

UNIVERSITY SEEMS ASSURED TO DALLAS

LOCAL CITIZENS EXPRESS CONFIDENCE AFTER SESSION LAST NIGHT.

HIGHLAND PARK FAVORED

All Dallas Propositions Give Way to That—May Act This Morning.

The educational commission of the Methodist Church adjourned at 11:50 o'clock last night until 9 o'clock this morning. While no authoritative statement was made, the friends of Dallas who awaited the adjournment consider it a foregone conclusion that the university will be located here and that the formal announcement to that effect will be forthcoming early this morning. The proposal submitted by Dallas is 123 acres for a campus near Highland Park and land for 2,000 city lots, estimated to be worth \$1,500,000, and \$300,000 in notes.

R. C. Porter, representing Porter, Stemmons & Russell, withdrew in behalf of the Highland Park offer, as also did R. S. Munger. The proposal of Porter, Stemmons & Russell originally was 700 acres at the edge of Oak Cliff, while that of Mr. Munger was fifty acres in East Dallas.

Three Offers from Fort Worth.

Fort Worth made three offers, the largest of which was \$500,000 in cash, 100 acres of land for a campus and a one-third interest in 1,500 acres. Another proposition made by Fort Worth was \$100,000 in cash, 100 acres for a campus, 120 acres for a park and one-third interest in 1,020 acres.

Commission Labors Hard.

The commission labored long and earnestly yesterday, and until late at night in considering the propositions submitted by the two rival cities. They returned to Dallas from Fort Worth shortly after 9 o'clock and went into executive session at the Methodist Publishing House at 10 o'clock.

The delegation from Fort Worth arrived at 9:30 a. m. and was invited before the commission, and the various offers submitted by that city were thoroughly discussed. It was not until nearly 4 o'clock that the Fort Worth representatives retired and consideration of the proposition of Dallas was begun. This was soon simplified by reducing them to one, Messrs. Munger and Porter stating that they considered the Highland Park proposition superior to theirs and thought that it was best for the interests of the university that this be accepted, although if the commission desired to consider their proposals, they had no disposition to exclude such consideration.

Fort Worth Not Satisfied.

When the Fort Worth delegation retired they indicated that they were not altogether satisfied. George Mulkey had descended to the stairs in advance of the remainder of his party. "We feel," said he, "that a mistake has been made that is not the fault of the commission, and our party has threatened to withdraw all of its offers and retire from the field. I have come down ahead of them to prevent them leaving."

Subsequent to this the commission sent word to the Fort Worth delegation through Dr. Boaz that if they desired further time, or wished to supplement their proposals, they would be allowed until 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon to do so. Dr. Boaz returned to the commission and stated that the Fort Worth people desired that the matter be closed.

The commission went into executive session shortly after their arrival yesterday morning. Upon their invitation, the Fort Worth delegation appeared before them. This delegation consisted of E. W. Temple, William Brice, William Capps, E. E. Baldrige, R. W. Flournoy, John Weddington, Matt S. Blanton, H. H. Cobb, William J. Berne and George Mulkey.

Newspaper Men Excluded.

Newspaper reporters who applied for admission to the session were told that the Fort Worth delegation objected to their presence and, accordingly, they were not admitted. While all of the propositions made by Fort Worth were thoroughly canvassed, especial emphasis was placed upon the Arlington Heights property. This, many of the Fort Worth people considered their best offer. Some members of the commission did not, however, take the same view of the advantage that had been urged.

After a short recess for luncheon the commission reassembled and consideration of the various propositions was resumed.

About 4 o'clock the Dallas representatives were admitted. They freely welcomed the newspaper men and invited them into the room, saying they had no secrets to keep from the world. The substance of the presentation of Dallas' propositions has been recorded in the foregoing. At 5 o'clock Bishop Aikins, Rev. James Kilgore and others who had arrived too late on Wednesday to visit the Highland Park site, expressed a desire to see this property. Automobiles were provided and those of the commission who were so inclined were driven out to the site.

Debate Behind Closed Doors.

It was an animated debate that prevailed last night behind closed doors as to the merits of the two rival cities, each member of the commission seeking to serve what he considered the best interest of the university.

Dr. Boaz and Rev. John A. Rice, both of Fort Worth, vigorously contended for their city, while Dallas had as able and active champions. Several of the members had equipped themselves with pencils and stationery and each proposition was taken up and closely calculated.

In one end of the room Dr. Boaz erected a blackboard, upon which he wrote the various propositions in which he figured that the best offer of Dallas was something like \$1,125,250, while the best offer of Fort Worth, according to his figures, was \$1,500,000.

Some of the members of the commission were not altogether satisfied with the estimates as to the valuation of the land offers written on the blackboard by Dr. Boaz, and some of the figures they calculated on paper varied considerably therefrom.

A large number of Dallas men occupied an adjoining room, anxiously awaiting an announcement from the commission.

Regret was expressed that a decision was not reached last night, but the Dallas representatives expressed themselves as being thoroughly satisfied with the prospective results.