

# The Perils of Prosperity, 1914-1932 (The Chicago History of American Civilization)

By William E. Leuchtenburg

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Beginning with Woodrow Wilson and U.S. entry into World War I and closing with the Great Depression, *The Perils of Prosperity* traces the transformation of America from an agrarian, moralistic, isolationist nation into a liberal, industrialized power involved in foreign affairs in spite of itself.

William E. Leuchtenburg's lively yet balanced account of this hotly debated era in American history has been a standard text for many years. This substantial revision gives greater weight to the roles of women and minorities in the great changes of the era and adds new insights into literature, the arts, and technology in daily life. He has also updated the lists of important dates and resources for further reading.

"This book gives us a rare opportunity to enjoy the matured interpretation of an American Historian who has returned to the story and seen how recent decades have added meaning and vividness to this epoch of our history."—Daniel J. Boorstin, from the Preface

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From the Back Cover

Beginning with Woodrow Wilson and U.S. entry into World War I, The Perils of Prosperity traces the transformation of the United States from an agrarian, isolationist nation into a liberal, industrialized power entangled in foreign affairs in spite of itself. William E. Leuchtenburg shows how the events of this period reflect the conflict between rural and urban attitudes that reached its crisis in the presidential campaign of 1928 and was finally resolved in the aftermath of the economic collapse in 1929.

About the Author

**William E. Leuchtenburg** is William Rand Kenan Professor Emeritus at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the author of numerous books on twentieth-century American history, including the Bancroft Prize-winning *Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal*, 1932-1940.

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