

examination of the same, and is also allowed to make a private investigation of the company's books. At the time of this writing the company has not consented to the city's proposal.

During the past five or six years the city has annexed several adjacent wards to which the company supplies water. On account of the annexations there is no longer a uniform rate of water in all of the city's wards. This is due to the fact that the corporation's rate, to the older wards, is five per cent. on the assessed rentals; while the company's rate, in the newly annexed wards, which it still continues to supply, is seven and a half per cent. One of the reasons why the city is inclined to purchase the plant of the company is because of this complexity in charging for water.

