

MYSTERY WOMAN CAUSES CUT IN PRINCESS'S TOUR

PART of Princess Elizabeth's tour of the bird sanctuary of the Severn Wild Fowl Trust at Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, today, was cancelled because a mystery woman in blue scared away the wild geese.

The woman walked out of bounds towards the 20 acres of saltmarsh where over 2,000 geese were feeding. Every bird at once flew off to mudflats some half a mile away.

The geese had not returned by the time the Princess was due at that part of the sanctuary, and her trip there had to be cancelled.

In her tour of other parts, in which she was accompanied by Commander Peter Scott, Director of the Trust, the Princess helped to feed some rare varieties of birds.

The Princess, accompanied by the Duchess of Beaufort, arrived in bright sunshine wearing a brown coat, a close fitting feathered hat and brown flat-heeled shoes.

Then, hatless and wearing gumboots and gauntlet gloves and with a pair of binoculars hanging from a strap round her neck, she set off with the Commander to discover whether any of the geese could be seen from observation huts.

The Princess saw the collection of wildfowl in the Rushy and Orchard pens, and paused to feed the little Golden Eye ducks, plunging her hand into a bucket of damp meal.

Black-necked swans, Diving and Whistling ducks, White-faced and Carolina ducks, whopper swans and a handsome Emperor goose from Alaska quacked and cackled round the Royal visitor's feet as she bent down to let some of them feed from her hand.

Also scampering round the Princess, in great excitement, was seven-years-old Nicola Scott, daughter of Commander Scott.

After her walk, the Princess climbed steps into a "hide" about 30ft. above the ground overlooking the decoys.

From there she looked down upon a star-shaped pool, with netted ditches running from it and saw wildfowl alighting on the ponds and being enticed along the decoys by dogs.

The birds chased the dogs—and before they knew where they were they were ringed and released. This is part of the work carried out by the Trust in their study of migration.



After meeting the officers and members of the Stroud Urban Council Princess Elizabeth is escorted to the train by Mr. F. L. Daniels, Chairman of the Council. (See this week's "Gloucester Journal" for a comprehensive series of pictures of the visit of Princess Elizabeth to Stroud and Slimbridge).



This party from the

Princess Elizabeth

