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serves to keep the officers responsive to popular sentiment.

Municipal Ownership

The city owns and operates the public water system and maintains certain parks and libraries. It is generally believed that the water system is operated less economically and efficiently than private enterprises. It is also felt that the public is compensated by reason of the fact that extensions and improvements have been made from time to time which enable new sections of the city to be platted and developed without favoritism. Lewiston is in the semi-arid belt, and lots cannot be used for homes until the water system is extended to the premises. Under private ownership, the conditions would have enabled the private owners to retard the development of tracts in which they were not interested. It is probable also that they would have been less liberal in the matter of extensions and improvements than the city has been.

Municipal Accounting

The city has a thorough and complete system of accounting. All departments and officers account to, and settle with, the controller, whose records are cleared by his cash payments to the treasurer. Disbursements are made upon warrants signed by the mayor and controller and paid by the treasurer.

General Results

It is generally felt that the government is more democratic and more responsive to the popular will than formerly. It is also felt that all administrative departments, by being removed from politics, have become more efficient. It cannot be said that the character of the elective and appointive officers has been materially changed under the present system. This city, however, has always been governed by a fairly representative body. It is believed that, under the present system, both elective and appointive officers have their duties more definitely defined and their responsibilities more certainly fixed, and that there is a resulting increase in efficiency.

Taxation

There has been no decrease in taxation under the present system. This is partially accounted for by reason of the growth of the city, and partially by increased activities and new functions which the city has undertaken.

Corruption

There is no known official corruption existing in the city. There has been in the past but little evil of this kind.

Finances

Lewiston's bonding credit has been very moderately used. All except \$86,300 of the city's bonds outstanding were issued for the purchase, extending and improvement of the water system owned by the city. Two thousand dollars of the outstanding bonded debt is the balance of an old bond issue which will soon be retired. Twenty-two thousand is for the payment of the city's portion of the recent paving. The balance of \$62,500 was issued to refund and reduce the interest rate on the old warrant indebtedness incurred before the adoption of the present charter. The condition of the city is shown by the following abstract from the controller's books:

Bonding capacity under 1910 tax roll	\$988,000.00
Water works bonds outstanding	217,300.00
Other bonds outstanding	86,500.00
Cash on hand sinking fund	36,894.12
Total cash on hand	98,252.27
Total assets	477,105.00
Total liabilities	327,491.72
Tax rate	.0010
Past due obligations	none
Judgments and suits pending against city	none

A new city hall has been constructed within the last two years and the fire department equipped with a modern auto engine, all out of current revenues.

General Summary

The opinion of thoughtful people seems generally to be that the experiment with the commission form of government is too new for any final conclusion to be reached as yet, but the general impression is that the system as applied in Lewiston is better than the system which preceded it.
 EUGENE A. COX.

BOY'S EXTRAORDINARY TALE

"Shanghaied" but He Didn't Know How

San Francisco, Nov. 2.—Home again after an unexplained absence, Daniel Cohelan, aged 15, is painfully recovering from the effects of a drug which he says was given him by two Italian sailormen. Two unknown men met him when he left work last Tuesday and took him from a crowded part of town to their ship.

Cohelan says they drugged him but he cannot explain their methods. He awoke on a ship in the bay the following morning and threatened to kill himself if they took him to sea.

Finally the captain ordered him taken ashore, but saw that he had no opportunity to learn the name of the vessel. Cohelan arrived home early today, told his story briefly and fell asleep. Detectives are now trying to locate the "shanghai" party.

A Kitchen Bouquet

A kitchen bouquet for flavoring soups can easily be made. Take a few sprigs of parsley and wrap them around pepper corns, whole cloves, a bay leaf and other herbs that are at hand. Tie up tightly. This can be removed from the soup without trouble.

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How Commission Government Works at Lewiston
 A thoughtful and fair-minded article specially written for Daily News readers by Eugene A. Cox, Lewiston, Idaho

General Statement
 Lewiston is one of the oldest Idaho cities. It has always existed under a special charter enacted and amended from time to time by the legislature. Its present charter was adopted in 1907. Prior to that time, it existed under a charter by the terms of which the city was governed by a mayor and by six councilmen elected from the different wards. Many of the administrative offices were elective. Its present charter is the commission form slightly modified to enable the change from the old form to the present charter to be more easily made. The population is 7000.

Charter
 Under its present charter, Lewiston is governed by a mayor and six councilmen, all elected at large for terms of two years. The mayor is elected every second year, and three councilmen every year. The elections are held in June. No other officers are elected. There is a primary prior to the election, and nominations may be made by petition. The names of candidates are printed on the ballot in alphabetical

order without party designations.

Commission
 The mayor is the chief executive of the city. Each councilman is made commissioner of some one department of the public work. All administrative officers are appointed by the mayor and council acting together, and all administrative officers, except the city controller, who is the chief fiscal officer, hold office at will of the Mayor and council. The controller is appointed for a term of two years and is removable only for cause.

The Initiative, Referendum and Recall
 Ordinances may be initiated or referred upon petition of electors. Elective officers may be recalled upon like petition. None of these provisions has so far been actually used. It is the general opinion that their presence in the charter

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