

# East Kildonan's 'Finest' Grows From Lone Chief Constable In 1914 To Present Day 32-Man Force

On the incorporation of the Rural Municipality of East Kildonan in 1914 Thomas Radley was appointed chief constable. Chief Radley worked alone, as the new municipality had very few residents.

For those who are not familiar with The Municipal Act (the Act which governs all Manitoba municipalities), there is a section which makes it mandatory that all urban areas, cities, towns and suburban municipalities appoint a chief constable, and each municipality not in the above category may appoint a chief constable.

Hence a chief constable was appointed in 1914. Mr. Radley was succeeded by the late Thomas Coley in 1917.

Chief Constable Coley was in office until his retirement in 1946. During this time he had up to three men working under him. Many persons in the municipality will remember Chief Coley who was known for his kindness towards the younger generation. He died in 1951.

In the year 1947 G. J. Russell was appointed chief constable. He retired in 1951 after some 27 years of service in the department.

In 1951 the personnel of the police department was composed of six men and the chief constable. They were as follows: Constable David Christie, who is presently the lie-

ense and relief inspector for the City of East Kildonan; Constable Thomas Fenn, who retired in 1955 after 24 years' service, and who is presently in charge of maintenance work in the City Hall; Constable Mark Swindlehurst, patrol sergeant; Constable K. J. Habinski, who was promoted to sergeant from the rank of patrol sergeant, and Constable Carson. There was one more constable who had less than six months' service, but who has since left the force.

**Chris. Einfeld, the present chief constable, was appointed that year and it will be recalled this was also the year the new Municipal Offices were opened.**

The police and fire departments were then housed in an old building on the present site of the new Holy Eucharist Church on Watt st. The Council, looking into the future, had the police offices moved to the Municipal Offices on Henderson Highway.

The Council also confirmed the hiring of additional policemen by virtue of the growth in population. Hence, by the end of 1952, the total strength of the department was 11.

**In July, 1955, the strength of the department totalled 15 men, all ranks. The fire department at that time had eight men and**

**one spare man, who was called on when required.**

The Council had made an extensive study of the amalgamation of fire and police departments, and it was decided to amalgamate both units. This was one of the first municipalities in the west to take this action.

This again posed a rather large job of re-organization. The total strength of both fire and police was 23 men and the spare man would make 24. Council decided, as both departments had asked for additional men, the fire department requesting four and the police department also asking for four additional men, the establishment of the now new Safety Division would be 28 men all ranks.

This stipulated establishment is in effect until July 1st when Council decreed an additional four men may be hired for the department. Now, at the time of receiving its charter, the establishment of the Public Safety Division is 32 men all ranks.

This establishment is composed of Chief Constable C. Einfeld, Inspector H. R. Moreau, Sergeant K. J. Habinski, Patrol Sergeants M. Swindlehurst, Patrol Sergeant C. A. Broughton, Chief Clerk J. Seepish, 23 constables and three clerks.

The department operates two radio-equipped cars, one ambulance and two fire trucks.

# E.K. police to form own radio network

East Kildonan police are establishing their own radio network and will no longer use the Inner City police radio, city council finance committee was told Tuesday, but the reason for the change was not made clear to councillors.

Coun. Norm Stapon (ICBC-Springfield Heights), East Kildonan community committee chairman, told the finance committee that the community was setting up its own network because service from Winnipeg had been unsatisfactory.

It had been the former Winnipeg police force's policy to transmit East Kildonan

messages only when the Winnipeg network was clear. This caused delays of up to five minutes in despatching a cruiser car. The situation had been acceptable until after Robert Taft had resigned as police chief, Coun. Stapon said, but since that time East Kildonan had been unhappy with the service.

However, at the same committee meeting, a letter expressing contrary sentiments from East Kildonan Chief Constable Chris Einfield to Mayor Stephen Juba was read.

In the letter, Chief Constable Einfield wrote, "after twenty years of excellent co-

operation, I am personally very sorry that the communication by radio with the Winnipeg City Police Department will be terminated. Space does not permit me to enumerate the many advantages we in a smaller police department have enjoyed from the co-operation of the members of the Winnipeg Police Department. You may rest assured that these incidents would be too numerous to mention."

East Kildonan will continue to be a part of the 999 emergency telephone service and the city's emergency radio network. The change means only that the East Kildonan

patrol cars will be in touch with East Kildonan police headquarters and will not have to go through the Inner City network to receive messages.

The finance committee referred the matter to the sub-committee on protection of persons and property for a report on the matter.

Mr. Taft, now councillor for Riverview ward, said in an interview he could not comment on Coun. Stapon's charges because he did not know what conditions had been since he retired six years ago. "I can say that co-operation was excellent at the time I retired, though."

Inner City police chief Norm Stewart, in a telephone interview, labelled the charges "utterly ridiculous. Never at any time have we had any complaints from Chief Einfield. I would like to think that he's the type of man who would have complained if there was something wrong. If he didn't, he would be remiss in his duties."

"I was superintendent for some time in the communications centre. I saw how the messages were handled. They went out in accordance with their priority. If anything we leaned over backwards for East Kildonan. Let him (Coun. Stapon) prove his charges."

# EK Police move to Transcona station

The East Kildonan Police Station, located at 545 Watt Street, was officially closed on New Year's Day. All police personnel are now working out of the old Transcona Police Station, at 730 Pandora Avenue West, in Transcona.

"There will not be any change in our service to the people of East Kildonan," Superintendent Joe Teres said last week.

The move will improve the operation of the division, Superintendent Teres said. "My supervisory staff was diluted between two offices before; the one in Transcona, and the other in East Kildonan," he said.

There are economical advantages to the move as well, he said. Before, there were heating, lighting and power bills for both offices.

The East Kildonan building is now vacant, pending a decision by the East Kildonan community committee as to who will be allowed to use it.

The East Kildonan parks and recreation department is now preparing a report, according to Councillor Alf Skowron (Talbot), on how the building would suit their requirements.

"That department is badly in need of more space, and we'd give priority to them rather than the ambulance service people, who have also indicated they would like to use the building," Councillor Skowron said. The parks and recreation department would be given priority because they are a local department, and the ambulance service is a city-wide service, he said.

Three East Kildonan councillors, Ray Brunka

(Riverton), Anne Jorowski (Leighton) and Mike Ruta (Miles MacDonell) attended the official closing, as well as Superintendent Teres, Inspector W. Shefchyk (of District 4), and Inspector Jack Hinton, of Police community relations.

The station at Watt Street had been in use since

1955.

Parking tickets may be paid at any police station (in the City of Winnipeg), or mailed in, and accidents may be reported at any district station.

East Kildonan residents may contact the police at this new telephone number: 222-4205.



*The doors to the East-Kildonan Police Station, at 545 Watt Street, were officially closed New Year's Day. Councillor Anne Jorowski (centre) presented superintendent Joe Teres (left) with the key to the building "for his safekeeping". Also present were councillors Mike Ruta (second from left) and Ray Brunka, and Inspector W. Shefchyk. Please see story.*

## Councillors against variances

*Continued...*

to cut the noise level in half, although the decibel reading would still be above the accepted 60. If neighbors were not satisfied then councillors further recommended that special barriers would have to be installed which the neighbors had said would devalue their properties.

Coun. Skowron said hearings could be setup where firms not co-operating under the more restricted anti-noise bylaws which they had inherited.

Imperial Oil had not experienced any objections until 1972, six years after construction, he said.