

The Hare plan makes the Recall unnecessary.

Initiative and Referendum provisions should be adopted as part of a city charter; but in any city with a council elected by the Hare system—or by any other of the better proportional systems—the Initiative and the Referendum would seldom if ever be used.

Bribery, whether by money, jobs, or favors, is made unprofitable by the plan here advocated. Under our present system, or under the "commission plan," where the vote between two parties is close it often pays to give large inducements for a few crucial votes that will turn the scale. Under the proportional or "effective vote" system it is necessary to bribe a whole quota of votes to elect corruptly one member.

C. G. HOAG.

Tamworth, N. H., September 1, 1912.

BOOKS

PEOPLE'S POWER.

Government by All the People: or the Initiative, the Referendum and the Recall, as Instruments of Democracy. By Delos F. Wilcox, Ph. D., author of "The American City," "Municipal Franchises," "Great Cities in America," etc. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1912. Price, \$1.50 net.

This book may be considered as supplementary to Oberholtzer's* on the same subject. The collection of facts by Oberholtzer furnishes a solid historical basis for Wilcox's treatise; and for the reactionary arguments in Oberholtzer, Wilcox supplies the antidote. Taken together the two books make a compact library—a very complete one with the addition of Beard and Schultz's "Documents"—on the Initiative, the Referendum and the Recall, each of which Dr. Wilcox explains and approves. His judgment of approval is not, however, of the "slapdash" order, as is Dr. Oberholtzer's judgment of condemnation. Wilcox takes up all the plausible objections, one by one, explains them fairly, allows for their weight fully, and answers them directly and convincingly. Nor are his arguments wearisome. He has brought not only his proved powers of cogent reasoning into the making of this book, but also his attractive literary style. In spirit, the work is that of a man who lays no claim to neutrality, but leaves the force of his argument to speak for itself, and who looks upon right government as representing both the want and the will of all the governed. Dr. Wilcox does not shrink from the difficulties, nor minimize them. He follows his argument for the Recall straight up to the judicial bench, and carries the whole subject into the domain of Federal government.

*See Public of May 3, 1912, page 426.

REASONS FOR LAND VALUE TAXATION.

100 Reasons for Taxing Land Values. By Chapman Wright and Arthur Withy. Price twopence. Published by the Midlands Land Values League, 20 Canon St., Birmingham, England.

A stanch old time Singletaxer writes: "You think there is but one cause for poverty; I know that poverty is a social disease." As proof he went on to show how comparatively little the whole sum of rent amounts to!

There are many such, who have been so busy working that they have not studied. To them this inexpensive volume will be more than useful. It shows, in some four hundred words each, the effect of taking the rental value of land upon Employment, Wages, Slums, Temperance and ninety-six others.

John Stuart Mill in "Liberty," a book perhaps more needed now by reformers than when it was written, says: "In general, opinions contrary to those commonly received can only obtain a hearing by studied moderation of language and the most cautious avoidance of unnecessary offense." Such is the character of the arguments presented in this little book. Vancouver, however, would have furnished a more modern instance of "Absolutely Satisfactory in Practice" than Senator Bucklin's report on New Zealand cited by the authors.

The profits of the sale of the booklet go to the Midland Land Values League.

BOLTON HALL.

BOOKS RECEIVED

—One of the Multitude. By George Acorn. Published by Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, 1912. Price, \$1.25 net.

—Primitive Christianity and Early Criticisms. By A. S. Garretson. Published by Sherman, French & Co., Boston. 1912. Price, \$1.50 net.

—Elementary Principles of Economics. By Irving Fisher. Third Edition. Published by The Macmillan Co., New York. 1912. Price, \$2.00 net.

—The Control of Trusts. By John Bates Clark and John Maurice Clark. Rewritten and Enlarged. Published by The Macmillan Co., New York. 1912. Price, \$1.00 net.

PAMPHLETS

The Darrow Case.

Plea of Clarence Darrow in his own Defense to the Jury that exonerated him of the charge of Bribery at Los Angeles, August, 1912. (With portrait. Los Angeles and San Francisco: Golden Press. Price 25 cents.) The classic jury speeches were stately in style, this is nervous; they were oratorical.