

cade. Emperor Frederic III. stated publicly that Anti-Semitism was a standing disgrace to Germany. Prof. Monnson, in an article on the Jewish question, makes the somewhat startling statement that Anti-Semitism has rolled back German civilization at least a century. This movement has evolved a complete literature of its own of over 1,000 books and pamphlets. In these Anti-Semitic publications the Jews are accused of every imaginable crime.

Strange to say, the Anti-Semitic movement in Germany had its origin among the learned men. Philosophers paved the way for its future development. Hegel combatted vigorously the Jewish spirit as being alien to the Germanic spirit. Schopenhauer pictured the optimism of Judaism as a degrading phenomenon by the side of Hellenic ideals. Prof. Treitschke found in the Jew his "bête noir," declaring him to be "the plastic demon of man's decadence." He complains of the arrogance of the Jew, his resentment at the slightest insult, his scathing criticisms of men and things, as almost unbearable. Anthropologists, economists and metaphysicians were among the first in Germany to become possessed of the idea of expelling the Jew as a heterogenous element in the national life. The logical end of philosophic Anti-Semitism was to abolish Christianity, which is but a secondary form of Hebraism, and was also declared to be incompatible with the Germanic spirit. But here philosophic Anti-Semitism bade fair to fall between two stools, as Christian men and Christian bodies would have nothing whatever to do with it, and Democratic Atheists had a rooted aversion to intolerance in any form. But here Anti-Semitism entered the arena of politics. To the wily politician the question suggested an appeal to the latent religious prejudices of the enfranchised democracy. Men like Bismarck saw in the question a plausible bait for the ignorant voter who had hitherto been hurrying on in the direction of socialism. Anti-Semitism ceased to talk philosophy and entered politics as one of the vital issues of the day. The Conservative party of the Reichstag has openly avowed itself Anti-Semitic.