

No plain sailing...

LONDON, Saturday.

THE MOMENT of triumph for Alec Rose, the round the world yachtsman, is a bitter-sweet affair for his first wife, Barbara, the woman who hates small boats — but devoted 28 years of her life to making it easy for him to go sailing.

"I am thrilled and proud," she said. "I feel that I have a part of his achievement in sailing round the world. But I am also sad, because of what it did to us."

Mrs. Barbara Rose was talking in the cottage in Ivy Lane, Canterbury, where she has lived alone since she parted from Alec Rose in 1957 after 28 years of marriage.

Throughout their life together, she saved and worked alongside her husband to help him to achieve his consuming ambition: to sail the world single-handed.

He asked her to be in Portsmouth with his present wife Dorothy for his homecoming

But she stayed away. "I just thought that it wouldn't have been quite right for me to be there.

"Instead I took a day off from work and watched Alec's arrival by myself on television.

LIMELIGHT

"I don't feel any resentment about missing all the limelight. This was for Dorothy, I understand that. I know what she has been through over the last eight years and during the actual voyage.

"There is no rancour between us. We are still friendly and I telephoned him when he was in Australia and New Zealand during the voyage."

Barbara Rose first met Alec when he was 19. They were

THAT WAS ROSE'S MARRIAGE

married in 1931 when he was 21.

"Even then he had begun to plan for a round-the-world voyage," she said.

"And his passion for the sea has rubbed off on our children.

"As for me, I hate going in small boats. I get really frightened.

"I just cannot stand the thought of all that deep water right underneath you in a tiny boat.

"We never had a holiday or went out in the evening. How lovely it would have been to go to the cinema once in a while."

She added wistfully: "Perhaps I let him down in a way, in giving up when I did. But I was very weary." — London Express Service.



ALEC ROSE gets a welcome kiss from his second wife, Dorothy, after spending 354 days at sea in a round the world voyage. But it was a bitter sweet triumph for another woman . . .