

# Nfld. Tightens Hunting Restrictions On Caribou

By IAN MACDONALD  
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ST. JOHN'S, Nfld. (CP)—The resources department announced Thursday that hunters will be forbidden to hunt caribou in all but the central sections of the province.

Resources Minister W. J. Keough said "The Newfoundland caribou should for the future be considered as a trophy animal only and not as a meat animal."

In addition to the restriction he said there may be a "substantial increase in the licence fee for both residents and non-residents. . . . Present fees are \$10 for residents and \$35 for non-residents."

"For more than 50 years the Newfoundland caribou has been considered one of the finest trophies it is possible to obtain on the North American continent."

"In the early days of the century . . . it was also the only big game animal available for meat and large numbers were

taken for the purpose." The introduction of moose provided a meat animal of larger size and wider distribution. The moose herd now supplies 2,000,000 pounds of meat annually and could supply more than 3,000,000 with a more suitable distribution of hunting.

Recent aerial surveys indicate there are only about 5,000 caribou in the province. Of this number approximately 1,000 animals are located in seven isolated herds numbering from 10 animals in the Fogo area to 450 on the northern peninsula.

Mr. Keough said these herds must be given complete protection if they are to survive.

"The remaining 4,000 animals occupy the open country of the interior of the island extending eastward from the upper Grand Lake area to middle ridge. This is considered to be the only herd that can sustain hunting."

**MANY CALVES DIE**  
Excessive calf mortality occurred among the interior herd in 1957 and the loss reached an estimated 80 per cent.

The loss was attributed to a disease that affects the neck glands. A pathologist has been

hired and a mobile laboratory was set up during the first two weeks of June to help the sick calves and determine the cause of the disease.

The present kill of caribou by hunters is about 200 annually. The government decided to continue an open season in the interior mainly to collect organs of the animals taken. These aid studies of food habits, disease, parasites and reproduction.

This decision is subject to revision at any time before open season if the survey in progress indicates that hunting should be discontinued. Moose and caribou are normally hunted in the fall and winter. Dates vary according to districts.

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## Coal Co. Seeks To Postpone Loan Payments

OTTAWA (CP)—Dominion Coal Company Limited has sought a five-year suspension on repayments of a \$5,198,000 federal loan which was issued to help mechanize the company's Nova Scotia mining operations.

The Dominion Coal Board, in a report tabled in the Commons Thursday, said negotiations now are taking place to postpone further repayment instalments until July 1, 1963.

The federal board described the mechanization project as "many years behind schedule." "This matter is receiving the attention of the cabinet and is expected to be brought before the House during this session," its report said.

The company is a subsidiary of Dominion Steel and Coal Company, recently purchased by A. V. Roe (Canada) Limited.

A \$7,500,000 loan was authorized to finance half the estimated cost of the project. Up to March 31, a total \$6,476,524 has been advanced to the company and it had repaid \$1,278,278.

Company expenditures up to Dec. 31 on the project totalled \$9,563,497, but outlays have exceeded the original estimate on some items of the program. A total \$4,493,209 had been spent for coal-cutting machinery originally estimated at \$3,690,590. Diesel locomotives and other hauling equipment, at first estimated at \$540,000, have cost \$1,272,578 so far.

Only \$224,516 had been spent up to Dec. 31 on a wash plant estimated to cost \$3,100,000.

## Expect Fewer Immigrants

OTTAWA (CP) — Federal restrictions are expected to reduce the flow of immigrants to Canada this year to less than half and perhaps only a third of arrivals in 1957.

The restrictions, imposed last July because of an anticipated large increase in unemployment last winter, are mainly responsible for arrivals in the first four months of 1958 dropping 63 per cent compared with the corresponding 1957 period.

A government official said Thursday the administration's present intention is not to relax the restrictions for this year. He said it is felt a large influx of immigrants would only add to unemployment next winter.

Relaxation of the restrictions would not affect the current flow of immigrants until at least the end of August. It usually takes about three months for the immigration department to organize large-scale immigration.

However, it never has been federal policy to bring immigrants to Canada in any large numbers during the fall and winter when seasonal unemployment starts to appear.

Federal officials forecast that arrivals this year will total between 100,000 and 125,000, compared with 282,164 in 1957.

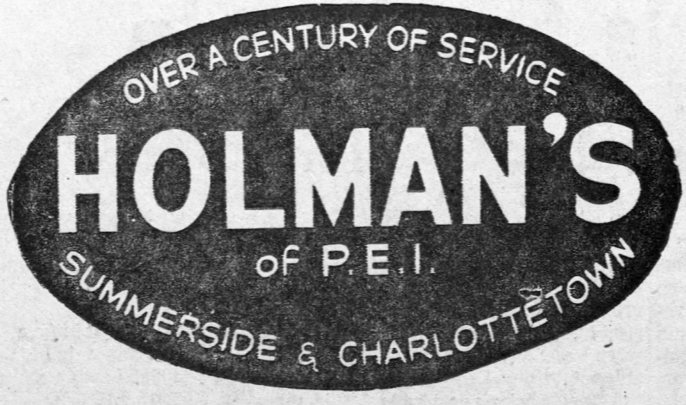
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