

Siebesma-Wassenaar, W.

To relatives in Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.

Franeker, 29 Okt. 56

Dear family,

We were glad when we received a letter from America. Biw, the Dutch you wrote was beautiful, you did not forget that. We spoke to your son. A pity that we could not understand him. We understand from your letter that you and your family went through a lot. But yes, it is a long time indeed, 50 years. In regard to us; we are doing well. We have been married for 52 years on March 25. We have 3 children, one son, with whom your son stayed, and 2 daughters, one lives in Franeker and 1 near Groningen. They are doing well. Your son told you much about our Jan, I think. 1955 has been a difficult year for us. Aykje had one daughter who had to go to a sanatorium. She had some TB. She is still there. We hope that she will come home in January. Jan's son of 8 years drowned on February 28. We were 50 years married 3 weeks later. Jan a short while later 25 and the oldest daughter married. It was sadness and gladness. But we are grateful that we believe in Him whom controls all things, so our sadness and gladness too. Brant must have written about the old little brick from your old house. We are with seven people, brothers and sisters. Now Ykje, the letter is almost filled. I hope you can read it will. My handwriting does not become better if one is 77 years. I must write, my wife is strong, she is 74 years. Now, people, especially greetings to all.

P.S. We have 9 grandchildren and 1 greatgrandchild.

Also greetings from our children.

S. Siebesma.

W. Siebesma- Wassenaar.

Franeker, Lijnbaanstr. 11.

Sybesma-Wassenaar, W.

To relatives in Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.

26 January, 1958

I thought I will not let the grass grow under my feet, and write back right away. Now, from us too, many blessings in this new year. What the future might bring is hidden for us, but known to God. We hope that you will be spared from disaster and adversity in this new year. We are healthy and that is the most important thing. Our children are also healthy and the grand and greatgrandchildren too. We are getting older. My husband becomes 79 on March 17 and I am 75 and healthy. Sybe is now always vigorous but has sometimes the same as his mother, she was also very nervous. Brant has read the letter and my son too where your son stayed. I will let the other brothers and sisters read the letter. They come and visit us once in a while. Uncle Sybe's sister lives in Pingjum. She is 78 already and Metje lives in Bolsward. She is Catholic, has had 13 children, has lost two children during the war and an other two due to illness. So she went through a lot. There is snow and it is cold at the moment. Not a long winter however. It was bad at some places with the snow, but not in Franeker, happily. We had a wet summer here. Many spotted potatoes. There are large areas which have to be ploughed under immediately, damage for the farmer. Brandt gives you his regards too, he has received a letter from Siebe this summer. We read it too. I do not know you but nevertheless it is fun if you have family whom wants to write with you. Then there is still contact. Your children are healthy also, now that is good. You can greet

your husband and the children from that strange aunt and from uncle Sybe. If you would see Franeker now then you would look surprised although perhaps you cannot remember anything from it. There is almost a whole city added. If you look from the back of the house where you lived once; a paperfactory and a canal digged through it, all potatowarehouses and a new shipyard. Then the Dongjumerpoort. Och, I believe, there a half city has been added and then behind the "Bolwerk" near the gasfactory whole neighborhoods. I write this, perhaps you can understand what I am writing about, near the "Suikerlam" were they always "kaatsen". Now you know a lot again or perhaps nothing. But I cannot think of much to write about and my husband tells me to write back. Now I am doing this hartly and I hope and pray that it will be given to you to receive these lines in healthyness and that we may hear something from you. We have been to Groningen last winter, but in the winter it is impossible, so now we stay home. The costs are high and you are nowhere better than in your home. We have a daughter living there. I end now and give the regards especially from us and from the children to your husband and you and to your children.

.....

S. Sybesma

W. Sybesma- Wassenaar.

Lynbaanstr. 11, Franeker.

Geachte familie 26 Januari
1958

Ik dacht er maar geen gras onder taken
groeven direct maar heilig schrijven
na want ons ook veel (Zegen in het
nieuwe jaar staat de toekomst brengen
moet is voor ons verbergen maar
bij God bekend wij hopen ook dat
je in dit jaar weer voor ramp
en sepiens goed moogt. Bewaard
blijven wij zijn best gezond en dat
is het voornaamste om de kinderen
zijn ook best gezond en klein en
vukter kleinkind ook wij worden
vukter mijn man wordt 17 maart 19
jaar en ik ben 15 nog best gezond
Lybe is nu vukter wiefstuk maar
heeft ook veel you eens want zijn
moeder was ook zoo zwaar ziek
Brend heeft de brief gelezen en mijn
doon ook daar is doon toen gewent
is de andere broers en zusters zal ik
ze veel eens laten lezen die komen

Wet end by ons eenige bye dyn dus
ker want in pnyjman du is ook
al 78 en meeje want in Polswaer
die is katelick heeft 18 kinderen gehad
heeft in de vorloy twee verloren en
nog door ziekte ook twee dat die
heeft ook al veel beleefd het is hier
oft wayenblik sneeuw en koud met
veel winter gelukkig op plaatsen was
het erg met sneeuw maar in franchon
gelukkig met Wy hebben hier een
watke kamer gehad steel konke
aardappels er dyn kopen die too
wel ondergeploegd kunnen worden
sine voor de baer Brandt doet u
ook de groeten die heeft een brief
van syne getuigen want idemer hebben
wy ook gelezen ik ken u niet maar
sich is het leuk als je familie hebt
die nog met je wil schrijven stam
is er toch nog contact u kinderen
zyn ook gezond nu dat is ook vrach
by u maalt u man in de Souidertu

maar van de aarde konde groeten
en wonsijde als je francher na eens
Zay dan zou u maar op'ter at
he niet u er niet veel meer dan
weter is korast een stad by je
konnem als je ebehter het huns
waar yuthe stoejer hebben genvoond
eens Log een papier fubrek en
kannat door gegrauten allemaal
grvete aarchappal loodsseu en
een meute sleeps wief dan de
donyamer voort uit ik yelwap
dakar is een bracht stad by
yehonnen en dan ebehter het Bolatere
by de yos februek heel busseu
ik schryf dit maar misschien kan
je het nog bevrissen staan ik be
loeft by t Sinterdom waar altijd
ytkoortt wordt nu weet je weer
een heel lodeu weinig misschien
maar ik weet ook niet veel he
schryften en myn man Leyt schryf
my maar beruy nu dat doe ik dan

hoope en ik hoop en Bid dat het
u geyeven may warden stete regels
in gezondheid te ontvangen en dat
wie dan my eens wat hooren wy
waren verleden winter naar Groningen
geveest in de winter is dat niet ge
daan dat wy blyven maar thuis
het dyn my al veel kosten en
je bent nergens beter dan thuis
wy hebben daar een dochter wonen
nu eindig ik en doe van ons beiden
int byzondere en van de kinderen
onze hartelyke groeten van uw
mou en u en van u kinderen
tot hoere

S. Sykesma
W. Sykesma W. J. J. J. J.
Lynbaantje u Francker

all Dutch

from D. Byfema
+ Smit



1958

Fred. Kooi

1855. South Ogden

Denver, Colorado U.S.A.

afz. S Siibesma

Lijnbaanstraße II

Franker

Friesland

Nederland

Sybesma- Wassenaar, W.

To relatives in Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.

Franeker, 29 December 1959

Dear Family in America,

I thought that i had to write you back. First I must let you know that my husband passed away. He died on January 5, 1959, very suddenly a heartseizure, that my life is broken too. But I am healthy allright. My husband is were he would like to be. I am staying with my daughter in Groningen. I have also two children in Franeker. They are doing will too. You were writing about socialsecurity. We have it here too. I am doing will, life is here much different then overthere. I have a pension of 400 guilders a month inclusive everything but I can take care of myself. We do not need much. Brant is not far from here. He remarried again, i quite often visit them and they me. You wrote about nature, it was here beautiful this summer, very dry but much sunshine. Your husband retires from work, now I hope that it will be given to you that you may stay together for many years. Because the older you become the less you can miss eachother. Your children are healthy too, you wrote, happily, it is good for the parents. I was frightened when I received a letter from America. I thought they think about us. And I hope that you will write me back some time. I do not know you but I feel there is a need to hear something about Friesland. I do not know much about your family but I knew where you lived. Mu husband talked always about uncle Klaas and aunt. Sybe is the first whom died. There are

now 6 children left of uncle Jan and Bepkje. They all are very healthy. More I do not know. Now I am going to end because mu letter is almost filled and I wish you God s best blessing and a happy 1960. Give my regards to your husband and other family.

Widow S. Sybesma- Wassenaar,
Lynbaanstr. 11, Franeker,

Sybesma- Wassenaar, W.

To relatives in Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.

Franeker, 1962

Dear Family,

I am just like you, I waited long before answering you back. But it will and one cannot escape from it. I am now healthy again and I hope the same of you. My gall and highblood pressure bothered me last winter, but I am recovering now. It is here a wet and cold spring. I can imagine that my husbands brother receives response back from your brother Sam. It is quiet now that I am alone, although I fight my way through it. I can do my work will and that is great. On sundays I go to church regularly. I have here two married children but each have their own persuits. Brand underwent surgery this last winter and that does not go to will yet

He is doing well, only his health is not improving. Your pears and other fruit bring the water to my mouth. It is not that easy here and it is expensive. I do not have a large home but that is not necessary too, since everything is different in Friesland. A brother of my husband, jelle, visited me this week. He gave me his address; Jelle Sybesma, 277a Achlum. He would like to have a letter from you sometimes. He also had a big blow, his daughter only 27 year, married, has lost her husband, 32 years old. She is expecting a second child, she is a nice girl. She lives in the polder. I will become 80 years on October 19, if I live. So you are dealing with an old lady, but I hope that the Lord may let me experience

another birthday. And now I end with wishes of much health for you and your husband, that the Lord may be close to you. This is the wish from me.

Widow Sybesma.

Lynbaanstr. 11, Franeker.