

LONDONCITY HONOURS QUEEN JULIANA

In Austin Friars, close to the City amid the ruins of the bomb-wrecked Reformed Church where they used to pray, Queen Juliana meets her own people. And in a little piece of Holland in England the Queen sees the foundation stone of the new church which is to rise here. It was laid by her daughter Princess Irene. How the new Church will look Queen Juliana could judge from this model. Joining with her exiles, Queen Juliana sings the homely Dutch song, "Mijn Nederland," whilst all round the traffic of a busy city passes by.

In this little glimpse of the Queen with her husband among her people we see how real is the close-knit union between a warm-hearted, understanding ruler and those she came to rule only two years ago.

At Clardiges the tables are laid ready for Queen Juliana's banquet in honour of our King and Queen. Four thousand dark red "Happiness" roses were brought from Holland for the occasion. Afterwards they will be sent to hospitals. The glassware, gold plate and china; all the food, too, came from Holland. For one evening this was to be a corner of Holland where her Queen entertained. As Queen Juliana arrives with Prince Bernhard, they are received by the Netherlands Ambassador. Among the 64 guests are the Prime Minister and Mrs. Attlee, followed by the Leader of the Opposition and Mrs. Churchill.

Princess Elizabeth, radiant in cyclamen-pink satin, is with the Princess Royal.

Prince Bernhard welcomes Their Majesties and leads them to where Queen Juliana waits to receive them. Earlier, at the Guildhall, Queen Juliana received the welcome of the City of London. The Recorder of London, Sir Gerald Dobson, ended his speech with these words:-

SPEECH

The scroll which the new Lord Mayor receives to hand to the Queen, will be placed in a casket made of oak saved from the Guildhall roof which was destroyed in the blitz.

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From the Library the Lord Mayor escorts Queen Juliana towards the Guildhall itself, where with 800 other guests she and her husband are to lunch.

The walls of the grand old hall are now bomb-scarred, and above is still only a temporary roof, but nothing can detract from the magnificence of the setting as the Lord Mayor gives the toast, "the Royal guests."

Truly Holland has a good Queen and we in Britain a good neighbour.