

The following talk was given after her introduction by L. E. Larson, President of the American Dairy Association of Florida.

MY EXPERIENCES AS FLORIDA DAIRY PRINCESS, 1969-70

by Cecilia Rowe, Winter Haven, Fla.

This year, as the 1969-70 Florida Dairy Princess, has been filled with exciting, memorable experiences for I have had numerous opportunities to represent the dairy industry and the hardest working, nicest people anywhere. It has been a pleasure to represent the ADA of Florida and all dairy farmers.

My chaperones and I have traveled "many a mile" from one end of the state to the other; sometimes traveling at early hours in the morning to make an appearance or late at night in order to attend classes the next day with that "sleepy-eyed" look.

I have proudly represented the dairy industry at National Sales Meetings, the 4-H State Congress awards banquet, and Dairy Cattle Club Meetings and sales. At the Florida State Fair, I presented awards during the Parade of Champions and competed in the Miss Sunflavor Pageant. While a contestant I had several opportunities to promote milk and dairy products, such as at the Doyle Connor's Banquet where I was chosen a finalist.

In March, the Florida Citrus Queen and I were taken to the Mets Stadium at St. Petersburg by helicopter. There we were to christen the Adirondack Bat Mobile. Now I suppose you are wondering what a bat mobile is. It is a machine which makes bats according to the specifications of an individual player. In order to christen the machine, Yogi Berra held a carton of milk next to it while Gil Hodges and I were to swing at the carton with an oversized bat. The object was for the milk to splash out of the carton onto the machine upon being hit, while publicity pictures were made of this action. Not only did the milk splash on the machine but we were also drenched and smelled like spoiled milk for the rest of the day.

I am looking forward to participating in the National Dairy Princess contest to be held in Boston, June 28-July 1st.

It is with great pleasure that I speak up for the dairy industry, for I have traveled many places, met many interesting people, gained much knowledge in all areas, and had a great deal of fun. I will continue to speak up for milk and the dairy products long after my reign ends this June.