

Third Question—If you can corrupt a council of thirteen, why is it not easier to corrupt a council of five?

Answer—The Commissioner is always in the limelight, and personally responsible to the ratepayers. A Board of Aldermen is wrapped in red tape in the form of numerous committees, and there is no individual responsibility. Corruption springs principally from the power to grant franchises. The Board of Aldermen have this power. The Commissioners do not have this power. It is vested in the people. (See Referendum.)

An alderman is only incidentally a city governor. He has nothing to lose, and may have much to gain. The Commissioner is essentially a city manager. He has no other business, and if he sacrifices his character he loses his business.

Fourth Question—This is a new thing. Can we afford to experiment?

Answer—Commission Government is now in force in eighty-nine cities and towns in the United States, and one hundred and forty-three are asking for it. In Canada, Guelph, St. Catharines, Lethbridge and Calgary have voted for it.

Fifth Question—Are we not giving too much power to five men?

Answer—On the contrary, we are giving the power to nobody. We are getting the liberty to use it ourselves, and we are paying five of the best men we can find to work for us.

Kick No. 1—This Recall is no use. Seattle could not recall the Mayor when they wished to.

Answer—Seattle is not blessed with Commission Government. They have a Recall in their Charter, but the number of names required on petitions is so ridiculously high that it renders the feature useless.

Sixth Question—We are Britishers. Why do away with a British institution?

Answer—Yes, we are Britishers; but we are also Canadians, and many systems which work in Britain do not work in Canada.

Seventh Question—Would not Commission Government, with its high priced officials increase expenses?

Answer—Next year the city will spend about \$6,000,000.00. Cut out the present haphazard system, and substitute Business. The economy thus effected will pay the salaries—and then some!

Kick No. 2—What about that newspaper heading "Commission costs Tacoma heavily."

Answer—The headlines were misleading, the reading matter told us that the total pay roll for the six summer months in 1910 were ten per cent. higher than for the same six months in 1909. The Commission evidently pushed the city work during the summer. It would improve matters if the same tactics were followed here.