



Democracy in England (Classic Reprint) (Hardback)

By Diana Spearman

Forgotten Books, 2018. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****. Excerpt from Democracy in England Criticism is, however, concerned with details. No one challenges the basic assumptions or indeed knows what they are. Democratic theory was formulated for Englishmen by the utilitarian philosophers of the late eighteenth century. We are told that the utilitarian doctrine with its false psychology is dead. Dead in this sense of course means dead in the common-rooms of universities; if the Gallup Poll asked a selected sample of citizens if they agreed that human beings were dominated by a search for happiness and that the aim of government should be the greatest good of the greatest number, ninety-nine out of a hundred would enthusiastically agree. But if these doctrines are wrong, and if each man is not the best judge of his own interests, then there is no basis for believing that majority rule will produce decisions which are either just or adequate, except some form of the theory of the general will. These theories are, however, also generally rejected, having been found more useful to autocratic than to democratic governments. About the Publisher Forgotten Books publishes...



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