WT Stead: newspaper revolutionary.

W.T. Stead: newspaper revolutionary


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Abstract

Book synopsis: When William T Stead died on the Titanic in 1912, he was the most famous Englishman on board. He was one of the inventors of the modern tabloid newspaper. His advocacy of 'government by journalism' helped launch military campaigns. His expose of child prostitution in the 'Modern Babylon' of London raised the age of consent in 1885, yet his investigation got him thrown into jail. A campaigner for women's rights, he was unnerved by the rise of the New Woman. An advocate of World Peace, he promoted huge hikes in defence spending. A political radical and Christian, Stead was
also a Spiritualist who took dictation from the dead. A mass of contradictions, he was a crucial figure in the history of the British press. This book of essays, marking the centenary of his death, seeks to recover the story of an extraordinary figure in late Victorian and Edwardian culture.

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