

Stieltjeskanaal
Aug 1938

Dear Jeanette,

I thank you very much for the long letter you send me! I might have written sooner but I have been with my exams. Here in Holland we have not such a long vacation as you have in America. We got out of school on Friday the 15 July. Monday the 18 and Tuesday the 19 July we had two sports-days from our school, one day athletics and the other day swimming. I got two prizes, one with discus-thing (the first) and one with pursing-ball. (the third). We got our report-cards on Thursday the 22 July and fortunately I graduated. Now I must study one year before I can do my final examination. Then I go perhaps to the university to study for engineer, three years. Not such a long program as you.

I admire you that you have such a joy in working and studying. Last month I studied the nearly the wholenight. I went to bed at one or two o'clock in the night and I raised at six sometimes at five o'clock in the morning. We must resume our lesson on the 12 September. Last Saturday 30 July I was at the motor-races in Assen, Drenthe. We went on cycle Friday evening at six o'clock and we were at eight o'clock in Assen.

Then we went to a farmer and asked him or we may sleep there on his ground in our tent, which we had by us. There were already some other boys, students, from Amsterdam and Rotterdam. Every year we go to the same farmer and also we know each other. Sometimes there are two hundred boys and girls at one farmer. In the evening we went to Assen. (The farm was standing at a mile from the town) There was so many people that we couldn't get a seat in the bar where we were. Thousand an Thousand walked through the streets, especially Dutchmen but also Englishman and German. We danced till midnight and then we went back to the farmer and slept till half past eight.

The races began at nine o'clock with the races for the Dutch, and at two o'clock in the afternoon for the international races. It was a splendid combat between the German on B.M.W. (Bayerische Motoren Werke) and the Italian on (sp - Guileran) with the racer Serafini, But the racer Serafini was down on his luck and the B.M.W. won with the racer Weier. The second prize got the Dutchman B.L. Wamersveldt and Serafini the third. This was the 500ee

In the 250ee won Kluge (Germany) on D.K.W. and in the 350ee the Englishman Wellors on "Velocette", second was the Dutchman W.V. Gent on "F.N." The races ended at five o'clock and at eight o'clock we were at home.

This year I intended to go to Paris with some other girls and boys from the Dutch pen pal club, but I got to late vacation and now I make a trip through the Netherlands. I started Wednesday 20 Aug. and I shall come home against September.

You wrote in your letter that you didn't have a cycle, and you can'tcycle. Here in Holland almost each person has a cycle. I also make my trip through the

Netherlands on my cycle. Every day about eighty miles. But the Dutch man does not use too much cars as the American for the distances are here in Holland not so long, Holland is a little country.

I sent you with this letter some postcards and I shall try to send you on my trip some more. I hope you will like them. They are not photos. But they are drawn.

You asked me how many pen-pals I have. One in South-Africa, one in the Dutch East-Indies, one in California, Agnes Bondreau, one in French and best, best you, Jeannette.

At present I do not know more news but after my trip I shall send you a letter and hope that you have happy and pretty holidays.

Your Dutch-Boy
Herm

P.S.

My French pen-pal has given me a nick-name. She calls me Herm