

have found a quickening truth which has rolled away the stone from their hearts and called to life again a faith that was dead. . . . With advancing knowledge, caprice gives way to law, and men find the highest proof of God in the established justice of a moral order that justifies increasingly the ways of God to men. . . . When a man begins to interpret the facts of life in the light of a general providence, when he sees that cities reap what they sow, and that floods come when public forests are rifled by private greed, his confidence in the integrity of the universe will be restored and he will cry out again, "The judgments of God are true and righteous altogether."

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THE TWO MOST DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD.

Frederic C. Howe in *The Outlook* of January 15, 1910.

Switzerland and Denmark are the most democratic countries in the world. They have demonstrated not only that the people can rule, but rule far more wisely than their betters. Representative government has shifted more completely to democratic government in these little nations than anywhere else on the globe. Switzerland is ruled by public opinion. It expresses itself through direct legislation. The people propose laws as well as amendments to the Constitution by petition. They vote upon their own proposals just as they elect men to office. In consequence, every man with an idea has a hearing. If he is right enough, and persistent enough, he achieves his end. Almost every great democratic reform in Switzerland has come through the initiative and referendum. Not immediately, it is true; but when the public was ready for it. By these means Switzerland abolished the sale of absinthe and took over the alcohol monopoly. After three attempts it nationalized the railways, and is now operating them better than ever before, and with the idea of service paramount. Through the same instrumentality, Switzerland saved her natural resources. She took control of the water power of the country in the interest of all the people. Private monopoly has been barred. The State itself is to become the purveyor of electric water power. It plans to run the railways by the white coal of the mountain sides, to supply all industry, to operate the street railways, and to light the cities. Not content with this, Switzerland plans to carry the electric current to the most obscure country district and to relieve the farmer and domestic industry of the drudgery of manual labor. Country roads and houses will be lighted by the streams from the mountain sides, while the motor will churn the butter, thresh the grain, pump the water, and even relieve the woman along with

the man of the most burdensome kinds of agricultural labor.

Switzerland has done more than this. Formerly she knew the boss. Direct legislation has taken his power from him. Formerly there was corruption, both vulgar and respectable. It, too, has passed away. And now the nation has destroyed monopoly and made the resources of the nation serve the people.

Denmark, too, is a democracy. She maintains a King, it is true; but he enjoys only the shadow of power. Denmark is ruled by peasants who own their own land. Ninety per cent of the farmers own their own holdings. And they work them like a market garden. The State owns the railways and makes them serve the peasant. The State educates the farmer, sends commissions of experts to foreign countries, and stimulates the production of fine stock. It loans money to the individual with which to buy a farm, and through co-operative agencies 90 per cent of the farmers save to themselves the full value of their dairy farms and purchase what they need at wholesale cost.

Democracy in Denmark has made the people among the best educated in Europe. There is no illiteracy there, and extreme poverty has been reduced to a minimum. Denmark is a free-trade country from conviction, in spite of the fact that her farmers were threatened with extinction by the wheat fields of America. The cost of living is low in consequence, and this little country exchanges its exports with all the world, and buys where it can buy to the best advantage.

BOOKS

EMMA GOLDMAN'S BOOK.

Anarchism and Other Essays. By Emma Goldman. Mother Earth Publishing Co., 210 East 13th Street, N. Y. City. Cloth, 277 pp., \$1.00.

Emma Goldman, "the best advertised woman in America," perhaps in the world, publishes this volume with an excellent portrait and biographical sketch. As might be expected, it is really a radical book and surprisingly temperate, but with no idea of the land question. The advertisement says: "The MS. has been refused by several publishers as 'too extreme.' Lacking the advertising facilities of the great publishing houses, we request your help in calling the attention of your friends to the work."

All democrats and idealists should understand what an Anarchist is. Miss Goldman uses the dictionary definition, furnished to the leading dictionaries by herself: "Anarchist—A believer in Anarchism; one opposed to all forms of coercive government and invasive authority; an advocate