



One of the Ride's most appreciated visits was to the DVA Hospital in Victoria, B.C.

First item at the island centre was a parade the morning of August 6 to the DVA Hospital. After luncheon the following day for Ride and Band members at the world-famous Butchart Gardens near Victoria as guests of the manager, ex-S/Sgt. W. C. Dodsworth, the group journeyed to the Queen Alexandra Solarium, crippled children's hospital near Mill Bay to entertain these unfortunate youngsters.

A lengthy street parade was held in downtown Victoria and following this, the Ride presented the first of three performances at Royal Athletic Park on August 8 where several thousand chairs were added to accommodate the overflowing crowd of spectators. Approximately 26,000 persons watched riders and their mounts perform the intricate movements at the park.

The Lord Mayor of London, England, Sir Denis Truscott, was on the stand to take the salute when the Musical Ride appeared at Nanaimo, B.C., on August 13 before some 8,000 spectators, reputed to

be the largest gathering at any single event in the Vancouver Island centre 70 miles north of Victoria. Across the ferry-steamers through the Strait of Georgia to Vancouver and then by rail, the Ride and Band personnel next visited Chilliwack, B.C., lower Fraser Valley town 65 miles east of Vancouver, for a single exhibition at the fair grounds.

Eight performances including two matinees marked the group's stay in Vancouver, which were scheduled in conjunction with the annual Pacific National Exhibition at the west coast metropolis. Once again, the Ride was presented before capacity crowds, which in addition to British Columbians celebrating their "birthday", included the numerous U.S. visitors who annually flock to the Pacific Playground to catch the P.N.E. extravaganza.

During the evening of August 24, Mounted Police personnel boarded the train en route to Prince George for a parade and Ride performance at the rapidly-expanding northern interior B.C.