

ENTERTAINING THE QUEEN

Twelve Days in Sydney

Youngest of the vice-Regal hostesses to entertain the Queen in Australia is Elizabeth Northcott, younger daughter of N.S.W. Governor Sir John Northcott. Because of her mother's ill-health, Miss Northcott has acted as official hostess at Government House, Sydney, for several years.

For months now she has been busy supervising Government House preparations for the Royal visitors who will arrive in Sydney on February 3. It is her job to see that the Queen and the Duke and their personal entourage are provided with every conceivable comfort during their twelve days' stay at Government House.

Suites to be used by the Royal couple have magnificent harbour views and are being simply and tastefully decorated by the Government Stores in conjunction with a well-known Sydney interior decorating firm.

The Queen will have her own private telephone direct to Buckingham Palace, so that she can speak to her family whenever she wants to.

Keeping in mind the Queen's heavy schedule, Miss Northcott's aim is to give her as much time as possible to relax and to serve her every need without intruding on her privacy.



"Yarralumla", the Governor-General's Residence where the Queen will stay in Canberra.

Miss Northcott says with pride that Government House gardens will supply all the flowers used while the Queen is in residence. She hopes to have a good show of dahlias, zinnias, sweet peas and roses by February.

During the Queen's stay, a twenty-hour guard will be kept on Government House and a number of detectives will be housed in the grounds. The Queen's private detective will have quarters not far from the Royal couple's rooms.

"I'd like to take the Queen and the Duke for a quiet, informal drive around the harbour front, but I'm afraid that will be impossible," says Miss Northcott.

