

Zionism

- appealing to large # of Jewish intelligencia - no cure for anti-Semitism unless we have land of our own - must be Palestine
- Little success in practical efforts in 1880s-90s in organizing large # of European Jews. Small circles only. Difficult to bring about large-scale immigration to Palestine
 - little structure for large # of Jews to live there
 - underdeveloped - people were pioneers - rejected imm. to America (another diaspora state)

Not until Theodore Herzl came along that Zionism truly caught onto masses of E. European Jews & became a mass movement. He was a Hungarian journalist & lawyer in Vienna. Acculturated Jewish home. Trained as lawyer. Prominent journalist & playwright. Always interested in Jewish problem/anti-Semitism. Peaked at 1895 trial of Dreyfuss (French army captain) falsely accused of espionage - German spy. Trial sparked outbreak of anti-Semitism in French press & mobs. As a consequence, Herzl wrote a book called The Jewish State (German) - pamphlet promoting idea of returning & starting Jewish state. Appeal directed at first toward W. European Jews. Little sympathy. More successful in E. Europe - diplomatic leader of Jews. Devoted after 1895 to Jewish state. Met w/ political leaders, Turkish Sultan, German Kaiser, etc - granting of Palestine to the Jews. Struck legendary image in E. Europe - captured the imagination of thousands. Herzl's genuine charisma was the major factor in bringing about Zionism as a mass movement.

1897 - BUND & world Zionist Org. - 2 principal competing programs to solve problem of E. Europe Jews.

3rd solution - leave Europe & go to (mostly) USA and other places

1880-1920

2.8 million of the European immigrants → 8% of total immigration E. Central / Eastern Europe

