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ROYAL NEWS.

The Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire welcomed Her Majesty to Stevenage New Town. A typical house was inspected by the Queen. The New Town already has 35,000 people, a population which increases by about 5,000 a year. At the town centre is a clock tower of modern design, and here a big crowd assembled to see Her Majesty unveil a commemorative panel and name the main shopping street Queensway. Stevenage was the first of the new towns envisaged by the New Towns Act of 1946. The amenities of the shopping centre were inspected by the Queen.

The planners recognise that man doesn't live by eating alone. He is sometimes thirsty. Hence the Pied Piper public House, whose landlord is none other than Wilf Mannien, formerly an English international footballer.

Wilf had the honour of showing the Queen round the New Town "local".

One of the New Town industries include the English Electric manufacture of Thunderbird Missiles. Nobody's going to take liberties with Stevenage.

Meanwhile, the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret, arriving at Rome Airport, had a damp glimpse of an anything but sunny Italy. They might almost have been at home. The Comet that flew them to Rome overshot the runway on its first landing attempt, but came down perfectly the second time. Representatives of the President, Premier and Foreign Minister received the royal arrivals. As the Queen Mother and her daughter are paying a private visit to the Italian capital there was an absence of formality. May they enjoy their five-day holiday.