



VIRGINIAN RAILWAY WRECK

PHENIX, Va. — Thirty-nine miles west of here Monday, the engine crew of a Virginian train plunged from the trestle into a churning river. The train was carrying a carload of coal and a car of cattle in a derailment three miles from plunging over the trestle. (AP Wirephoto)

Major Assessments In Foreign Policy Taking Place

BELGRADE (Reuters) — Yugoslav communist leaders were re-assessed Tuesday in the final stages of a major re-assessment of foreign policy based on independence from the world's two contending blocs.

Belgrade diplomats said President Tito and his advisers now are engaged in the most critical study of policy since 1948, when the Yugoslav Communist party was expelled from the Cominform for "heresy."

Tito, though suffering from a painful lumbago attack, has been in a virtually continuous conference for 30 days with his two chief lieutenants, Vice-President Edvard Kardelj and Aleksander Rankovic. The two were in Moscow two weeks ago when Yugoslavia declined to sign a Soviet bloc declaration accepted by 12 Communist nations.

The three leaders now are at Ribnik Island in the northern Adriatic where Tito is undergoing medical treatment. Informal sources said they likely will be joined later this week by other Communist officials and probably the entire 110-member central committee of the Yugoslav League of Communists, who would be asked to ratify the policy approved by the leaders.

TITO NOW ISOLATED?

The re-assessment, observers said, followed growing awareness among leading Yugoslavs that the Tito regime had maneuvered itself into a position of near-isolation.

At the same time, the Yugoslavs are said to be no longer as confident as they were several months ago about the "positive" role of Nikita Khrushchev, Soviet Communist party secretary. Some are worried over Russian insistence on the Moscow bloc declaration, the downfall of Russian Defence Minister Marshal Zhukov five weeks ago, and a recent series of "tough" statements from the Kremlin.

Meanwhile, United States Ambassador James Riddleberger has asked for a meeting with Tito as the basis for a report to Washington which would help decide whether Yugoslavia still deserves American aid, recently running at the rate of about \$100,000,000 a year.

In January, Congress will have to decide on an aid allotment for 1959. Belgrade diplomats are not sure whether Yugoslavia's failure to sign the 12-nation Moscow declaration will be sufficient to sway Congress in its favor.

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Hunt Wolves In Effort To Preserve Caribou Population

By JACK VAN DUSEN
Canadian Press Staff Writer
OTTAWA (CP) — The fight to maintain the caribou population of Canada's North has touched off the biggest wolf hunt in history.

Alan Loughery, London, Ont., born federal wildlife expert has been appointed the North's first predator-control officer and has left for the Arctic to direct the hunt for the caribou's worst enemy.

The population of the barrenland caribou has dropped steadily from 600,000 in 1950 to about 270,000 in 1955 and 200,000 now.

IN CHARGE OF PROJECT

"The caribou are getting too few," said Winston Mair, chief of the Canadian Wildlife Service who is in charge of the project.

Wolves follow the migration route of the caribou, killing the fleet-footed 200-pounders by the thousands. Officials are sure the wolf packs are one of the main reasons for the decline in the caribou.

The wolf war will be run in conjunction with an 18-month study being made by mammalogists into other reasons for the population drop.

Federal officials don't know how many wolves will be taken by poison and rifle, but they will number in the thousands. An experimental hunt last year bagged 1,183 wolves, but this year's hunt will be "much more extensive."

Officials say there are about 7,000 persons in the area dependent on the caribou for meat, clothing and utensils.

Co-operating in the project are the federal Indian affairs branch, the RCMP, and the game departments of Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta. Mr. Loughery, who has spent most of the last six years in the Arctic, will coordinate their activities.

Mr. Loughery, a 30-year-old biologist, will head a 10-man team of hunters operating from headquarters at Fort Smith, Yellowknife and Eskimo Point on the west coast of Hudson Bay. His right-hand man will be colorful Lewis Vosey, part Eskimo who speaks the Eskimo tongue fluently.

Canadians Pay For Cars In A Surprisingly Short Time

By FORBES RHUDE
Canadian Press Business Editor

The average person makes a surprisingly large down payment on his automobile and pays off the balance in a surprisingly short time.

These are two of a variety of statements on consumer credit brought out at a press conference with officers of the federal Council of Sales Finance Companies, which held its convention in Toronto Monday and Tuesday.

For instance, of automobile purchases handled through sales finance companies in the first 10 months of this year, the average down payment was 41.8 per cent and the average term for payment of the balance was 18.2 months.

Also at Dec. 31, 1956, out of 2,185,000 cars in use, only 270,000—or 21 per cent—were being financed, and out of their approximate value at that time of \$4,200,000,000 only \$618,000,000—or 14.8 per cent—was still owing.

The average Canadian receiving consumer credit was described as follows:

A married man between 21 and 45 years of age, with a family of two or three, who has had a steady income for a reasonable length of time and who wishes to purchase an automobile or home hold appliance out of income.

"HE IS HONEST"

"And," the officials added, "he is honest—he wants to pay his bills, ninety-seven per cent of all contracts are fulfilled without difficulty."

Even in communities hit by long strikes, though there are necessary rearrangement of payments, there are very few returns of goods.

The sales finance companies operate in two main areas—in financing the dealer so that he can get a wide range of models or products on his floor, and then in taking over from the dealer the sales contracts which he has made with his customers.

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