

ROYAL TOUR.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh continue their Scottish tour with a visit to Falkirk, where they are welcomed by the Provost at the Municipal Chambers. And not only the Provost - all Falkirk seems to be here to greet them.

Twice in history, Scots and English have fought at Falkirk, in 1296 when Edward the First defeated William Wallace, and in 1746 when Bonnie Prince Charlie routed the English troops of General Hawley.

Now, after two centuries of peace, the Queen of both Scotland and England inspects her soldiers in this ancient burgh.

As Her Majesty leaves the Municipal Chambers, a great crowd cheers her on her way.

The children's club of the Regal Cinema, Falkirk, parade in a body to see the Queen.

Next town on the royal programme is Grangemouth, where a fanfare is sounded by boys of the Queen Victoria School, Dunblane. The Duke has a word with one of them.

And so to Dalithgow. Here again, as everywhere on the royal tour, the official welcome is supported by a great gathering of the townsfolk and their families.

Dalithgow Palace, where Mary Queen of Scots was born, makes a picturesque setting for the visit of this other lovely Queen who is her descendant. The Royal Company of Archers and local youth organisations form her guard of honour.

In the courtyard, the fountain seems to be flowing with wine, as it last did for Prince Charlie 210 years ago, the Palace Custodian has in fact put colouring in the water to make it look like that. A happy touch.

At Whitburn, there's a Gala - and every Gala must have a Queen. Whitburn is fortunate indeed - it has two; the real Queen herself and the little Gala Queen, eleven-year old Sandra Wood, daughter of a local policeman. So of course, the two have to meet.

At St. Giles Cathedral, is held the solemn ceremony of installation of two new members of Scotland's ancient order of chivalry, the Order of the Thistle. They are the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, and Lord Bilsland.

Page to Her Majesty is 12 year old Lord James Douglas-Hamilton, second son of the Duke of Hamilton. As always, the ceremony is held in private, in the Cathedral's tiny Thistle Chapel.

Not only Solemnity marks the Queen's tour, but gaiety as well. Massed bands march in the forecourt of Holyrood House.

And now the dancers, on a platform specially erected for this glittering occasion. The dancing team is from the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society. The Royal couple watch from a window - and many thousands of Edinburgh - folk watch from the Palace grounds and from the slopes of Salisbury Crags overlooking them.

For the dancers, a word of thanks and praise from the Queen and her husband.

The Queen wears a full-skirted white lace evening gown with a white ermine cape, and diamond tiara.

A bonnie occasion for a bonnie young couple.