

29-6-56

2:2 PM. PRINCESS MARGARET:

PRINCESS MARGARET VISITED STAFFORDSHIRE TODAY TO BE  
INSTALLED AS PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE, KEELE:

AS THE ROYAL CAR DROVE DOWN THE UNIVERSITY GROUNDS,  
STUDENTS SOME BAREHEADED AND SOME WITH UMBRELLAS, WELCOMED HER  
IN THE RAIN.

3.26 PM: ADD PRINCESS MARGARET:

PROFESSOR J.W. BLAKE, THE ACTING PRINCIPAL, WELCOMED PRINCESS MARGARET TO THE UNIVERSITY.

THE PRINCESS SAID "I HAVE GREATLY LOOKED FORWARD TO THIS OCCASION AND I WOULD LIKE YOU TO KNOW HOW TOUCHED I HAVE BEEN BY YOUR DESIRE FOR ME TO BECOME YOUR PRESIDENT:

"I LOOK FORWARD TO MANY FUTURE VISITS: I HOPE THAT AS TIME GOES ON I SHALL BE ABLE TO MEET MORE AND MORE OF YOUR MEMBERS AND LEARN FOR MYSELF MUCH MORE OF THE WORK WHICH IS ALREADY PROGRESSING SO SPLENDIDLY."

THE PRINCESS THEN LEFT KEELE FOR THE KINGS HALL, STOKE-ON-TRENT WHERE SHE IS TO BE INSTALLED PRESIDENT THIS AFTERNOON: STUDENTS AND STAFF IN 30 BUSES PRECEDED HER TO THE KINGS HALL FROM THE COLLEGE AS SHE DROVE AWAY FROM THE COLLEGE GROUNDS:

5.14 PM. ADD PRINCESS MARGARET.

IN HER ADDRESS TO THE CONGREGATION AFTER HER INSTALLATION AS PRESIDENT IN THE KINGS HALL, STOKE ON TRENT PRINCESS MARGARET SAID:

"WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT THE NEED FOR SCIENTISTS AND TECHNICIANS AND OTHER SPECIALISTS WAS NEVER MORE URGENT, THERE IS NEED FOR A UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SUCH AS THAT IN NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE WITH ITS EMPHASIS ON THE WIDER ASPECTS OF LIFE.

"I CAN ASSURE YOU ALL THAT THIS IS A DAY I SHALL ALWAYS REMEMBER NOT ONLY FOR ITS COLOURFUL AND IMPRESSIVE CEREMONY BUT FOR THE HONOUR YOU HAVE DONE ME IN ELECTING ME PRESIDENT. I HAVE BEEN DEEPLY TOUCHED BY YOUR DESIRE FOR ME TO ACCEPT THIS POSITION AND I PROMISE THAT THE INTERESTS AND ADVANCEMENT OF THE COLLEGE WILL ALWAYS BE VERY CLOSE TO MY HEART."

5.36 PM. ADD PRINCESS MARGARET

PRINCESS MARGARET AFTERWARDS CONFERRED DEGREES ON 110 STUDENTS FROM THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE WHO GRADUATED EARLIER THIS MONTH. IN WISHING THEM EVERY SUCCESS SHE SAID: 'MAY YOU AND YOUR SUCCESSORS FIND TRUE HAPPINESS IN ALL YOU UNDERTAKE AND BY YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS BRING HONOUR TO YOUR COLLEGE AND PEACE AND PROSPERITY TO YOUR COUNTRY.'

THE PRINCESS AFTERWARDS HAD TEA IN THE PARLOUR OF THE LORD MAYOR OF STOKE ON TRENT, MR WILLIAM BAILEY. CIVIC HEADS WERE PRESENT AND ON BEHALF OF THE BRITISH POTTERY MANUFACTURERS FEDERATION, THE PRINCESS WAS PRESENTED WITH A WEDGWOOD BLACK BASALT BOWL TO COMMEMORATE THE OCCASION. LATER SHE LEFT BY TRAIN FROM STOKE STATION TO RETURN TO LONDON.