

## THEOSOPHY IN GERMANY

THE beginnings of the Theosophical Movement in Germany were in 1884, and were due mainly to the enthusiasm of Dr. Hübbe Schleiden (Fig. 172), assisted by the Gebhard family. Later, Dr. Franz Hartmann (Fig. 173) gave his aid. But in connection with the Judge case of 1895, Dr. Hartmann took the side of

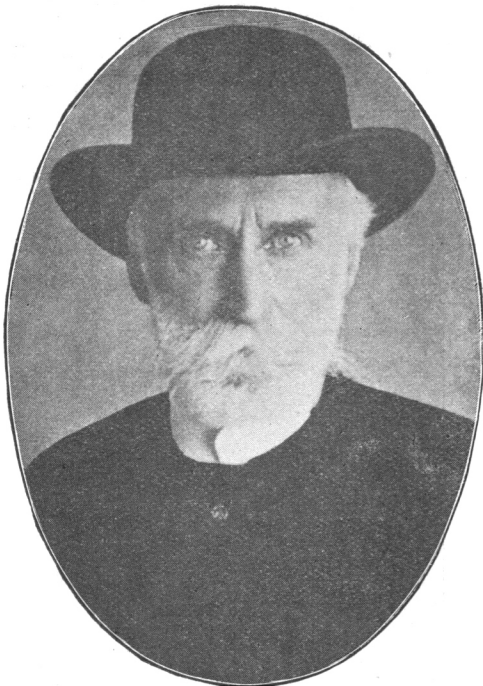


FIG. 172  
DR. HÜBBE SCHLEIDEN



FIG. 173  
DR. FRANZ HARTMANN

the seceding members in America. Though he did not affiliate himself to W. Q. Judge's new organisation, he separated himself from the organisation in Germany which was attached to Adyar.

After his death, his followers have continued his work under Hugo Vollrath (Fig. 174), claiming to be the one and only Theosophical Society which gives the only genuine Theosophical teaching.

The Movement in Germany was profoundly vitalised by the entrance into Theosophical ranks of Dr. Rudolf Steiner (Fig. 175). He was a man both deeply philosophical and mystical, and he added his own special contribution to Theosophical teachings. He quickly gathered round himself disciples not only from the principal German Lodges, but also in some of the countries of Europe. Dr. Steiner however was unwilling to fit in with the broad platform of the T. S. Soon after the inception of the Order of the Star in the East, the German Section, of which he was the General Secretary, passed a rule that no member of the Order of the Star in the East could remain as a member in the German National Society. Fifty-five Lodges, comprising 2,447 members, agreed with Dr. Steiner in this



FIG. 174

HUGO VOLLRATH



FIG. 175

DR. RUDOLPH STEINER

matter. Such expulsion of a member, merely because of his beliefs, is so at variance with the standard of liberality required

by the Society, that the Charter of the National Society in Germany was cancelled by the General Council. There were however 14 Branches willing to carry on the broader tradition and the spirit of the T. S., and they were at once chartered as the National Society in Germany. Dr. Rudolf Steiner formed then a new organisation, "The Anthroposophical Society," which was in full consonance with his particular line of mystical teachings. He passed away in 1925.



FIG. 176

MRS. KATHERINE A. TINGLEY

Point Loma

(See Chapter "The Judge Case")



FIG. 177

PEKKA EVAST

General Secretary, Finland, 1907—1916,  
and since, head of "Rosy Cross Finnish  
Occult Research Society"