

1889 - Sixty-Seventh Anniversary - 1956



BANFF INDIAN DAYS

JULY 19 to 22 - 1956

THE WEEK FOLLOWING CALGARY STAMPEDE

BANFF NATIONAL PARK
BANFF, ALBERTA, CANADA

BANFF INDIAN DAYS



The colorful spectacle of the Stony Indian Tribe and visiting Indians from miles around on a mountain holiday may be observed in Banff each year during the third week in July—the week following the Calgary Stampede. The origin of what is now known as "Indian Days" is somewhat obscure but it is established that the Bow River Valley where Banff is situated is an old hunting and camping ground of the Stony Indians. After they were allotted their reserve at Morley, some forty miles east, and Banff became settled by the white man, they continued to meet here for a few days each summer to hold their usual Sundance and Pow Wow. Finally, as this became an attraction to Banff visitors, it was somewhat enlarged until the celebration attained its present spectacle.



10:00 A.M.—The Chiefs and their Braves and Squaws and children, parade on horseback in native costume each morning and are judged for the beauty and workmanship of their dress. Beadwork of native designs on buckskin and feathered headdresses are the characteristic features of traditional tribal clothing. The parade carries the tribe from their temporary village through the town along Banff Avenue to the Bow River Bridge. Here the judging of feathers and beadwork and buckskin takes place. The parade then continues past the hospital and on to the courtyard of the Banff Springs Hotel.

2:00 P.M.—During the afternoon Indian sporting competitions provide colorful entertainment at their camping ground at the foot of Cascade Mountain. Admission is charged here and the proceeds along with donations from business firms and individuals, all go to the Indians to provide food and prize money.

The period of Indian Days lasts four days starting on Thursday with Sunday considered as visiting day in the summer village at the foot of Cascade Mountain.

7:00 P.M.—Evening entertainment consists of Pow-Wow at the grounds of the Banff Springs Hotel—native singing and dancing in the dusk of the summer evening against a background of mountains and pine trees. It is primarily a celebration enjoyed by the entire tribe as much as by the spectators. As a grand finale each evening, the Indians invite their White brothers to join in the Owl Dance.

DIRECTORS

Hon. President: N. K. Luxton

President: Claude Brewster

Secretary-Treasurer: Ethel Knight

Stony Chiefs: Jake Two Young Man (Chiniki Band)
Tom Snow (Wesley Band); David Bearspaw
(Bearspaw Band)

Events: Tom Koquitts, Tom Simeon

Parade Judges: Mrs. Pearl Moore and
J. "Red" Cathcart

Announcer: Joe Squires

Rodeo: Jake Two Young Man

LX/II/F/120/45

INDIAN VILLAGE

SUNDAY AFTERNOON: 2 O'CLOCK

Camp Fires of the Stony Tribe. Daily occupations of these people in and out of the teepees. The Medicine Man's Sun Lodge; Bow and Arrow making. Buckskin and Beadwork displays; the Squaw and her Papoose; Indian Brave and Hunter, and dozens of other scenes that will thrill and delight you. There will be a Bow and Arrow contest. Musical Drums on Horseback, also Pitching Teepee contest, as well as judging of best equipped Teepees and Medicine Lodges; Packing the Camp Pony; Man and Wife; Women's Tug-o'-War, Kid's Foot Races; Cowboy Stake Race.

The Stonys say "Ambostich" and thank you for your patronage.



For further information write to —

Banff Indian Days Committee

Banff - Alberta

1957 — JULY 18th - 21st — 1957

From:

To:

Address:

