

### Crossing Atlantic Part of Work of Fashion Designer

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — Lean, sensuous Mimi London jetted home from Europe for the holidays thinking no more of distance than a young woman who commutes from the suburbs.

Mimi is a top fashion model in New York and Paris, and traveling back and forth is part of her exciting, but exhausting work week.

As the daughter of the keeper of one of San Francisco's fanciest hotels, she started her career as a mannequin in the Bay City. Three years ago Mimi walked into a San Francisco modeling agency and asked, "Will you give me a chance?" She got it, and soon became an established local favorite.

Moved Eastward  
When the excitement of high fashion life on the west coast dimmed, Mimi decided to move on to New York, where a top model earns \$60 an hour, compared with San Francisco's \$20-\$25.

Agents Jerry and Leslie Ford — who started Suzy Parker on her famed career — accepted her as a client. Mimi modeled at style shows and before cameras, and before long took the fashion center by storm.

So popular is she today that Mimi no longer does fashion shows, but limits her jobs strictly to modeling for photographers. But she doesn't mind traveling. A typical month will include flights to Paris, Hamburg and Berlin, as well as posing in New York.

She says she finds plenty of variety in her work, and smiles at the difference between being a photographer's mannequin in New York and Paris.

"In New York you work 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.," she said, "but if you're in demand in Paris, hours are never normal. Collections are photographed right after the season's opening shows for privileged buyers and the press. The designs still can't be seen publicly, because they might be stolen."

Taken in Secrecy  
"So they put them on us at 3 a.m. and by 4 a.m., swathed in a huge sheet, you're in a park, on a boulevard or wherever, having your picture taken in cloak and dagger secrecy."

Mimi plans to return to the world of expensive furs, clothes and jewelry after the Christmas holidays, and will probably work in New York "at least long enough to bankroll another European fling."

Where does she want to go in Europe next time? "German models are the rage in New York now," she said, "so maybe I should be sort of a reciprocal lend lease."

### Foreign Students Observe Holiday

Miss Marisa Castro and Bart deBeer, American Field Service exchange students from Costa Rica and The Netherlands are observing Christmas in the same manner as they do in their native countries.

"In Costa Rica, everyone has a nativity scene in front of his house, so I'm making one for our home," Miss Castro said Christmas Eve. The nativity scene is now at the home of her American parents, Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Hibbs, 190 White Oak Drive.

In Costa Rica, Christmas eve is celebrated by a huge dinner to which all family relatives are invited. The family also attends church services at midnight. Her Christmas eve with her American family was celebrated in the same way. "It's lonely away from my home at Christmas, but I'm enjoying the friendship of everyone here in America," she commented.

In the Netherlands, deBeer's home, the coming of St. Nicholas is Dec. 5. His country is traditionally the birthplace of the legend of the American Santa Claus.

"Everything else is essentially the same," he said, "we're just spending a quiet Christmas eve at home." His American parents are Mr. and Mrs. Otto J. Frohnmayer, 1656 Spring st.

### Prepayment Services Cover One Million

CHICAGO (UPI) — Prepayment for dental services was initiated in America only very recently, and even as late as May, 1963, the number covered under this form of prepayment was not much more than one million persons, it was noted in "Blue Cross Reports."

Just over one-half of the total were insured through group-practice plans and/or clinics, with dental service corporations.

SWEET COURSE  
DAVIS, Calif. (UPI) — A course in wine appreciation is among offerings of the University of California at Davis. It includes a survey of wine producing districts in the world, a study of the composition and quality of wine, and wine evaluation.

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