



The Commissioner is made an honorary Indian chief at a colorful ceremony at the Calgary Stampede.

advance—Calgary assumes a feverish air of bustle and expectancy. Every second person you meet seems to be a ranch hand and the thrilling contests of steer riding, wild cow milking, calf roping, wild horse races, bucking horse riding, chuck wagon races and giant street parades all combine to make it a thrilling western spectacle and “the greatest outdoor show on earth”.

Each year it seems the Stampede goes a step further toward reviving some aspect of pioneer life and this year of the province’s jubilee proved no exception. In this the Force assisted by providing two men in full-dress uniform of the NWMP era. They, in conjunction with bronzed Indians in their colorful tribal costumes, within the wooden palisades of old Fort Calgary, lent an authentic touch of the old west to the Stampede.

In addition to opening the exhibition the Commissioner also officiated at the dedication of the Old Timers’ and Pioneers’ Building in Fort Calgary, named “Fort Calgary House”. At the dedication ceremony the Commissioner said: “I want to compliment the Stampede management on the idea which led to the construction of this building. . . . I am sure it will be used to good advantage by those for whom it is designed. I am sure they will find it both a fine rendezvous and a haven—a haven where

they can get together and talk over those distant days when the country was new. . . . In the change and bustle of these days it is surely well to pause occasionally and ‘tie’ back to the good things of the past.”

It is of interest to note that it is just 20 years since a Commissioner of the Force officiated at a Stampede opening. The late Commr. Sir James MacBrien opened the Stampede in 1935 and that was the occasion of Alberta’s 30th Anniversary celebration. This year a signal honor was bestowed upon Commissioner Nicholson when he was made an honorary chief in the Blackfoot, Stony and Sarcee tribes at a ceremony during the Stampede. Named Chief Never-Sit-Down, the Commissioner joins a select few who have been accorded similar honors by the Plains Indians.

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Alberta wasn’t the only province to celebrate its jubilee this year, nor was Calgary the only city to have festivities throughout the Prairie Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. Smaller centres featured programs commemorating the jubilee. Thus it was that the Commissioner participated in a second opening ceremony—this one at Battleford. Among the older communities of the west few have a longer or closer association with