

Contents

List of Maps

xi

Preface

xiii

CHAPTER ONE

1890s: The Beginnings of Modern America

3

The Sculptor of Modern America: The Corporation 4 • The New Technology: Edison, Energy—and Secretaries 6 • Boom Hidden in Bust 7 • The Collapse of the First Barrier: The South, White and Black 9 • The Collapse of the Second Barrier: Laborers and Unions 12 • *Frank Lloyd Wright: Architect of the Old Frontier and the New City* 14 • The Collapse of the Third Barrier: Protest Movements 16 • The Collapse of the Fourth Barrier: Churches 19 • The Collapse of the Fifth Barrier: The Political Party System 20 • The United States Becomes a Great World Power 21 • “That Splendid Little War” 25 • The Peace: Closing Cuba, Opening China 27

CHAPTER TWO

1900–1917: The Progressive Era

30

The Reform Impulse 31 • Big Business 32 • Cities and Slums 33 • Morality and Democracy 34 • Women and the Progressive Impulse 35 • Sin and Society: The Muckrakers 38 • The Reform Ideology 39 • Nativism Versus the Melting Pot 41 • Racism and Reform 43 • Theodore Roosevelt 45 • The Square Deal 46 • *Boxing: Black Champions and White Hopes* 48 • The New Nationalism 51 • Taft and the Insurgents 51 • Woodrow Wilson 54 • Enacting the New Freedom 55

CHAPTER THREE

1900–1917: A Progressive Foreign Policy—From Peace to War 59

Theodore Roosevelt 60 • “I Took the Canal” . . . 61 • . . . and Also Santo Domingo 62 • Roosevelt Loses His Balance 63 • The Failure of Big-Stick Diplomacy 66 • Replacing Bullets with Dollars 66 • Replacing Dollars with Bullets 67 • Canada 68 • China Once Again 68 • The Ultimate Progressive Diplomat 69 • *Ashcans and the Armory Show* 71 • The Far Eastern Merry-Go-Round 73 • Marine Corps Progressivism 74 • The First Twentieth-Century Revolution: Mexico 76 • First Phase: American Entry into World War I 77 • Second Phase: Submarines 79 • Third Phase: Making the World Safe for Democracy 80

CHAPTER FOUR

1917–1920: The Failure of World War I 84

Mobilization and Reform 85 • Prohibition and Woman Suffrage 86 • Propaganda and Politics 88 • Curbing Dissent: Why 90 • Socialists and Pacifists 91 • Curbing Dissent: How 93 • Another Revolution 94 • Intervening in the Russian Revolution 96 • The Yanks in Europe 98 • 1919: Red Scare 98 • *Baseball: Sport and Business* 101 • 1919: Black Scare 104 • The Road to Paris 106 • At Paris 108 • Rejection 110

CHAPTER FIVE

1920–1929: The New Era 114

Republican Politics: Harding and Coolidge 115 • A New Order: Republican Alternatives to Wilson’s League of Nations 117 • The Washington Naval Conference 119 • The New Order Reconstructs the Old 121 • The New Order in Latin America 123 • The Politics of Cultural Conflict 125 • *Bessie Smith and the Blues* 126 • Prohibition and Crime 130 • The Ku Klux Klan 132 • Fundamentalism and the Schools 134 • The Garvey Movement and the “New Negro” 136 • New Women and the New Morality 139 • The Discontent of the Intellectuals 143 • The End of the New Order: 1929 145

CHAPTER SIX

1929–1936: The Depression and the New Deal 149

Herbert Hoover and the Depression 150 • The Breakdown of Relief 152 • The Bonus Army 153 • Agrarian Protest 155 • Roosevelt and the New Deal 156 • *James Cagney and the Gangster Film* 157 • The Blue Eagle 160 • Triple A 162 • Conservation and Public Power: The

Tennessee Valley Authority 163 • Solidarity Forever? 165 • Relief and Security 168 • The New Deal Coalition 170

CHAPTER SEVEN

1933–1941: Hard Times—Politics and Society 172

The Old Folks' Crusade 173 • "Share Our Wealth" 175 • The Radio Priest and His Flock 178 • The Popular Front 180 • *Black Americans and the New Deal* 182 • *Hallie Flanagan and the Federal Theater Project* 186 • Women and Families Face the Depression 189 • The Conservative Response 192 • "Court Packing" 193 • The Waning of the New Deal 195 • Nativism and the Approach of War 197

CHAPTER EIGHT

1929–1941: The Big Breakdown—The United States and the World 200

"Mad Dogs" and Englishmen: The Manchurian Crisis of 1931–1932 201 • New Order to New Deal 202 • Areas of Special Interest: Latin America and the Soviet Union 206 • The Failure of Political Neutrality 208 • The Failure of the New Deal 209 • *Edward R. Murrow and the Radio* 213 • The Ghost of 1919 216 • The Trials of Unneutral Neutrality 218 • The Last Step 220

CHAPTER NINE

1941–1947: War and Peace 224

Images of War 225 • The War Economy 226 • Womanpower on the Home Front 228 • Fighting Inflation 231 • Dr. New Deal Meets Dr. Win-the-War 233 • Civil Rights and the South 235 • Cultural Pluralism and Civil Liberties 238 • Labor and Politics 241 • War and Social Change 243 • Truman's Troubles: The Politics of Inflation 245 • *Martha Graham and Modern Dance* 246

CHAPTER TEN

1941–1947: One World Into Two 250

Churchill and Stalin Versus Roosevelt 251 • One World, or Gullible's Travels 253 • 1943—Turning of the Tide 254 • One World Becomes Two: Yalta and Afterward 257 • The Holocaust 261 • Truman 263 • Stalin 264 • Potsdam: The Turn in American Policy 265 • China: Another Revolution Amid the Cold War 266 • *Margaret Bourke-White and Photojournalism* 267 • The Bomb 271 • Back to the 1920s 273 • New Science—New Dangers 274 • Crises in the Mediterranean—And at Home 275 • "Scaring Hell" Out of the American People 277 • Avoiding the 1930s: The Marshall Plan 279

CHAPTER ELEVEN

1947–1952: The America of the Cold War

282

The Physique of a Superpower: The American Economy 283 • Crisis Diplomacy: 1947–1948 286 • Stalin's Response: The Berlin Blockade 288 • *Dr. Kinsey and Sex Research* 289 • Cold War Politics: The 1948 Election 293 • The Fair Deal: Civil Rights 297 • NATO: Multipurpose Militarism 300 • The Bursting of the Bubble: 1949–1950 302 • Korea: June 1950 304 • Changing "Containment" to "Liberation": The United States on the Offensive 305 • Truman and MacArthur 308 • Limited War at Home 309 • Civil Liberties Under Siege 312 • McCarthyism 314

CHAPTER TWELVE

1952–1957: Eisenhower and the American Consensus

317

The Suburban Society 318 • Domestic Ideals in Postwar America 320 • The Mood of the 1950s 323 • Republicans on the Potomac 324 • The Waning of McCarthyism 328 • Desegregation and the South 331 • *Jack Kerouac and the Beat Generation* 335 • Acheson to Dulles 337 • Crises in a Third Camp: Iran, Guatemala, and Southeast Asia 339 • The Turn: Suez and Hungary, 1956 343

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

1957–1963: New Frontiers at Home and Abroad

345

After Suez: Europe 346 • After Suez: Newly Emerging Areas 347 • The Good Neighbor and a Changing Neighborhood 349 • The Eisenhower Legacy and the New Frontier 352 • John F. Kennedy 353 • Congress and the New Frontier 354 • The New Economics 356 • *David Smith: The Machine Shop and Sculpture* 357 • Kennedy and Civil Rights 360 • The Worldwide New Frontier 365 • ICBMs and Green Berets 366 • The New Frontier Contained: 1961–1962 366 • The Brink: The Cuban Missile Crisis 368 • Vietnam 370 • The New Frontier in Vietnam: 1961–1963 371

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

1963–1968: The Great Society and Vietnam

375

The 1964 Election 376 • Lyndon Johnson and the Great Society 378 • The Warren Court: Judicial Activism 380 • Origins of the New Feminism 384 • Black Power and Urban Riots 387 • The Global Background to Vietnam 390 • Latin America and Africa 393 • Vietnam Abroad 395 • Vietnam in the White House 397 • Vietnam at Home 399 • *Child Care: Dr. Spock and the Peace Movement* 400 • The New Left and the Counterculture 404 • The 1968 Election 405

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

1969–1975: The Imperial Presidency and Watergate

408

The Nixon Foreign Policies 409 • The Nixon Failures: 1970–1971 410 • Racing to the Moon 412 • The Nixon Successes: 1971–1972 413 • Richard Nixon and the New Majority 415 • The “Social Issue” and the Supreme Court 416 • The Impact of the Women’s Movement 420 • Native Americans and Wounded Knee II 423 • The Election of 1972 426 • Watergate and the Presidency 426 • *Football and Politics* 429 • The Loss of Civil Liberties 431 • Impeachment: The Presidency from Nixon to Ford 433 • Henry Kissinger: Foreign Policy from Nixon to Ford 435

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

1976–1984: New Directions

439

Jimmy Carter and the “New Realities” 440 • Carter’s Foreign Policy: Confusion . . . 442 • . . . to Cold War 446 • Political Evangelicalism and the Moral Majority 448 • The Reagan Redirection 450 • The Poor and the Yuppies 455 • Affirmative Action and Undocumented Aliens: Dilemmas of Race and Ethnicity 456 • *The Computer Revolution After Four Centuries of Evolution* 459 • The Feminization of Poverty, the ERA, and the Gender Gap 463 • New Directions in U.S. Foreign Policy, or The Great Debate over the Use of Force 465 • Central America 467 • Negotiating with the “Evil Empire” 469 • The 1984 Election 470

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

1985–1992: The End of the Cold War

473

The Roaring Eighties 474 • Americans and the Emerging World: The Reagan Doctrine to Iranamok 477 • The Court and the Constitution: Bork and the Bicentennial 479 • Earth Day and the Environment 483 • *The Fitness Craze* 485 • Women, the Workplace, and the Family 487 • AIDS, Drugs, and Privacy 490 • Bush Versus Dukakis: 1988 494 • Culture Wars and the Bush Administration 496 • The End of the “Evil Empire”—and of the Cold War 499 • The Persian Gulf War 501 • To the End of the Century 505

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

1993–2000: The Road to the Twenty-First Century

509

“A Different Kind of Democrat”: The Media and the Election of 1992 510 • The World of Multinationals—and Militias 512 • The New Immigration and Its Impact 516 • *Basketball: From Naismith to Nike*

519 • Bill Clinton and the End of Liberalism 523 • Clinton's Foreign Policies: Reverses . . . 528 • . . . to Victories 530 • Gender, Law, and Politics 534 • The Election of 1996 536 • Clinton's Second Term 538 • Clinton in a Fragmenting World 540

CHAPTER NINETEEN

9/11: Causes and Consequences

545

The Supreme Court Chooses a President 546 • 9/11 and the Invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq: 2001–2004 551 • The Constitution, the Court, and Domestic Terrorism 557 • Bush Reelected: 2004 562 • Economic Inequality 565 • *The 300 Millionth American* 568 • Transforming the Supreme Court 570 • The Growing Crisis Over Global Warming 574 • The “Last Throes” of Terrorism? U.S. Foreign Policy Since 2003 575 • Conclusion: The World After 9/11 579

Guide to Further Reading

581

Index

583

About the Authors

609