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straightforward argument for simplicity and adaptability in municipal government. It is a book for the general reader and student, rather than for the classroom, although it will prove of value and interest as collateral reading.

Clinton Rogers Woodruff.


Five years ago Major Darwin gave us his volume on _Municipal Trade_, a work which remains to the present time the most comprehensive as well as the most scientifically-written monograph upon the subject of municipal ownership and operation of public utilities in British cities. Last winter the authorities of Harvard University secured the writer for a short series of lectures upon this theme and those who were privileged to be among his hearers will have no hesitation in commending to all who profess an interest in municipal problems this little volume which contains the four lectures delivered at Harvard.

In general the volume contains a condensed restatement of the case against municipal trade which the author set forth so effectively in his larger work. Some new arguments have been included; the terminology has been Americanized; and more emphasis is placed upon the relation of labor to municipal politics under a régime of direct operation. The writer's convictions concerning the important dangers which follow in the train of municipal socialism are nowhere concealed; yet there is always an earnest effort to be fair in criticism and conservative in positive statement. From the gross extravagances of assertion which have characterized much that has been written on both sides of the municipal ownership controversy this little volume is entirely free. Major Darwin presents his case loyally, effectively, and lucidly; but entirely without resort to any devices designed to catch and hold the popular ear. The volume was prepared before the National Civic Federation published its voluminous report on public ownership in English cities; but now that this extensive collection of data has been made available, one may find no better introduction to it, from the standpoint of the individualist, than the general survey of the situation contained in Major Darwin's book.

William Bennett Munro.