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# Industrial & Business NEWS



## CLUBS APPROVE CITY OPERATION OF GAS PLANT

Federation Urges Option Be  
Taken Up in 1930  
by Municipality.

Federation of Civic Clubs today was on record as favoring the city taking over its option on the Citizens Gas Company in 1930.

A resolution that the Federation go on record indorsing the plan and naming a special committee to make detailed study of the contract met with unanimous approval at the Friday night meeting at the Chamber of Commerce.

"It would be unfortunate indeed if the city failed to make this purchase," said Councilman John F. White, former Federation president.

"The city can operate utilities more economically and with more intelligent care of the actual needs of the community than a group of private individuals. More than 75 per cent of water companies are operated by municipalities."

A large surplus will become the property of stockholders if the city does not force its option in 1930. Some stockholders are planning to take the city's proposal.

Committees were named by Oscar W. Stoeck, president, as follows:

Membership—F. W. Waldkötter, Robert Sloan and Charles L. Clark.

Park and Recreation—E. O. Snethen, J. L. Bradford and R. O. Shimer.

City Planning—J. H. Lawrence, Mrs. F. Schmidt and John P. Harris.

Educational—G. Baker, L. K. Harlow and Mrs. James C. Jones.

City Market—Mrs. C. A. James, O. E. Williamson and H. W. Vedder.

Public Building and Grounds—J. H. Hilkene, Emil V. Schaad and W. J. Batley.

Utilities—A. LeRoy Forteau, John Mutschler, Albert Neuerburg, A. F. Smith and Mr. White.

One-Family Houses Lead

However, in 1922, one-family dwellings were the leading type of home construction. At that time they provided homes for 43.4 per cent of the total number of families accommodated, compared with 34.6 per cent in apartment houses and 22 per cent in two-family dwellings.

By 1926, the Department of Labor in its newest bulletin points out apartment houses had become the most popular class of dwelling in the cities of the country—and that popularity is still on the increase.

In the first half of 1926, 50.4 per cent of family units were in multifamily dwellings and single-family houses had dropped to 36.1 per cent.

Apartment Houses Boom

During the first half of 1927 the apartment house preponderance was accentuated and during the first half of the present year its percentage had increased to 61.2, as compared to 28 per cent of one-family dwellings. New construction for two-family homes in the same period fell to 10.6 per cent.

In the meantime, an interesting phase of American life is presented by the statistics for hotel construction during the first half of this year in eight American cities, which show that the amount spent for this class of building jumped 171.1 per cent, as compared with the same period in 1927.

Involved in the controversy were three lines of the South Side Motor Coach Company, serving Beech Grove, and two lines serving Ben Davis, one operated by Tony Parada and the other by Martin J. Linsky.

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## Apartment Houses Gain, Small Homes On Decline

Modern 'Cliff Dwellings'  
Show Growing Popularity

in Recent Years.

BY GEORGE SANFORD HOLMES

Times Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29.—Riveting machines are shrilling more loudly than ever the swan-song of the "old homestead."

Modern cliff-dwelling is increasing. All figures for recent residential construction show that the apartment house is continuing to gain as the favorite domicile for people in towns of 100,000 population and over.

Since 1922 the U. S. Department of Labor has been collecting statistics from 65 cities which regularly report building operations for the first half of each year.

The city can operate utilities more economically and with more intelligent care of the actual needs of the community than a group of private individuals.

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