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Epstein, Lawrence J. *The Dream of Zion: The Story of the First Zionist Congress* Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield, 2016. 171 pp. \$36.00. (9781442254664). Also available as an eBook .

The Dream of Zion combines popular history with commentary. The former is more compelling than the latter, and the historical core of the work is found in only two of the six chapters. These deal with the preparations for the First Zionist Congress and the events of Congress itself. Dr. Epstein (an emeritus professor of English) spends a lot of time musing about the morality of Zionism (which he defends) and discussing, in a nuanced way, the lack of attention paid to the Arab residents in the Land of Israel by Herzl and other early Zionists. Most of Dr. Epstein's other remarks are not nearly as interesting. Regarding Herzl, the author has both praise and criticism, but the overall picture that emerges is positive. This is a book written with conviction but of middling quality; an unnecessary purchase, especially for those libraries which have good biographies of Herzl.

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