



# CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

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## WEEK'S EVENTS IN REVIEW

**CANADA'S WEDDING GIFT:** Prime Minister Mackenzie King announced last night that Canada's wedding gift to Princess Elizabeth will be a selection of antique silver and a mink coat, made of Canadian wild mink skins, and of Canadian workmanship.

The Prime Minister's statement follows: In considering what present should be made to the Princess Elizabeth on the occasion of the marriage of Her Royal Highness to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten, the Cabinet felt that no gift could be quite so acceptable as one which would meet with the wishes of Princess Elizabeth herself.

Through the good offices of Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, with whom the Government communicated, it was learned that Princess Elizabeth was in need of silver for setting up house and would particularly welcome silver for her table. The Cabinet has accordingly authorized Princess Alice, on behalf of the Canadian Government, to make a selection of antique silver which accord with the personal wishes of Princess Elizabeth.

The gift will be suitably inscribed to indicate that it has been presented by and carries with it the best wishes of the Government and people of Canada.

The government has also decided to present Princess Elizabeth with a mink coat made of Canadian wild mink skins and to be of Canadian workmanship. The firm of Holt, Renfrew and

Co., one of the very few Canadian firms which had a Royal warrant as supplier of furs to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, has been commissioned to supply the coat which will be made in accordance with a design to be approved by Princess Elizabeth.

**NO FREE POSTAGE ON FOOD GIFT PARCELS:** Suggestions have been made that an appropriate wedding gift to Princess Elizabeth would be a free postage concession by the Post Office Department on food gift parcels from Canada to the United Kingdom. A statement issued by Postmaster General Bertrand last night says that officials of the Post Office Department have given exhaustive consideration to the suggestions. But careful study indicates conclusively that the number of people in the United Kingdom to benefit by such a scheme would be comparatively small. The scheme would set up a system of preferred treatment which would apply only to a favoured few.

It is estimated that out of the large number of relief parcels which are being sent to the United Kingdom, about 800,000 a year are gift food parcels. In many cases the same individuals are receiving a number of parcels a year. At a conservative estimate, each of these favoured addressees would receive approximately four parcels per year. On this basis it is estimated that not more than 200,000 families in the whole of the British Isles would be likely to benefit from the proposal.