

East Kildonan School Board To Support Referendum

By W. A. McGILL

Political expediency reared its ugly head at the December meeting of the East Kildonan School Board in relationship to the March 10th referendum on a single grades 1-12 school board for this area.

Whether the proposed consolidated school district would add additional taxes to the already heavily burdened ratepayers seemed to be secondary to Chairman J. MacKay and Trustee Mrs. Y. Templin.

Primary concern at the School Board meeting was the possibility of being elected to the new School Board should the ratepayers pass the March 10th referendum.

"If we come out opposed to the new consolidated school district, we will not be able to elect a single member from our School Board (East Kildonan 14) to the new River East Board," stated Mrs. Templin.

Earlier Chairman MacKay had lyricized that he thought it "highly unfair" that he had "just finished campaigning to win a School Board seat in October and have to do it all over again in March".

In a palpably political statement, the East Kildonan School Board went on record that it thought such a proposed consolidated School Board should be within the boundaries of East Kildonan, but that it would support the River East referendum.

Chairman MacKay suggested that speaking engagements favoring the referendum be postponed until after the provincial budget is brought down.

To protect themselves from the ire of those in favor of the consolidation, the School Board appointed an Information Committee composed of Trustees Templin and D. F. Anderson under the guidance of Chairman MacKay. This committee will issue state-

ments favoring the government proposal.

The only outward opponent to the consolidation with River East is Trustee A. Rouse, who said he would offer his complete views at an early date.

Brewer Named Acting Mayor

Ald. D. O. Brewer was made acting mayor, and Ald. L. A. McMahon, deputy acting mayor, at the inaugural meeting of East Kildonan Council last week.

Named to chair the various committees were:

Finance — Ald. L. A. McMahon.

Health and Social Services — Ald. N. P. Stapon.

Public Works — Ald. A. J. Reid.

Public Safety, Police and Fire — Ald. W. H. Irvine.

Industrial Development, Town Planning and Zoning — Ald. S. C. McLeod.

MOVE INTO BIG LEAGUE

OTTAWA. — Canada's population is thought to have passed the 20,000,000 mark. The figure was estimated at 19,859,000 April 1st and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics expects to find more than 20,000,000 Canadians when the mid-summer census is totalled up.

History's first air freight shipment was in 990 A.D. when 600 carrier pigeons loaded with cherries were flown from Baalbek, Syria, to Cairo.

MERCUR

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