The Strange Survival of Liberal England

It is often assumed that politicians are swept along by global forces and influences, without the power – or the desire – to shape events. By contrast, this book is concerned with the way that cultural values, individual moral sentiments and politicians' interpretation of economic and other imperatives have helped to shape political values. Focusing on the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and containing contributions by a series of prominent scholars, themes are developed through essays on recognisably important events and figures. Subjects include the policy ideas of W. E. Gladstone, Woodrow Wilson's support for war in 1916 and Ramsay MacDonald's role in the 1931 crisis. Other essays examine the way that Keynesian ideas were understood and used across the party spectrum, and beyond Britain itself, or reflect on the relationship between ideas, values and politics. This volume also celebrates and represents an approach to historical writing which has received little attention from scholars.


Duncan Tanner is Professor of History and Director of the Welsh Institute for Social and Cultural Affairs at the University of Wales, Bangor. His previous publications include Political Change and the Labour Party, 1900–1918 (Cambridge University Press, 1990), Labour’s First Century (jointly edited with Pat Thane and Nick Tirtsoo, Cambridge University Press, 2000; paperback edn, 2007), The Labour Party in Wales, 1900–2000 (jointly edited with Chris Williams and Deian Hopkin, University of Wales Press, 2000) and Debating Nationhood and Governance in Britain, 1885–1939 (jointly edited with Chris Williams, W. P. Griffith and Andrew Edwards, Manchester University Press, 2006).
The Strange Survival of Liberal England

Political Leaders, Moral Values and the Reception of Economic Debate

edited by

E. H. H. Green
D. M. Tanner
For Peter Clarke
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Ewen Green died as this volume was going to the publishers. The composition of the volume was entirely his idea. He gave as much energy as he possessed to its completion, to the extent of dictating a fresh paragraph for the Introduction during the week before he died. A number of academic colleagues were of material assistance in helping Ewen, including some of his former students. Ewen wanted to thank them for their invaluable help. From our conversations, I believe he would have wanted to recognise a number of others, for the practical help they gave, for raising his spirits, and for many positive memories: his family, care team, his many Oxford friends, and his many other friends, both in the UK and overseas.
Abbreviations

BLPES  British Library of Political and Economic Science
CPT  Trevelyan
EHR  English Historical Review
EcHR  Economic History Review
FRUS  Foreign Relations of the United States
HC Debs  House of Commons Debates, various series
HJ  Historical Journal
JMK  The collected writings of John Maynard Keynes, edited by D. Moggridge (London: Macmillan, various volumes and publication dates)
JRM  James Ramsay MacDonald
LHR  Labour History Review
LPA  Labour Party archives, Labour Museum and Archives, Manchester
PS  Philip Snowden
PWW  The papers of Woodrow Wilson, edited by Arthur S. Link et al. (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, various volumes and publication dates)
TCBH  Twentieth Century British History
TNA  The National Archives
TRHS  Transactions of the Royal Historical Society
Contributors


**Boyd Hilton** was at Oxford before moving in 1974 to Trinity College, Cambridge, where he is currently Reader in Modern British History. His books include *The Age of Atonement: The Influence of Evangelicalism on Social and Economic Thought 1795–1865* (Oxford: Clarendon...
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Barry Supple was formerly Professor of Economic History at the University of Cambridge, Master of St Catharine’s College and Director of the Leverhulme Trust. He has held a series of committee posts in all the major arts and social science funding agencies. His publications in twentieth-century economic and business history include Royal Exchange Assurance: A History of British Insurance (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1970); The History of the British Coalmining Industry, vol. IV: 1913–1946 (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1987); plus innumerable essays, including work on British economic decline, entrepreneurship and welfare.

Duncan Tanner is Professor of History at the University of Wales, Bangor, and Director of its Welsh Institute for Social and Cultural Affairs. His PhD thesis – from University College London – was supervised by Peter Clarke. Publications include Political Change and the Labour Party, 1900–1918 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990) and Labour’s First Century (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000), edited with Pat Thane and Nick Tiratsoo. He is currently writing a book on Labour intellectuals and policy 1900–1939, and concluding an ESRC-funded research project on Wales, Britain and devolution.

James Thompson is Lecturer in Modern British History at the University of Bristol. His University of Cambridge PhD thesis was supervised by Peter Clarke. He has written on class, trade unions and liberalism, and published on the relationship between British, European and US perceptions of political economy in the Edwardian period. He is currently completing a study of conceptions of ‘public opinion’ in British political culture between the 1860s and 1914.

List of contributors