

## THE ROYAL VISIT

### DUKE AT FAIRBRIDGE

On Sunday Fairbridge Farm School had the privilege of an inspection by His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester, who had expressed a desire to visit the school during the day which had been set aside for his private enjoyment.

The Duke received what was perhaps the most impressive welcome of the tour on his arrival at the farm. More ceremony and greater crowds were to be seen elsewhere, but nothing to compare with 300 barefooted and rosy-cheeked compatriots cheering to the echo their illustrious visitor. After being welcomed by the chairman of the local committee of the school (Mr. A. E. Joyner) and Col. Heath, the school principal, the Duke was entertained at luncheon in the Old Fairbridgians' Clubhouse. Among those present were the Minister for Justice (Mr. J. C. Willcock), the Minister for Agriculture (Mr. H. Millington), the Minister for Employment and Child Welfare (Mr. J. J. Kennally), the Minister for Health (Mr. S. W. Nunsie) and the Hon. Member Mr. W. H. Kitson.

An impressive service in the school church followed, during which the Duke unveiled a memorial tablet to the late Lord Wenlock, better known as Sir Arthur Lawley, at one time Governor of Western Australia. The tablet was inscribed as follows:—

"To the Glory of God and in Memory of Arthur Lawley, sixth Baron Wenlock, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., K.C.M.G. Knight of Justice of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. Born November 12, 1860. Died June 14, 1932. Captain 10th Royal Hussars. Administrator of Natalaland, 1896-1900. Governor of Western Australia, 1901-1902. Lieut.-Governor of the Transvaal 1902-1905. Governor of Madras, 1905-1911. Commissioner of the British Red Cross Society in France, 1915-1919. He was the First Chairman of the Child Migration Society, and in this Service devoted himself to the care of the Fairbridge Farm School. He sought to Serve his God in Serving his Fellow Men."

After the service the children gave an athletic display, including boxing, pyramid building, soccer and hockey. Following this the Duke spoke briefly as follows:—

"I am very glad to have had this opportunity of visiting you. I heard about this farm school from Lord Wenlock about 12 years ago. It was on the occasion when I first met him—at a dinner of the Old Comrades Association of my regiment. Little did I think, that evening, that one day I would be unveiling a memorial to him in this beautiful church of yours. I remember him talking about this school, and I also remember that he managed to extract some money from my pocket to be used in furtherance of the school activities.

"I can see that you enjoy being here and that all your time is not spent in school. Your sports are as evidently well looked after as the things you have to learn. I wish you

evidently well looked after as the things you have to learn. I wish you all the best of success now and in the future."

After the children had wholeheartedly given three cheers for the Royal visitor, His Royal Highness inspected the farm, planted an oak tree in commemoration of his visit, and then opened a new thoroughfare, Gloucester-road.

A presentation of a leather-bound volume containing reproductions of West Australian wildflowers was made by the youngest scholar, a little girl of six years, who shyly advanced and offered her gift. The Duke's gracious manner, however, removed the little spokeswoman's shyness almost immediately.

The Duke then left for Perth, the children following his car for a considerable distance, and cheering him on his way.