

# AIRMAIL BULLETIN

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Statement By Prime Minister on His Return From Europe: On his return from Europe, after five weeks' absence, Prime Minister King on Tuesday issued the following statement from New York:

"I should like to have a little more time to think over the many impressions gathered in the course of my present trip to the Continent and the United Kingdom, before attempting to be too definite in any opinions I might express.

"When I arrive in Ottawa on Thursday, it will be exactly five weeks from the day I left. In that time, I will have visited no less than five countries: United States, France, Belgium, Holland and the United Kingdom--in all of which I have had the privilege of meeting with many of those who are best informed on public affairs; but the views of all of whom were necessarily expressed with considerable caution and reserve.

"As I travelled by ship, both to and from the United Kingdom, the actual time possible for studying conditions was reduced almost to a period of three weeks. However, the exceptional nature of the opportunities afforded to meet with leading personages in the several countries was such as to make possible the gaining of more in the way of informed opinion in that short time, than would have been feasible under other circumstances.

"The purpose of my trip was, of course, to be present as the representative of Canada at the marriage of Her Royal Highness the Princess Elizabeth to Lieut. Philip Mountbatten, the present Duke of Edinburgh. To accounts of this historic event, one could add nothing of significance to what is already familiar to readers of the press.

"I might perhaps, in a purely personal way, say that I believe the marriage to be one of the happiest possible, so far as the Royal couple are concerned, and an exceedingly fortunate marriage in its relation to the nations of the British Commonwealth.

"There can be no doubt that the Royal wedding with its notes of joy and color afforded to the people of the United Kingdom a welcome interlude in a long period of monotony and austerity. For a day at least, it looked as if domestic happiness and national rejoicing was once more the lot of a people who have suffered heroically though terribly over many years. The wedding celebrations seemed almost prophetic of a new dawn about to break at last.

"With this thought in mind, and having also in mind the spirit of the British people as I witnessed it in the course of that eventful week, I could, as I said on leaving Britain, have gone on my way rejoicing at the prospect of all being well in the end, had that promise of a brighter day not been over-shadowed by the cloud of uncertainty which has been hovering over Europe for some time past, and which, of late, has become charged with ominous portents.

"There can be no doubt that the situation in Europe has become much more serious than most people have begun to realize.

"The condition of the world is such that the incipient civil strife in France, in Italy and in Palestine and other countries that might be named, may be said to be but symptomatic of an unrest which is world-wide; and which, unless the greatest caution and

(over)