

Stieltjeskanaal, 7 Nov. 1937

Dear Jeannette,

I forgive you that you had kept me waiting so long. I thought, that Jeannette forget me, but fortunately that was not so. You has put all to rights by sending such a long letter.

First I must congratulate you on your birthday. You shall receive my letter some days after, but I can't help it for I received your letter too late. I hope that the following years it gets better. At the same time with my letter I send you a present. I did not know what I had to choose, but then I remember the "World-Jamboree," where I have spent my summer hollidays. There I saw that the American scouts were fond of And therefore I thought I will send the same to Jeannette. I hope that you are also fond of it.

You was afraid that your interest was far different with mine, but I think not at all.

You have chosen a heavy task. You hope to be a doctor in a foreign country; to help the natives of one or other Country in their suffer; to cure sick people; to bring happy under them, how splendid! I admire you Jeannette. The task you have load on your shoulders is heavy for a man and then for a women. But it is a very beauty task. You are a heroine Jeanette.

And I, I am going to be a teacher. At present I am studying at a Seminary, but I hope when I have undergone my examination I can apply myself to biology, for biology is my favourite subject, namely bacteria.

I learn English, German, Frenhd and of course Dutch; mathematics, bilyg, physics, history, geography, literature, etc.

I am going to school at Koevorden, a town about three miles from my dwelling-place. ??? order is little as all towns in Holland.

In Holland there are many towns and they all very nice but little. The capital is Amsterdam, a town with eight hundred thousands habitants. Then follows Rotterdam with five hundred thousands habitants.

I read that you was corresponding with nearly the whole world. I only with you, Anges, and with South-Africa into Dutch and East-Indies. But I should like to have a correspondent into Germany. I read that you have a pen pal in Dresden. Will you send me the adress of this penpal, then I can ask him to send me a adress from one of his friends who like corresponding. Do you write with your pen pals in English?

No, I am not very humorous. Sometimes I am a very gay boy, but often I am serious (or is it earnest).

I thank you for your photo. You likes my mother when she was young. I can scarcely omit to look at your photo. You are very handsome. You are a daughter of a farmer and I am a son of a farmer.

I was born on the 24th July 1919 and also I am eighteen years old. I have one brother, who is my elder by three years. He is a farmer just as my father. I love also the country. Often I wander through the fields and especially in summer, when the corn is on the field. Then it is splendid!

I have not many hobbies. I collect stamps and I also read a very great deal; but I do not collect flowers and butterflies; I am fond of taking but I do not often write stories, sometimes songs.

This week I shall send you some pictures of Koevorden. Will you also send me some of your dwelling-place. In Koevorden there are two theatres and every week there are two films,

but in Holland we must wait so long for the new American films come here, and thus we see pictures which are most six or eight month old.

I go very often to a picture. I love pictures. Last week I saw a very nice Dutch picture named "Pygmalion." A poor girl roams along the street and sells flowers. Two gentleman are on a corner of a street and see her. One of the gentleman is a speech teacher and he bet the other then he can make from the poor girl in some month a lady. The wager are won by the speech-teacher. But it is nice to see the girl changing from a "street-girl" to a lady.

I spent my hollidays on the "World-Jamboree." There were twenty-eight thousands scouts from all countries. It was there splendid. I met American-scouts as well as scouts out Australia, Egypt.

There is something about the American camp. It is out the Jamboree part: -- As you approach you see numerous small American Flags fluttering in the breese some over the large gateway tent that houses and exhibit of handicrafts and photographs of American scouting, and many more over the varied tent types used by the Troops, ranging the whole way from the Tipis of the Indians of the western prairies to the open-front baker tents of the foresters of the north-eastern states--

--As you walk around America you may be particulary interested in witnessing the preparations of the "Indians" for their dances and camp fire ceremonies. They have ??? to invite you to try on their costumes and to teach you their dance steps, or you may try your hand at rope spinning or at cracking with the large bull whips brought over by the boys of Texas. Etc The American-scouts were gay and pretty boys.

My religion is Protestant. What you told me from your religion is very fine. Here in Holland is not such a League.

I got your adress from Oe Vereniging voor Futern atronaul Jengdvesheer (Dutch words I cannot be sure of). It is a club of boys and girls who will correspond with boys and girls of other countries. There are about three thousands members and I am one of these members. In summer the club goes on a journey. Some members go to Germany, others to England, others to Italia and others to French.

Now I will tell you about a hobbie that I have forgotten. I am namely a passionate dancer. Do you love also dancing? My favorite dances are Fox-trot, Rumba, ??urch-step, Tango and now I learn Coronarlioxxxxx, Tangorran Crocaderado.

You asked me what I think from Agnes. I can only say; she is sweet, sincere, girl; and Agnes and you, you are angels.

At present I am very busy with my study and therefore I will close. On your birthday we have a Koevorden fair, and the first glass of wine shall I drink on your Jeannette.

Your boy in Holland,
Hermannes