

# City Moves To Evaluate Power Units

The Las Vegas city commission took the first concrete step in the direction of public ownership of the local power utility last night when a resolution was unanimously adopted empowering Mayor L. L. Arnett to hire Barry Dibble, consulting engineer of Redlands, California, to make a survey to determine the value of the present plant and the cost of constructing a similar plant.

In a surprise move, the board gave the engineer authority to extend his investigation to include the power distributing system, in the telephone company as well as indicating an intention to proceed to acquire this utility for the city also.

Dibble's compensation was fixed at \$1,150 by the board, after Commissioner Marble had expressed the opinion that \$1,000 was sufficient and indicated that this was the figure originally agreed upon.

Dibble was empowered to investigate the facilities of the utilities outside the city as well as within the limits.

The report is due to be made to the board of commissioners by September 10 of this year.

Dibble was present and was introduced to the board by Mayor L. L. Arnett, who declared he had been chosen only after a very careful investigation. The mayor said he had spent some time in Los Angeles seeking to get the right man for the post, and that Dibble was highly recommended by all whom he contacted.

The investigation will be made, according to the resolution, on the basis of obtaining the information necessary to permit an application to the public works administration for federal financing of the project in whatever shape it is finally determined upon.

The resolution providing for Dibble's employment was approved unanimously by the board and was expected to be ready for publication as revised this afternoon. Up to press hour, however, it had not been completed.