

ROYAL TOUR IN FULL SWING

16,000 Auckland schoolchildren lined up on Domain Cricket Ground as the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh were welcomed by the Prime Minister ~~Ministers~~ and the Mayor of the city. As in Canada the royal ~~Ministers~~ tourists plan to attend great rallies of the younger generation, and <sup>by</sup> none of H.M.'s subjects does she receive a more enthusiastic welcome.

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On the same day the Queen and Duke visited Auckland Hospital, whose 800 patients would not otherwise have seen them. Included in that number are 150 children. A break in the bad weather which has done its best to make the New Zealand summer seem almost English enabled many of the beds to be brought outside. It was a Xmas Eve the hospital will always remember.

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Ellerslie race course looked like Ascot in Raining June when the Queen and Duke went to see the running of the Auckland Cup, now appropriately renamed Royal Auckland Cup. Fortunately once again the rain stopped just at the right time, or perhaps Her Majesty would not have been able to go into the paddock, as she always likes to do for a big race. Much in New Zealand reminds the traveller from Britain of home, nothing more so than the race courses.

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Ellerslie quaintly calls its paddock the birdcage. There, some very fine blood stock of English descent was on view. A very thrilling race it turned out to be.

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It was a photo-finish, owners of Coaltown and Rangitau having to wait for the verdict. The decision was still unknown as ~~Rangitau (Nelson) and Coaltown~~ came in to unsaddle.

Her Majesty ~~presented~~ <sup>ced</sup> the Royal Auckland Cup and Coaltown being declared winner she gave it to the lucky owner Mr. H.M. Glazebrook. Her Majesty congratulated him and afterwards the jockey

That evening the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh attended a royal Film Performance in Auckland. The occasion almost looked like the event at home which is the highlight of the Motion Picture Year. The Governor General, Sir Willoughby Norrie received the Queen. Another ~~memorable~~ memorable day was being glitteringly rounded off.