

Indian Affairs Minister Named Honorary Chief

For the first time, a Minister of Indian Affairs in Canada has been invested with an honorary Kainai Chieftainship. Arthur Laing, Superintendent General of Indian Affairs was accorded the honor recently by the Blood Indians of Alberta in a colorful ceremony at Standoff, Alberta.

The investiture was part of

the Blood Band's Centennial and Indian Days celebration. Kainai is the Indian name for the Blood Band who are members of the Blackfoot Confederacy. (Band is the equivalent of tribe.)

The special ceremony, which originated around the year 1919, is performed by medicine men of the Band. Members of the Kainai, which is limited to 40 living non-Indians, promote goodwill and work for the betterment of the Blood Indian people.

As an honorary Chief, the minister will join ranks of other outstanding members of the Kainai, notably H.R.H. The Duke of Windsor, Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson;

Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey; the now retiring RCMP Commissioner George V. McClland; and Gordon R. McGregor, president of Air Canada.