

# THE QUEENS' HUSBAND

## A MAN'S MAN . . . .



Much of the traditional stiffness and frightening formality will be absent from the Royal tour of Australia—mainly through the personal intercession of the Duke of Edinburgh.

The democratic Duke is a sworn enemy of the stiff-necks who see chaos in the slightest breach of etiquette and make no secret of their contempt for those who may fumble in the presence of Royalty.

This Royal Duke, perhaps the first to have a real understanding of people in every strata of society, is proud to have the common touch. He delights in being the only member of the Royal Family who can, with the help of dark glasses, walk about London unrecognised, drop into a hotel (but not often) for a drink, or stroll into a club for a swim or a game of squash.

The Duke seems to have the necessary tact to compromise with Court tradition and, at the same time, maintain his individuality.

The Duke has an ordinary man's shyness of wearing the gorgeous uniforms which tradition demands the Royal Family should wear. Until just before the Coronation he wore nothing but civilian clothes or the naval officer's uniform that, unlike most Royal Dukes, he had earned the hard way.

The Duke's close friends say his mischievous sense of humour is his most endearing quality. It was in brilliant form at the Coronation, according to a press photographer who stood close to him when the crowned Queen was solemnly walking out of the Abbey, orb and sceptre in hand, Philip is reported to have grinned at his wife and whispered, "Where'd you get that hat!"