

# City Of Winnipeg

## Unofficial Talks Held Basis For Formal Negotiations Soon

Amalgamation of East Kildonan with Winnipeg proper may be the outcome of several unofficial conferences held recently by officials of the two municipalities, the Free Press learned Tuesday.

In the past two months city officers have been examining East Kildonan statements and records. No definite move has yet been made, but it is expected official conferences between representatives of the two municipalities may begin shortly. Taking part in the discussions have been Mayor Garnet Coulter and Mayor J. L. Bodie of East Kildonan, it is reported. Because of the unofficial nature of the talks only a limited number of officials from each municipality have been informed of the meetings.

The two mayors were understood to have discussed whether a referendum of the voters in Winnipeg and East Kildonan would be necessary.

The Free Press has been informed by provincial government sources that a referendum is not only unnecessary, but might not be within the legal powers of the two participating municipalities.

**Two legislative acts, one to amend the city charter and the second to change the municipal boundaries act, would be necessary, as well as an award by the municipal commissioner to settle assets and liabilities of the municipalities concerned, it was stated.**

All this could be concluded at the next session of the provincial legislature if East Kildonan and Winnipeg authorities agree on amalgamation by that time.

Present boundaries of East Kil-

donan stretch from Montrose avenue on the south to Oakland avenue on the north, with the exception of about 2,000 acres in the vicinity of the Canadian Pacific railway main line track and Melrose avenue. The east and west boundaries are the Red river and Birds Hill road. Area of the municipality is 2,071 acres.

To date no other municipalities have approached the city with amalgamation proposals, but an official thought that East Kildonan's move might be a beginning which would eventually bring the smaller municipalities into the city.

**Incorporation of East Kildonan as part of Winnipeg would increase the population of the city proper by about 10,000. There are approximately 3,000 buildings in the municipality.**

East Kildonan's 1949 assessments place the value of land in the municipality at \$995,860; buildings at

\$2,827,760 and personalty, \$135,095. Total assessed taxable value is \$3,958,715.

### Organized 1876

The municipality of Kildonan, including what is now East, West and Old Kildonan and Elmwood, was organized in 1876. At that time there were only 12 homesteads in the boundaries of what is now East Kildonan.

Elmwood was taken into the city in 1906 and in 1914 East and West Kildonan, separated by the Red river, were divided into two municipalities. In 1926 Old Kildonan broke away, leaving the boundaries of East Kildonan as they are today.

The East Kildonan council is now composed of Mayor Bodie and six councillors for the four wards. Wards one and two, with more than 2,500 population each have two councillors, while the other wards have one councillor each.

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