

The Water Works Matter.

The city has applied to the courts for a receiver for the National Waterworks company. The application is made for the purpose of placing the whole matter in shape to be settled in the courts. In less than eight months the contract with the company expires, and the differences between the city and the company will have to be brought to an issue. Just now the company is willing to sell, but desires to sell the whole plant, which includes the part in Kansas City, Kan., which the city officials say they do not propose to buy, on account of legal points to be settled, which would then arise. The appointing of a receiver would place a go between in authority who could bring the parties together and effect an equitable settlement. The city now owes the Waterworks company about \$80,000 for rentals, which it refuses to pay because, it is maintained, that the company is not supplying water according to contract. The people, meanwhile, are glad to see any move made which looks to the ending of the strife.

"In less than eight months," said a prominent citizen this morning, "the contract with the National Waterworks company expires. I would like to know just where the city stands in the matter. As I understand the contract with the company, the city, at the expiration of the contract, if it has not renewed the contract, must buy. What is it going to buy with? If it has insufficient money to clean streets, how is it going to buy a waterworks plant worth \$2,500,000? The best the people are going to get out of this is a long law suit, and, in the end, will have to pay the bills that now lay unpaid in the city comptroller's office. That is the way it seems to me, and if you can stir some one of the city officials to give the public a statement of just what the city proposes to do, you will have accomplished a great good."

THE KANSAS CITY MAIL

Published daily except Sunday at

NO. 508 DELAWARE ST., KANSAS CITY, MO.

M. W. Hutchison, Editor and Publisher.