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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1947

Nine Londoners making mink coat for the Princess

THREE LINEN PATTERNS MADE FIRST

Evening Standard Reporter

On a fifth floor in Margaret-street, Cavendish Square, Charlie Nichols, of Morden, stands, knife in hand, slashing to ribbons the finest mink skins in the world.

That is the proper way to begin making up a mink coat, and the skins which Charlie's knife is slicing are going into a coat for Princess Elizabeth. It is her second wedding gift of mink, and comes from the people of Newfoundland. The first was from the people of Canada and is being made in Montreal.

Associated with Mr. Nichols in the task are eight other Londoners: five women and three men.

Four of the women—Mrs. Hetty Mead, of Muswell Hill, Mrs. Erna Yates, of Wallington, Mrs. Lily Collinson, of Barnet, and Miss Bella Arnovitch, of Stoke Newington—are machinists whose job is to join together again the skins Mr. Nichols tears apart.

The fifth woman—24-year-old Rose Gibbins, of Chelsea, described as a canvas worker—made the three linen coat patterns from which emerged the final design for the Princess's coat.

World's best

The linen patterns were taken to Buckingham Palace by Mr. Calman Links, head of the firm chosen to make the coat, and his designer, 39-year-old Stanley F. Frost, of Eastcote. Skin sorter Bert Yates, husband of one of the machinists, saw that all the skins matched perfectly in colour and size.

They are called "Ekimo Bay" mink, which is recognised as the best in the world.

Their colour is sepia brown, with a smoky-grey bloom on it.



Designer jacket st

Laughan
4222

Calman Links
Margaret St
Square Cavendish Square

9.30 am - 10.0 am

Voltage 230 AC

X-1975000
Graphic
9/11/47



Mrs. Erna Yates, of Wallington, machining strands to make the mink coatee for Princess Elizabeth.



At work on the lining of the coatee is Rose Gibbins, of Chelsea, known as a canvas worker, with Mr. Stanley Frost, of Eastcote, the designer.

NEWFOUND-
LAND'S gift to the Royal bride is being made up into what will probably be the finest mink evening coatee in the world. The colour is sepia brown with smoky-grey blue on it.

Only the design for the sleeve is being kept secret because it is new—and novel. But it was not possible to keep the whole secret from the

girls busy putting four miles of cotton into the slashed skins at workrooms of Calman Links, of Margaret-street, W.

Charlie Nichols, of Morden, has the job of slashing the skins, so that when sewn together they are twice the original length.

Apart from the sleeve, the coat, hip-length, is of simple design with four-fold back.