

MAORIS COMPLETE HOMAGE TO QUEEN

Arawa Park, Rotorua, was the scene of the largest Maori gathering in honour of the Queen, One more challenger observed the picturesque and no longer fearful ceremony by which the tribes in past times demanded of

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strangers whether they came for peace or war. The Maori Bishop of New Zealand invested Her Majesty with a ceremonial cloak of finely woven flax ~~intricately~~

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<sup>& feathers,</sup> embroidered. His action symbolised that the people welcomed as a friend "the rare White Heron of a single flight". The Duke also received a cloak. The 10,000 present were

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highly amused when five-year-old Esther Fawcett escaped her grandmother's care, <sup>7 chose to claim.</sup> Her Majesty told the child to ~~make~~ <sup>stay,</sup> <sup>10</sup> herself comfortable, so little Esther had a Royal view.

The Queen ~~told the gathering~~ <sup>said</sup> she was inspired and delighted by the great Maori welcome.

The Maoris then ~~welcomed~~ <sup>greeted</sup> Her Majesty in song, also telling how the first tribes came to New Zealand in great canoes, 500 years ago.

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Not far away the Queen saw one of the grand curiosities of North Island, the volcanic plateau of Whaka, with its thermal pools (much appreciated by local youngsters) and world-famous geysers.

~~The geysers don't spout to order, not even when visited by Queens.~~

~~Just when Her Majesty and the Duke were preparing to leave without seeing the natural show the geysers relented.~~