being homesick is sort of feeling sorry for yourself. Actually there is nothing to feel sorry about. It is like a long weekend stay—you are glad to get home when it is over, but, don't mope around wishing you were home. Of course I miss home! You don't realize, until you are away, how much you like America.

The Bregans are sweet and I am happy that my first stay is with them.

I have been in Amsterdam twice. Was there August 21. Love their department stores. One of them, de Bijenkorf has very lovely clothes. They have much material for sale, it is draped on forms in a very enticing manner. The store windows are arranged beautifully.

We drove to Hoorn to see the Fair. They had beautiful horses drawing old carriages. Many people were dressed in their native costumes. The carriages were decorated with flowers and horses had silver martingales etc. They drove their carriages past a post on which were suspended some silver rings. One of the people in the carriage had a stick and tried to catch the ring. They had cows, pigs, and other animals the same as we have at the Bloomsburg Fair.

While in Hoorn we went through de Rijd. Houses are close together, and date back to the early 1600's. Took pictures of the town Hall which was built in 1623. The countryside outside of Hoorn is beautiful, with

wind mills, meadows (equipped mostly with black and white cows) and trees (the kind you see in old paintings of Holland.)

September 3: I took a walk to the "Bunkers" outside of Callantsoog where the Bregman's have their summer home. They were built during the war. They were built of cement and bricks and designed as farm houses. Some are underground and covered over by grass mounds making them invisible to planes.

September 5 was the first day of school. The building is beautiful. Only five years old. Looks as though I have a new school after all! The ground floor is the parking area for bikes. They sit in racks. The students walk down steps and wheel their bikes down ramps. The school has two Gymnasiums (one over the other), both of them are bleacherless. Plate glass windows cover the sides of building. Played basketball—want to join a team. Teams are not part of the school program. The girls play boys rules and are very good.

Teachers smoke in school. Blackboards move up and down for easy writing. In Gym we have tumbling and strenuous exercises. Tell Miss Jenkins to pep up those exercises. They have a Temple of Music away

from the school, complete with a teacher who resembles Mr. Camp. I have one class of Art per week. I am studying German and Dutch. The language courses are more advanced than ours. Many people speak more than one language because of the nearness of other countries.

Maryanne, (Dr. Bregman's daughter) and I have very good times together. However, she is going

to England to study English. We are driving to Ostend, Belgium. From there we sail for London. I can hard wait to make the trip as I am going with them.

September 19 - Dr. Bregman and I went by bus to den Hague. Beautiful homes on the way reminded me of the homes on Pioneer Avenue. Went through Haarlem and the Velsen Tunnel. In den Hague, hotels, etc., were reserved to see the Queen

come along the streets on her way to attend the opening of Parliament, which opens on the third Tuesday of September. The Queen and Princesses go in carriages. Huge crowds. For a Gulden Mr. Bregman bought me a box to stand on so that I might see and take pictures. He is sweet. It was a very hot day and ice cream business was tremendous. We waited two hours for the Queen to come by in her golden carriage, but it was worth it. After seeing the Queen we had something to eat and then took a tramway to Medurodam near Scheveningen. Medurodam is Holland in miniature. You walk around something like a miniature golf course and see buildings, castles, wind-mills etc., Took pictures

on tramway back to den Hague we met two Americans, who by strange coincidence had come over on the same boat that brought us to Holland. Small world. On the return trip from den Hague people on the bus sang songs. It was very jolly.

Maryanne and I are at the kitchen table. She is very talented—can burp in four languages and is now giving me lessons. Received the Dallas Post. Thank you very much. Must go now and do my homework.

We went to Volendam. That is the only place they have wooden shoes that are carved—was dying to buy them. The place is very old and everyone there wears native costumes. Loads of places for tourists to buy souvenirs—took pictures of the place. Went to Monnickendam

by boat. It took 15 minutes. We had lunch at Stutenburgh Hotel on the Zuider Zee. It was really beautiful. Outside they had baby chicks in the yard—inside, a sunny little room in the middle of which was an aquarium with fish. The ceiling above it was by a sundome. Cats were sitting around it. Dinner was served in bowls and you helped yourself. In another room, which was dark and lit by candles, were old music boxes, purses, pianos etc., Very neat! After this we went to the beach for a swim.

They have a lot of Dutch Street Organs in Holland which are very beautiful. They never cook in churches over here as we do—so they never have church suppers. I love yoghurt now—it is really yummy.

**The Trip To England**  
On our trip to England we left by car (the Bregman family and I) at 2:30 a.m. We drove to Ostend, Belgium, where we left the car. In Belgium I saw quite a few beautiful houses with large lawns and some with two cars. I also saw American factories, Frigidaire, Libby's, American Gas, Mobile, Shell, Gulf, Esso. A lot of gas stations had nicely kept gardens. These were mostly in Holland.

We went under the Ghent Tunnel. It's quite long. There were beautiful farms past Lokeren and Zeeburg. We reached Ostend at 11 a.m. The Belgian border was easy to cross. I didn't need a passport.

Went to Dover on the ship "Princos" (Continued on Page 6 B)

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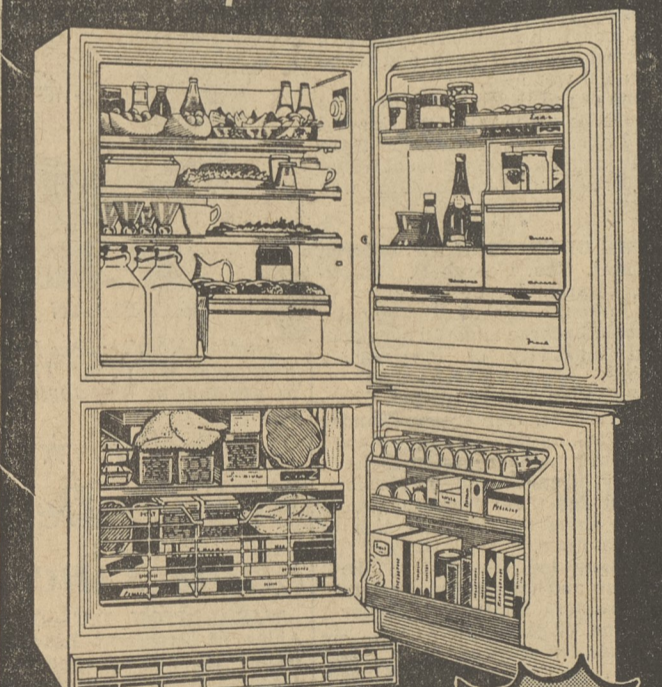
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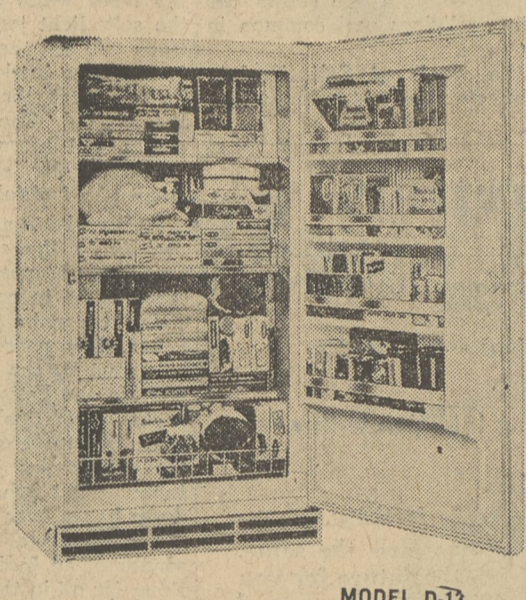
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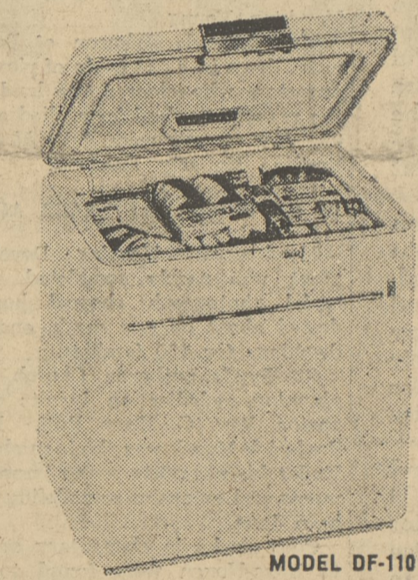
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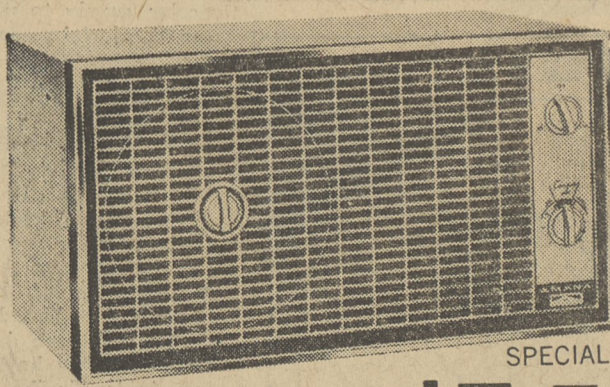


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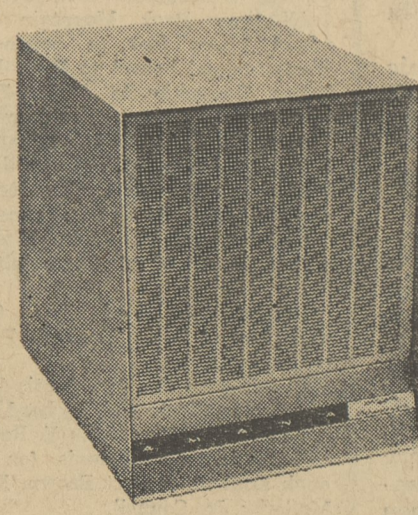
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