



Anxious Decades: America in Prosperity and Depression, 1920-1941 (Norton Twentieth Century America)

By Michael E. Parrish

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"Impressively detailed. . . An authoritative and epic overview."?Publishers Weekly

In the convulsive years between 1920 and 1941, Americans were first dazzled by unprecedented economic prosperity and then beset by the worst depression in their history. It was the era of Model T's, rising incomes, scientific management, electricity, talking movies, and advertising techniques that sold a seemingly endless stream of goods. But it was also a time of grave social conflict and human suffering.

The Crash forced Hoover, and then Roosevelt and the nation, to reexamine old solutions and address pressing questions of recovery and reform, economic growth and social justice. The world beyond America changed also in these years, making the country rethink its relation to events in Europe, Latin America, and Asia. The illusion of superiority slowly died in the 1930s, sustaining a fatal blow in December 1941 at Pearl Harbor.

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- Sales Rank: #534531 in Books
- Published on: 1994-04-17
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.20" h x 1.10" w x 6.10" l, 1.65 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 544 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Tucked between the two world wars, the 1920s and 1930s, like the 1890s and 1960s, were pivotal in U.S. social history. In this impressively detailed chronicle, Parrish (*Felix Frankfurter and His Times*) depicts the '20s as a decade of booming economy and free-wheeling gratification (despite Prohibition) with newly available autos, radio, movies, jazz clubs and big-time sports. The nation followed the heroic accomplishments of Jack Dempsey, Babe Ruth, Charles Lindbergh, Helen Wills and Amelia Earhart. The '30s brought the Great Depression of closed banks, idle shops and factories, farm foreclosures, bread lines, soup kitchens, and financial chicanery unveiled; FDR's New Deal upended traditional government to save a country afflicted with 30% unemployment. Describing in depth such salient events as the 1930 stock market crash, Parrish maintains an authoritative and epic overview. Illustrations not seen by PW.

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From Library Journal

Parrish (history, Univ. of California-San Diego) persuasively argues that the events from 1921 to 1941 have shaped the tone and temperament of modern America. Most dimensions of contemporary life, he claims, can find their antecedents in the events of these two decades. Through a series of brief biographical sketches, he traces the impact of the prosperity of the 1920s and the Depression of the 1930s on the people. He also gives a clear and unbiased presentation of the strengths and failures of the New Deal. However, his treatment of foreign policy during the 1930s is shallow. Still, this book has excellent photographs and also an extensive bibliography of secondary sources for further reading. General readers as well as scholars will find Parrish's unique study of this fascinating and frightening period useful.

- *Richard Hedlund, Ashland Community Coll., Ky.*

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Review

A highly readable synthesis. . . . Parrish is particularly adept at explaining the rise of 'the consumer culture' and its relationship to state power and social/intellectual trends. "

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Dennis Johnson:

What do you about book? It is not important to you? Or just adding material if you want something to explain what the ones you have problem? How about your time? Or are you busy man? If you don't have spare time to complete others business, it is gives you the sense of being bored faster. And you have spare time? What did you do? Everybody has many questions above. They have to answer that question simply because just their can do in which. It said that about book. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is suitable. Because start from on pre-school until university need this specific *Anxious Decades: America in Prosperity and Depression, 1920-1941 (Norton Twentieth Century America)* to read.

Catherine Nelson:

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Selma McDaniel:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation as well as go to the outside with them household or their friend. Were you aware? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you would like try to find a new activity that's look different you can read any book. It is really fun for yourself. If you enjoy the book that you read you can spent all day every day to reading a guide. The book *Anxious Decades: America in Prosperity and Depression, 1920-1941* (Norton Twentieth Century America) it is quite good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. In case you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore easily to read this book from your smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book provides high quality.

Rex Oswald:

Is it a person who having spare time then spend it whole day by means of watching television programs or just lying on the bed? Do you need something new? This *Anxious Decades: America in Prosperity and Depression, 1920-1941* (Norton Twentieth Century America) can be the respond to, oh how comes? A book you know. You are therefore out of date, spending your spare time by reading in this brand-new era is common not a geek activity. So what these guides have than the others?

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