



Queen Elizabeth enjoys a laugh as she and Prince Philip leave Woodbine Race-track in Toronto, Ontario, on June 30

after watching the one-hundredth-and-fourteenth running of the Queen's Plate. From Toronto, the royal couple

flew to Prince Edward Island to help celebrate the province's centennial, and to open the P.E.I. Summer Games.

During the royal visit to Thunder Bay, Ontario, on July 3, the Queen and Prince Philip were treated to some unshed-uled entertainment. Charles Lynch of Southam News Services described it as follows:

...Highlight of the day, if not of the tour, came at Thunder Bay, which was intended to be a mere punctuation point in the Queen's leap from Prince Edward Island to Saskatchewan, and then on to Calgary for the roisterous business of opening the Stampede.

But the people of Thunder Bay, having lured her down from the sky — she had to come down anyway to re-fuel — put on a show that would have had the royal hair standing on end, if the royal hair ever did such a thing, which it doesn't.

Ex-comedian

First, there was Mayor Walter Assif, who is Thunder Bay's answer to such famous [former] Canadian mayors as Charlotte Whitton of Ottawa and

Nathan Phillips of Toronto.

Charlotte's the one who asked the Lord Mayor of London, who was wearing his chain of office, whether he would flush if she pulled the chain.

And Phillips is the one who called Soviet Ambassador Amassasp Aroutounian "rotin' tootin'."

Well, this Mayor Assif is a former vaudeville comedian and he put on his act after they had whisked the royal party in from the airport to city hall.

He did a little soft shoe routine as the Queen and Prince Philip ascended the inevitable city hall platform, and then he welcomed Philip to Thunder Bay, saying everybody was glad to see "you and your wife".

This isn't exactly what the protocol books prescribe for welcoming

Elizabeth II, and the royal party broke up with laughter.

Mayor Assif went on with his act, saying he had a picture of a loon to give to His Highness.

Where's the loon?

When he called for the picture, it was nowhere to be found, and he roared: "Where's the loon?"

Finally, after scenes of mirth in which the Queen was seen to slap the royal knee — though she may have been smoothing her skirt against a strong wind that was blowing at the time — the picture was produced and Philip proceeded to admire it.

"Show the loon to the Queen," urged His Worship, and Prince Philip did, holding his sides...."