

WATERSHEDS OF SALT LAKE CITY

Map Showing Private, National
And State Lands in Engi-
neer's Report.

FOR GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

Scheme to Transfer Direction of These
Lands Into Federal Hands—

What City Would Save.

The report of the city engineering department, which was filed yesterday, contains a great deal of information of interest to the citizens generally.

One of the important illustrations, which is a new departure and one which has required much painstaking work, is a map showing the city and surrounding watersheds. The map is an extensive representation of the canyons north, east and south of the city and shows the surveys of private, state and government lands, all of which will be represented in a three-color map. The watersheds over which the city has control are vast in extent, consisting of all lands formerly owned by the Union Pacific Railway company, under government grant consisting of every alternate section of the country mapped in addition to much land has been bought from private parties. From the lands in which the government has title the city has watershed rights, thus making a vast tract to be shown in the new map.

FOR GOVERNMENT CONTROL.

In this connection, the federal government and the city engineer are working on a scheme to transfer for administrative purposes to the government all the city's watersheds. The first step is being taken with regard to the city's lands in Parley's canyon. The plan is for the government to take over the watersheds, re-forest them and then to patrol them. It is well known that the rights of the government are respected by herders and others having occasion to pass through the canyons much more than are the rights of a city or state. In this way the city and the government believe that not only will the city gain much in the purity of its water supply and its volume, but the mountains which are now bare of trees will be again in the course of 50 years at most a forest equal to that found when the white man first invaded the country.

SAVING TO CITY.

In addition to its other features, the city will save approximately \$500 per month in the matter of patrolling the canyons, amounting to \$6,000 a year. The plan has been before the government for about two months and action determining the intention of the department of agriculture in the matter is expected within a month. Inspectors from the forestry service have gone over the ground with the city engineer and other city officials and their report is understood to have been favorable to the idea of Mr. Kelsey.