

# 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 lic-

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.