

SCHOOL BOARD WANTS SAY ON ANNEXATIONS

Points Out Proposals on Suburbs Would Impose Heavy Burden

T. Fox Decent and A. M.
Fraser Stir Members of
Finance Committee

Extension of Winnipeg's boundaries to take in part of any outside municipality as proposed by East Kildonan to the finance committee yesterday afternoon will involve the school board more deeply even than the city. A letter was received from the school board yesterday afternoon asking that the city allow the board to participate in negotiations for annexation of part of East Kildonan before any decisive step was taken by the city or the municipality.

The communication called attention to the fact that the board would be required under the Public Schools act to take over schools in the territory annexed and to assume the debt and indebtedness of the schools.

The board claimed this would place a heavier burden on the board than on the city, and asked to participate in discussion if the matter came up for serious consideration.

The communication from East Kildonan asking the city to take in part of the municipality was read, but as no delegation appeared to place the proposition formally before the committee, the communication was filed, leaving the municipality to approach the committee when it sees fit.

Ask Reduction in Levy

A. M. Fraser and T. Fox Decent, appeared before the finance committee to renew their application for reduction in the Greater Winnipeg Water district levy, and urged the consumers instead of the property, be charged with the greater part of the carrying charges. Mr. Fox Decent thought it would not affect the city consumption to raise the water rates and relieve the taxpayers of part of the costs. Ald. McKerchar and Ald. Leonard, explained the bonds for the aqueduct agreement had been sold on the basis of a land levy for the capital investment, and council had no power to alter the basis of that levy. Ald. McKerchar explained the city might raise the water rates and apply the surplus to reduction of general taxation. He resented strongly Mr. Fox Decent's allegation that the city had done nothing to implement the recommendation of the Brittain report on this and other remedies for relief of general taxes on land, and criticized the Taxpayers association strongly for going to the legislature with a bill for an amendment to the city