The monarchy has remained important in British public life long after
monarchs ceased, in the early nineteenth century, to govern as well as
to reign, and popular legitimacy came to be founded on representation,
not the immutability of a sacred hierarchy. This book addresses two fun-
damental questions about the British monarchy in the modern period.
What has been its function in the political and social life of the nation?
Why, for much but by no means all of the modern period, has it been so
popular with its subjects? Leading historians offer contributions on the
monarchy and public values, the monarchy’s popularity, the monarchy
and Ireland, the monarchy and film, gender and the monarchy, the royal
court and republicanism. These essays shed considerable new light on
the monarchy’s place in British public life and on the broader social and
political history of modern Britain.

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The Monarchy and the British Nation, 1780 to the Present

Edited by
Andrzej Olechnowicz
Contents

List of illustrations  page vii
List of tables and graphs  ix

Introduction  1

1 Historians and the modern British monarchy  6
   ANDRZEJ OLECHNOWICZ

Part I

2 Whig monarchy, Whig nation: Crown, politics and representativeness 1800–2000  47
   JONATHAN PARRY

3 The feminization of the monarchy 1780–1910: royal masculinity and female empowerment 76
   CLARISSA CAMPBELL ORR

4 Crown, spectacle and identity: the British monarchy and Ireland under the Union 1800–1922 108
   JAMES LOUGHLIN

Part II

5 Bagehot’s republicanism  139
   DAVID M. CRAIG

6 Power and authority in the late Victorian and Edwardian court  163
   MICHAEL BENTLEY

7 An aristocratic monarchy and popular republicanism 1830–1940  188
   ANTONY TAYLOR
vi Contents

Part III

  8 The monarchy and public values 1900–1953 223
      Philip Williamson
  9 The monarchy and film 1900–2006 258
      Jeffrey Richards
10 ‘A jealous hatred’: royal popularity and social inequality 280
      Andrzej Olechnowicz

Index 315
Illustrations

4.1 Eclipse of the King. (From Leslie, *George the Fourth*, at p. 156 British Museum Satire NO158, no. 10.)

4.2 ‘King O’Connell at Tara’, *Punch* (1843).

4.3 The Royal Standard as Unionist Propaganda. (From National Union, *National Union Pamphlets*, c. 1890.)

7.1 Aristocratic landowners preparing to be overwhelmed by the electorate in the first general election of 1910. From *Story of the Budget told Pictorially in the Manchester Evening New* (Manchester, 1910), p. 25. (Author’s Collection.)


7.3 Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, as a delinquent. ‘L’Enfant Terrible’, from *Puck*, 1 June 1891. (Author’s Collection.)


7.6 Plutocrats and monopoly capitalists clustered around the throne at the time of the coronation in 1953. Cover of *Coronation* (The Communist Party of Great Britain, 1953). (Author’s Collection.)

8.1 King George VI delivering the 1944 Christmas Day broadcast (The Royal Collection © 2005, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II).
List of illustrations


9.1 Queen Elizabeth in the audience for a lunchtime concert at the National Gallery in Humphrey Jennings’s picture of ‘the People’s War’ – *Listen to Britain* (1942) (Crown Film Unit. The Jeffrey Richards Collection).


10.1 The monarchy and the tabloids (© Steve Bell 2002).

10.2 The Queen has tea with Mrs Susan McCarron in her housing association home at Castlemilk, July 1999 (© PA/EMPICS).
Tables and graphs

10.1 Percentage of Mass-Observation diarists listening to George VI’s wartime broadcasts  page 290
10.2 Support for a republic in Britain, 1953–2005  292
10.3 Would we be better off or worse off without a royal family? 1968–2005  293
10.4 How important an institution do you think the monarchy is in Britain today? 1983–2003  294
10.5 Looking to the future, do you think Britain will or will not have a monarchy? 1994–2005  294
10.6 Mourners in the Mall, Sep. 1997  295
10.7 What kind of monarchy should Britain have? 1969–2003  295
10.8 The impact of the death of Diana, August 1998  296
10.9 Would we be better off or worse off without a Royal Family age breakdown, 1997 and 2000  297
10.10 Would you prefer to be royal subjects or citizens? 2000  297
10.11 Royal cost and performance, 1969–2003  298
10.12 Support for an unreformed monarchy by sex, age, class and geography, April 2002  299
10.13 What does the Royal Family achieve for Britain? 1969 and 2003  299
10.14 Which do you think demonstrate the moral values which you would wish everyone to try to follow? 1996  300
10.15 The monarchy as national symbol, 1969  300