

Lagos: In the grounds of Government House, the Royal Tour takes on a note of informality as the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh join over fifteen hundred guests at a garden party.

Escorted by their hosts, the Governor-General and Lady Robertson, the Queen and her husband met many tribal chiefs, who ~~was~~ distinguished by their white headdress. These presentations were made by Chief Oba Adele II, the constitutional King of Lagos.

And for the first time, the Royal Standard, ~~was~~ by ~~the~~ ~~Sergeant~~ ~~Major~~ ~~John~~ ~~Smith~~, marked the progress of Her Majesty.

Then - at the Federal House of Representatives came an occasion of the people. The Queen (accompanied by the Duke) moved towards the throne - to receive a pledge of loyalty on behalf of her Nigerian subjects.

~~Among the colourful dignitaries was the Minister of Labour, Chief Festus Okotie-Eboh - resplendent in a straw hat.~~

~~Replying to the loyal address - the Queen spoke of the future of the Colony.~~ Her Majesty REPLIED TO THE ROYAL ADDRESS / SOUND.

So to the end of a unique ceremony in Nigerian history. Her Majesty, wearing the tiara that was a silver wedding gift to Queen Alexandra, and the Garter ~~was~~ ^{Ribbon} over a gown of ivory satin, leaves the Chamber.

~~But though the ~~ceremony~~ ~~marking~~ ~~towards~~ ~~independence~~ - that regal figure in ivory ~~will~~ ~~never~~ ~~leave~~ ~~their~~ ~~hearts~~.~~

And on this day that brought a pledge of continued loyalty to the Commonwealth, members of the legal profession shared an occasion with the Queen. ^{THIS WAS} The inauguration of the new Federal Courts - at a formal ceremony, held outside the Law Courts Building.

But ~~the~~ stern ~~administration~~ of justice is often tinged with humour, and there was laughter in court as ~~Okunubi Sibawa~~ ^{like boy} bowed his way into the headlines... / S

Happily, the Queen finally got her bouquet - a loyal tribute as she celebrates the fourth anniversary of her accession, in devoted Commonwealth service... /