

the Mounted Police than Battleford. Situated at the junction of the North Saskatchewan and Battle Rivers, Battleford was established as a North-West Mounted Police post in 1876 by Insp. James Walker. In 1877 it became the seat of government for the North-West Territories. During the North-West Rebellion the Police detachment was greatly strengthened and the post became an important defence centre, particularly after the withdrawal from Fort Pitt. In the years following the Rebellion the old village south of the Battle River, was gradually forsaken for a new site near the Police barracks. In 1904 the town of North Battleford came into existence and 15 years later the Police headquarters for the district was moved to Prince Albert. Today, North Battleford is an important sub-division centre for the RCMP, but, just seven years ago, the Mounted Police Memorial and Indian Museum was opened at Battleford, thus perpetuating the site as an historical point of interest in Western Canada's lore.

Said the North Battleford *News Optimist*:

"If the city of North Battleford depends on the expansion and developments of its rich agricultural trading area then the town of Battleford depends for its future growth and prosperity on the development of the tourist trade. . . . There can be little doubt that Fort Battleford's National Historic Park will become in the years ahead one of the greatest tourist attractions in all of Saskatchewan. The Fort and town's future can be assured if programs like the recent jubilee event become an annual celebration."

At that celebration due honor was paid to the part played by the NWMP in the opening of the west. In his remarks while opening the jubilee celebrations there, the Commissioner said: "I should like to be a bit different and to say here at this site of one of our earliest posts, something about how much the west and the people of the west contributed to the character and reputation of

Insp. D. J. McCombe, Commissioner Nicholson, Asst. Commr. D. L. McGibbon and Insp. G. H. Prime at stockade gate, Fort Battleford Indian Museum.

