

BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY.

The graceful and the great arrive at Buckingham Palace for the first Royal Garden Party of the London season. Some 8,000 invitation cards have been issued - and if you've left your's at home, it's no good trying to walk your way in.

Oh well, it can happen to the best of us.

In the grounds of the Palace, the crowd grows thicker - though some guests are respectfully given plenty of space. Visitors from abroad are among those personally greeted by Her Majesty.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother is here, newly-returned from Rhodesia and Nyasaland; so is Prince Philip. Certain long-established formalities are connected with these events - for example, some married ladies by their presence here, are now officially regarded as having been presented at Court. And for any guest, an invitation to a Buckingham Palace Party remains one of the greatest honours of that very English institution - "the Season".