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1947 Letter from Anonymous Lewiston Citizen

Anonymous

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NASHUA MFG. CO.

BOWER MILL DIVISION

ALL WOOL BLANKETS

LEWISTON, MAINE

Mayor, City Of Lewiston,
City Building,
Lewiston, Maine.

Date
Invoice No.
Our Order
Your Order
Ship Via
From
Terms

All goods sold F.O.B. Lewiston, Me.

CASE	SIZE	PRICE	AMOUNT	TOTAL
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Dear Sir:

Just a few lines to ask you if you realize just what you are doing while in office? To be Mayor, the highest office a tax-payer and citizen can give you, appears to be just a place to play around with your friends and take all that's going. It almost seems the interest of the people at large is a thing of the past. This I quote from a recent club meeting I attended where more than 100 men who pay real estate taxes in this State voted this feeling or words to the same effect.

First you have the HONOR of being the first Mayor to give Lewiston a 44 mill rate and I am asking you ---are you not proud?

Second, you have put the tax-rate at a level where our mills may find it good business to move South as I know of two very good inducements to have them move. The low tax-rate was the only straw that was keeping them here. The Bates alone employs nearly 2500 with a weekly payroll

Receipted bill will not be returned unless requested.

Your check is your receipt.

All claims for damages, deficiencies or any objections to terms or prices as stated on this bill, to be made within 10 days

of some \$90,000 and when this with the other mills gone just what is the local people going to do? I'll tell you --go else-where and you just wait and see how true these words are. Then you'll be a hero of a new order. When it takes nearly a two million dollar budget to run a city of this size something wrong is easily seen. Very poor management, incompetent officials and a very poor Mayor.

You are having an arena. Yes, a small proportion of the tax-payers want it if any of them. It is something that a very small percent of the people will ever enjoy. The public money was intended to be spent only where it will benefit the majority and not in the fashion you are spending it. As far as I could learn at the meeting you along seem to be getting the blame and I agree 100% with them. I am writing this on my own initiative and no one else knows about it except a letter I am sending the Chamber Of Commerce who is always trying to get new business to come into Lewiston. I have been a tax-payer here many years, was born here but this year is my last year that Lewiston will get any of my tax-money. I am taking my little business which employs 31 to another State where I have been given five years exemption to cover cost of making a change and a city carrying a 34 mill rate.

Keep right on boy you are doing a wonderful job. I am quite sure that most of the men I have talked with are going to make a change and I am predicting that IF YOU GET ANOTHER TERM, the mills will be gone also.

JUSY A TAX*PAYER THAT HAS HAD ENOUGH AND IS
GETTING OUT.