

The flags were out in Brecon, where thousands of loyal citizens- in real holiday mood- eagerly awaited the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, at the beginning of their 3-day tour of South and West Wales. /

Slowly the Royal train pulled into the station. And then-- everyone knew that the longed-for moment had arrived. ~

Looking cool and radiant, the Queen, on alighting, was greeted by the Lord Lieutenant of Breconshire, Major-General G.T. Raikes, who presented the Mayor- Colonel D.L. Jones- to the honoured guests. /

Then it was the turn of the High Sheriff, Councillors, and many other civic dignitaries to be favoured with Royal recognition.

And the Sovereign's warm ~~frankness~~ friendliness came straight from the heart, as Her Majesty ^{greeted} ~~personally acknowledged~~ the local men and women who had devoted their lives to the welfare of Brecon. /

The Queen, then, left for a tour of the 200th show of the Breconshire Agricultural Society which was held at Newton Park. But first came an inspection of the Guard of Honour, provided by the 1st Battalion, the South Wales Borderers. /

For nine-year-old Maureen Evans of Newton Farm, it was, perhaps, the proudest day of her life, when she presented the Queen with a ~~marvellous~~ bouquet of summer flowers. /

A tour of the oldest agricultural show in Britain was in no way a routine visit, for Her Majesty's love of horses is well-known. /

~~It was~~ With an experienced eye, ~~that~~ she examined the shire horses and ponies in the main judging ring. / ^{at one point,}

~~There was an amusing incident when~~ the Queen hurriedly screened her bouquet from the enquiring appetite of farmer Emrys Griffith's pony Owen Glendower, named after the famous Welsh Prince, ^{also} noted for his boldness.

Next a visit to the Stock-Judging Ring, where the Royal Party examined the sleek Hereford cattle, making their rich contribution to the agricultural wealth of the Principality. /

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The arts and crafts section also claimed close scrutiny, and the ~~may~~ Royal visitors spent some time admiring the many and varied examples of exquisite Welsh handiwork. For the Queen has inherited from her grand-mother, Queen Mary, a keen taste for beautifully-fashioned treasures.

To round off this momentous day for Brecon folk, Her Majesty presented the prizes. First- the James Bryce Cup for the best Hereford Bull. Then the Gwynne Holford trophy for the Welsh Pony which scored the highest marks in this highly-competitive show.

Unfortunately there was no ~~first scheduled~~ prize for impudence- if ~~it~~ there had been, it would surely have gone to ^{the} pony, Owen Glendower.

~~As~~ The presentation of medals to ~~the~~ veteran farm workers, in recognition of their long and devoted service to the Land of their Fathers, brought to an end a ~~maxix~~ day Brecon will never forget.