

ROYAL TOUR OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AND MANITOBA



The Queen and Prime Minister Trudeau examine an eight-foot narwhal tusk which he had just presented to her at a lunch in Frobisher Bay.

On July 6, Queen Elizabeth II, the Duke of Edinburgh and Princess Anne arrived by air at Frobisher Bay, Baffin Island, Northwest Territories, where a historic royal progress through Canada's Northland began. The royal party was welcomed by Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Mr. Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and Governor-General Roland Michener, who had accompanied Prince Charles to this rendezvous after he had spent three days in Ottawa and the national capital region.⁽¹⁾

The visit coincided with the centennial celebrations of the NWT and Manitoba. Their tour took the Royal Family more than 2,000 miles across the Territories to such remote places as Tuktoyaktuk on the Arctic Ocean and Resolute Bay, a mere 50 miles from the North Pole. At every step, they chatted with representatives of the Eskimos and Indians of the North and witnessed many of their customs.

At Frobisher Bay, Her Majesty turned the first

sod on the site of a cathedral that is to be built in the shape of an igloo. At Yellowknife, the capital of the Northwest Territories, the Prince and the Princess attended a beach barbecue where they were boisterously acclaimed by about 1,000 teenagers attired in beach pajamas and ponchos. During a state dinner at Yellowknife, members of the party were presented with a variety of gifts, including a polar-bear rug, a chess set of walrus ivory, white fox furs and a painting of an Arctic seascape.

At Fort Smith, the former capital of the NWT on the Slave River, the royal visitors attended a buffalo barbecue. Later the same day, while Prince Philip and Prince Charles visited the mines at Pine Point, the Queen and Princess Anne attended an oldtimers' reunion.

MANITOBA WELCOME

In Winnipeg, the capital of Manitoba, where the Royal Family spent the final two days of their tour, cheering crowds lined every route they took. One of the events included in the royal itinerary was an exhibition foot-

⁽¹⁾ See CWB, Vol. 25, No. 29, July 22, 1970, P. 3.