americas great war robert zieger

America's Great War Robert Zieger: A Deep Dive into Labor, Politics, and World War I

americas great war robert zieger is a phrase that encapsulates a significant scholarly exploration of the United States during World War I, especially through the lens of labor history, political change, and social transformation. Robert H. Zieger, a renowned historian, provides an insightful perspective on America's involvement in the Great War, examining not only the military aspects but also the profound domestic shifts that shaped the nation during this turbulent era.

If you're curious about how World War I influenced American society beyond the battlefield, or how labor movements intertwined with global conflict, Zieger's work offers an indispensable resource. Let's delve into the key themes and contributions of Robert Zieger's scholarship on America's Great War and explore why his analysis remains crucial for understanding this pivotal period.

Who Is Robert Zieger and Why His Perspective Matters

Robert H. Zieger was a prominent American historian specializing in labor history and 20th-century American history. His detailed studies on the labor movement, political developments, and social changes during World War I provide a nuanced understanding of how the war shaped the United States internally.

Unlike many traditional military histories that focus primarily on battles and diplomacy, Zieger's approach highlights the interconnectedness of war, labor, and politics. By focusing on the home front and the experiences of working-class Americans, Zieger sheds light on how the Great War catalyzed shifts in labor rights, government policies, and social attitudes.

Labor Movements and the War Economy

One of the central themes in Zieger's analysis of America's Great War is the dramatic transformation of the labor movement during World War I. The war effort necessitated a massive increase in industrial production, particularly in steel, shipbuilding, and munitions. This surge created new opportunities for workers but also intensified conflicts over wages, working conditions, and union recognition.

Zieger illustrates how labor unions navigated this complex landscape. On one

hand, many unions supported the war effort, viewing patriotism as a way to gain legitimacy and political influence. On the other, they faced employer resistance and government intervention that sometimes suppressed strikes and dissent.

The establishment of the National War Labor Board (NWLB) in 1918, for example, was a crucial development that Zieger highlights. This government agency sought to mediate disputes between workers and employers to prevent disruptions in war production. Although it granted some concessions to labor, such as the eight-hour workday and improved safety standards, the NWLB also required unions to pledge no-strike agreements, limiting their power in the long run.

Political Realignments and Social Change

Beyond labor, Zieger's work explores how the Great War accelerated political realignments and social change in America. The war years witnessed increased government intervention in the economy and society, laying the groundwork for modern federal policies.

Zieger discusses how wartime propaganda, conscription, and the Espionage and Sedition Acts affected civil liberties, often suppressing dissent and targeting immigrant communities. These policies intensified debates about patriotism, loyalty, and national identity, which had lasting effects on American politics.

Moreover, the war's impact on African American communities and women's roles is a significant part of Zieger's narrative. The Great Migration saw hundreds of thousands of African Americans move from the rural South to urban industrial centers in the North, seeking better jobs and escaping racial violence. This demographic shift fueled labor demands and altered the social fabric of cities.

Similarly, women entered the workforce in unprecedented numbers to fill the gaps left by men who went to fight abroad. Zieger emphasizes how these changes helped pave the way for women's suffrage and broader social reforms in the postwar period.

America's Great War Robert Zieger: Analyzing the Home Front Dynamics

When we talk about "America's Great War Robert Zieger," it's impossible to overlook the deep analysis of the home front dynamics during World War I. Zieger's scholarship captures the tension and transformation experienced by American society as it mobilized for total war.

Government and Industry Cooperation

Zieger details the unprecedented cooperation between government and industry that characterized the wartime economy. Agencies like the War Industries Board coordinated production schedules, raw materials allocation, and prices to meet military needs efficiently. This collaboration marked a shift towards a more centralized economic system, which contrasted sharply with the previous laissez-faire approach.

This government-industry partnership had both positive and negative consequences. It accelerated industrial growth and innovation but also exposed workers to exploitation and health hazards. Zieger's portrayal of this complex relationship helps readers understand the compromises and conflicts that defined the wartime economy.

Labor Strikes and Worker Activism

Despite the patriotic rhetoric, the war period was rife with labor unrest. Zieger documents numerous strikes across key industries, highlighting workers' demands for fair wages, safer conditions, and union recognition. The Steel Strike of 1919, which followed the war, is a prime example of the tensions that erupted as workers pushed back against wartime controls.

Zieger's detailed accounts illustrate how labor activism during the Great War was both a continuation of earlier struggles and a catalyst for future labor movements. His work encourages a deeper appreciation of the sacrifices and resilience of American workers in this era.

The Legacy of America's Great War Through Robert Zieger's Lens

Understanding America's Great War through Robert Zieger's scholarship offers valuable insights into how World War I was not merely a military conflict but a transformative moment that reshaped American society in profound ways.

Long-Term Impacts on Labor and Politics

Zieger's analysis shows that the war's legacy influenced subsequent decades, including the labor upheavals of the 1920s and the New Deal reforms. The government's wartime role in regulating labor relations set precedents for future policies, while the experiences of workers during the war years fueled demands for greater rights and protections.

In politics, the war accelerated shifts toward greater federal involvement in

economic and social issues. The challenges and contradictions of wartime policies also exposed tensions around civil liberties and minority rights that would continue to shape American discourse.

Why Robert Zieger's Work Remains Relevant

Today, historians, students, and anyone interested in American history can benefit from Robert Zieger's comprehensive and engaging examination of America's Great War. His focus on labor and social history adds depth to the understanding of World War I's impact, moving beyond traditional military narratives.

For those exploring themes of industrialization, workers' rights, and political change, Zieger's research is a valuable guide that contextualizes how a global conflict reshaped the United States internally. His work reminds us that wars are not only fought on battlefields but also in factories, courts, and communities.

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Exploring Amerika's Great War Robert Zieger reveals a rich tapestry of history that connects the battlefield with the factory floor and the political arena. Through his meticulous scholarship, we gain a fuller picture of how World War I helped forge modern America, shaped by the struggles and triumphs of its people during one of the most challenging periods in its history.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is Robert Zieger in the context of 'America's Great War'?

Robert Zieger is a historian and author known for his works on American labor history and World War I, particularly his book 'America's Great War,' which explores the social and political impact of World War I on the United States.

What is the main focus of Robert Zieger's 'America's Great War'?

The main focus of 'America's Great War' is to analyze the profound effects of World War I on American society, politics, and the labor movement, highlighting how the war reshaped the nation domestically.

How does Robert Zieger's book contribute to understanding World War I in America?

Zieger's book provides a comprehensive examination of the war's impact beyond the battlefield, emphasizing social changes, labor struggles, and political shifts in the United States during and after World War I.

What themes are explored in 'America's Great War' by Robert Zieger?

The book explores themes such as nationalism, labor rights, civil liberties, political dissent, and the transformation of American democracy during the World War I era.

Why is Robert Zieger's perspective on America's involvement in World War I considered significant?

Zieger offers a nuanced perspective that integrates labor history and social dynamics, providing a deeper understanding of how the war affected various groups within American society, not just military or diplomatic aspects.

How does 'America's Great War' address the labor movement during World War I?

'America's Great War' highlights the challenges and growth of the American labor movement during the war, including strikes, government interventions, and the changing relationship between workers and the state.

What impact did World War I have on American civil liberties according to Robert Zieger?

According to Zieger, World War I led to significant restrictions on civil liberties in the U.S., including censorship, persecution of dissenters, and the suppression of anti-war activism.

Is 'America's Great War' by Robert Zieger suitable for academic studies on World War I?

Yes, Robert Zieger's 'America's Great War' is widely regarded as a valuable academic resource for studying the social, political, and labor-related aspects of World War I in the United States.

Additional Resources

America's Great War: An In-Depth Review of Robert Zieger's Definitive Work

americas great war robert zieger stands as a monumental contribution to the historiography of the United States' involvement in World War I. Robert Zieger, a distinguished historian, offers a comprehensive narrative that not only chronicles the military engagements but also delves into the complex social, political, and economic repercussions of the conflict on American society. This article examines the critical elements of Zieger's work, exploring its scholarly significance, thematic depth, and its place within the broader corpus of World War I literature.

Understanding the Scope of Americas Great War Robert Zieger

Robert Zieger's exploration of America's role in what he terms the "Great War" redefines conventional perspectives by weaving a multifaceted analysis that extends beyond battlefield strategies and diplomatic maneuvering. The book situates America's entry into World War I within the context of domestic transformations, highlighting how the war catalyzed shifts in labor relations, race dynamics, and government policy. Unlike earlier works that often framed the war primarily in military or diplomatic terms, Zieger's approach is holistic, integrating social history with political analysis.

One of the defining features of americas great war robert zieger is its balanced examination of both the achievements and the controversies surrounding the American war effort. Zieger critically assesses the decisions made by political leaders, the mobilization of the economy, and the cultural shifts that accompanied the conflict. This balanced narrative provides readers with a nuanced understanding that avoids simplistic patriotism or outright condemnation.

Robert Zieger's Contribution to Labor History in Wartime America

Zieger is well-known for his expertise in labor history, a perspective that permeates the analysis in americas great war robert zieger. The book meticulously documents how World War I acted as a turning point for American labor movements, with increased government intervention in industrial production and labor disputes. Zieger highlights the establishment of the National War Labor Board and its role in mediating conflicts between workers and employers, which was instrumental in maintaining wartime production.

Moreover, the book addresses the paradoxical nature of labor relations during the war. While the conflict led to gains such as improved wages and union recognition for many workers, it also intensified racial tensions and suppressed dissent. Zieger's treatment of African American laborers, who migrated northward in large numbers during the war years, underscores the complexities of race and class that shaped wartime America.

Political and Social Transformations Under the Lens

Americas great war robert zieger further explores the broader political landscape, particularly President Woodrow Wilson's leadership and the domestic backlash against the war. Zieger scrutinizes Wilson's vision of making the world "safe for democracy" and contrasts it with the often harsh realities of wartime civil liberties restrictions, including the Espionage Act and Sedition Act. This critical perspective provides insight into the tension between national security and individual freedoms that remains relevant.

Socially, Zieger addresses how the war accelerated changes in gender roles, with women entering the workforce in unprecedented numbers. The book connects these developments to the eventual passage of the 19th Amendment, framing the war as a catalyst for women's suffrage. Additionally, the author examines the cultural shifts brought about by wartime propaganda and the growing influence of the federal government in everyday life.

Comparative Perspectives: Zieger's Work Among World War I Histories

When placed alongside other seminal works on America's involvement in World War I, Robert Zieger's americas great war offers a distinctive blend of social and political history that enriches the field. Unlike military-centric accounts such as John Keegan's "The First World War," Zieger's analysis foregrounds the home front and the war's enduring domestic consequences.

Comparatively, Zieger's work aligns with historians like David Kennedy, whose "Over Here" also emphasizes the American domestic experience during the war. However, Zieger's focus on labor and race relations adds layers that are less explored in other narratives, making his book a vital resource for understanding the war's multifaceted impact.

Strengths and Limitations of Americas Great War Robert Zieger

The strengths of Zieger's book lie in its thorough research, balanced critique, and integration of diverse historical themes. Readers benefit from a narrative that is both richly detailed and accessible, making complex social dynamics comprehensible without sacrificing scholarly rigor.

However, some critiques point to the dense academic style that may challenge casual readers. Additionally, while the book covers a wide range of topics, its broad scope occasionally limits the depth of analysis in specific areas, such as military strategy or international diplomacy.

Key Themes Explored in Americas Great War Robert Zieger

- Labor and Industry: The transformation of American labor during wartime, government mediation, and labor unrest.
- Race Relations: The Great Migration, racial tensions, and the impact of the war on African American communities.
- **Political Leadership:** Wilson's policies, wartime governance, and the balance between security and civil liberties.
- **Social Change:** Shifts in gender roles, women's suffrage, and cultural propaganda.
- **Economic Mobilization:** The reorganization of the American economy to support the war effort.

These themes collectively underscore the complexity of America's wartime experience as portrayed by Zieger, emphasizing that the Great War was as much a domestic upheaval as an international conflict.

Americas great war robert zieger remains a foundational text for scholars and enthusiasts seeking a well-rounded understanding of World War I's impact on the United States. By bridging military history with social and political analysis, Robert Zieger invites readers to reconsider the war's legacy beyond the battlefield, highlighting its profound and lasting effects on American society.

Americas Great War Robert Zieger

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americas great war robert zieger: America's Great War Robert H. Zieger, 2001-11-13 Recent bestsellers by Niall Ferguson and John Keegan have created tremendous popular interest in World War I. In America's Great War prominent historian Robert H. Zieger examines the causes, prosecution, and legacy of this bloody conflict from a frequently overlooked perspective, that of American involvement. This is the first book to illuminate both America's dramatic influence on the war and the war's considerable impact upon our nation. Zieger's engaging narrative provides vivid

descriptions of the famous battles and diplomatic maneuvering, while also chronicling America's rise to prominence within the postwar world. On the domestic front, Zieger details how the war forever altered American politics and society by creating the National Security State, generating powerful new instruments of social control, bringing about innovative labor and social welfare programs, and redefining civil liberties and race relations. America's Great War promises to become the definitive history of America and World War I.

americas great war robert zieger: America and the Great War Margaret E. Wagner, 2017-05-30 Choice Magazine Outstanding Academic Titles of the Year for 2017 A uniquely colorful chronicle of this dramatic and convulsive chapter in American--and world--history. It's an epic tale, and here it is wondrously well told. --David M. Kennedy, Pulitzer Prize-winning historian and author of FREEDOM FROM FEAR From August 1914 through March 1917, Americans were increasingly horrified at the unprecedented destruction of the First World War. While sending massive assistance to the conflict's victims, most Americans opposed direct involvement. Their country was immersed in its own internal struggles, including attempts to curb the power of business monopolies, reform labor practices, secure proper treatment for millions of recent immigrants, and expand American democracy. Yet from the first, the war deeply affected American emotions and the nation's commercial, financial, and political interests. The menace from German U-boats and failure of U.S. attempts at mediation finally led to a declaration of war, signed by President Wilson on April 6, 1917. America and the Great War commemorates the centennial of that turning point in American history. Chronicling the United States in neutrality and in conflict, it presents events and arguments, political and military battles, bitter tragedies and epic achievements that marked U.S. involvement in the first modern war. Drawing on the matchless resources of the Library of Congress, the book includes many eyewitness accounts and more than 250 color and black-and-white images, many never before published. With an introduction by Pulitzer Prize-winning historian David M. Kennedy, America and the Great War brings to life the tempestuous era from which the United States emerged as a major world power.

americas great war robert zieger: Singing, Soldiering, and Sheet Music in America during the First World War Christina Gier, 2016-10-19 An advertisement in the sheet music of the song "Goodbye Broadway, Hello France" (1917) announces: "Music will help win the war!" This ad hits upon an American sentiment expressed not just in advertising, but heard from other sectors of society during the American engagement in the First World War. It was an idea both imagined and practiced, from military culture to sheet music writers, about the power of music to help create a strong military and national community in the face of the conflict; it appears straightforward. Nevertheless, the published sheet music, in addition to discourse about gender, soldiering and music, evince a more complex picture of society. This book presents a study of sheet music and military singing practices in America during the First World War that critically situates them in the social discourses, including issues of segregation and suffrage, and the historical context of the war. The transfer of musical styles between the civilian and military realm was fluid because so many men were enlisted from homes with the sheet music while they were also singing songs in their military training. Close musical analysis brings the meaningful musical and lyrical expressions of this time period to the forefront of our understanding of soldier and civilian music making at this time.

americas great war robert zieger: Fighting the Great War Michael S. NEIBERG, 2009-06-30 Despair at Gallipoli. Victory at Vimy Ridge. A European generation lost, an American spirit found. The First World War, the deadly herald of a new era, continues to captivate readers. In this lively book, Neiberg offers a concise history based on the latest research and insights into the soldiers, commanders, battles, and legacies of the Great War.

americas great war robert zieger: *The Routledge Handbook of American Military and Diplomatic History* Christos Frentzos, Antonio S. Thompson, 2013-08-29 The Routledge Handbook of U.S. Military and Diplomatic History provides a comprehensive analysis of the major events, conflicts, and personalities that have defined and shaped the military history of the United States in the modern period. Each chapter begins with a brief introductory essay that provides context for the

topical essays that follow by providing a concise narrative of the period, highlighting some of the scholarly debates and interpretive schools of thought as well as the current state of the academic field. Starting after the Civil War, the chapters chronicle America's rise toward empire, first at home and then overseas, culminating in September 11, 2001 and the War on Terror. With authoritative and vividly written chapters by both leading scholars and new talent, maps and illustrations, and lists of further readings, this state-of-the-field handbook will be a go-to reference for every American history scholar's bookshelf.

americas great war robert zieger: The Transatlantic Century Mary Nolan, 2012-10-11 This is a fascinating new overview of European-American relations during the long twentieth century. Ranging from economics, culture and consumption to war, politics and diplomacy, Mary Nolan charts the rise of American influence in Eastern and Western Europe, its mid-twentieth century triumph and its gradual erosion since the 1970s. She reconstructs the circuits of exchange along which ideas, commodities, economic models, cultural products and people moved across the Atlantic, capturing the differing versions of modernity that emerged on both sides of the Atlantic and examining how these alternately produced co-operation, conflict and ambivalence toward the other. Attributing the rise and demise of American influence in Europe not only to economics but equally to wars, the book locates the roots of many transatlantic disagreements in very different experiences and memories of war. This is an unprecedented account of the American Century in Europe that recovers its full richness and complexity.

americas great war robert zieger: War's Waste Beth Linker, 2011-06-01 With US soldiers stationed around the world and engaged in multiple conflicts, Americans will be forced for the foreseeable future to come to terms with those permanently disabled in battle. At the moment, we accept rehabilitation as the proper social and cultural response to the wounded, swiftly returning injured combatants to their civilian lives. But this was not always the case, as Beth Linker reveals in her provocative new book, War's Waste. Linker explains how, before entering World War I, the United States sought a way to avoid the enormous cost of providing injured soldiers with pensions, which it had done since the Revolutionary War. Emboldened by their faith in the new social and medical sciences, reformers pushed rehabilitation as a means to "rebuild" disabled soldiers, relieving the nation of a monetary burden and easing the decision to enter the Great War. Linker's narrative moves from the professional development of orthopedic surgeons and physical therapists to the curative workshops, or hospital spaces where disabled soldiers learned how to repair automobiles as well as their own artificial limbs. The story culminates in the postwar establishment of the Veterans Administration, one of the greatest legacies to come out of the First World War.

americas great war robert zieger: War Memories Stéphanie A.H. Bélanger, Renée Dickason, 2017-05-31 War Memories explores the patchwork formed by collective memory, public remembrance, private recollection, and the ways in which they form a complex composition of observations, initiatives, and experiences. Offering an international perspective on war commemoration, contributors consider the process of assembling historical facts and subjective experiences to show how these points of view diverge according to various social, cultural, political, and historical perspectives. Encompassing the representations of wars in the English-speaking world over the last hundred years, this collection presents an extensive, yet integrated, reflection on various types of commemoration and interpretations of events. Essays respond to common questions regarding war memory: how and why do we remember war? What does commemoration tell us about the actors in wars? How does commemoration reflect contemporary society's culture of war? War Memories disseminates current knowledge on the performance, interpretation, and rewriting of facts and events during and after wars, while focusing on how patriotic fervour, resistance, conscientious objection, injury, trauma, and propaganda contribute to the shaping of individual and collective memory. Contributors include Joan Beaumont (Australian National University, Canberra), Gilles Chamerois (University of Brest, France), Subarno Chattarji (University of Delhi, India), Nicole Cloarec (Rennes 1 University, France), Corinne David-Ives (European University of Brittany -Rennes 2, France), Jeffrey Demsky (San Bernardino Valley College, California), Sam Edwards

(Manchester Metropolitan University), Georges Fournier (Jean Moulin University, France), Annie Gagiano (University of Stellenbosch, South Africa), David Haigron (Rennes 2 University, France), Judith Keene (University of Sydney, Australia), Melissa King (San Bernardino Valley College, California), Christine Knauer (Eberhard Karls University Tübingen, Germany), Liliane Louvel (University of Poitiers), Michelle P. Moore (Canadian Army Doctrine and Training Centre, Kingston, Ontario), John Mullen (University of Rouen, France), Lorie-Anne Duech-Rainville (Caen University, France), Elizabeth Rechniewski (Australian Research Council Discovery Project), Raphaël Ricaud (University 'Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense', France), Laura Robinson (Royal Military College of Canada), and Isabelle Roblin (Université du Littoral-Côte d'Opale, France).

americas great war robert zieger: American Isolationism Between the World Wars
Kenneth D. Rose, 2021-04-25 American Isolationism Between the World Wars: The Search for a
Nation's Identity examines the theory of isolationism in America between the world wars, arguing
that it is an ideal that has dominated the Republic since its founding. During the interwar period,
isolationists could be found among Republicans and Democrats, Catholics and Protestants, pacifists
and militarists, rich and poor. While the dominant historical assessment of isolationism — that it was
provincial and short-sighted — will be examined, this book argues that American isolationism
between 1919 and the mid-1930s was a rational foreign policy simply because the European
reversion back to politics as usual insured that the continent would remain unstable. Drawing on a
wide range of newspaper and journal articles, biographies, congressional hearings, personal papers,
and numerous secondary sources, Kenneth D. Rose suggests the time has come for a paradigm shift
in how American isolationism is viewed. The text also offers a reflection on isolationism since the
end of World War II, particularly the nature of isolationism during the Trump era. This book will be
of interest to students and scholars of U.S. Foreign Relations and twentieth-century American
history.

americas great war robert zieger: From Colony to Superpower George C. Herring, 2008-10-28 The Oxford History of the United States is the most respected multi-volume history of our nation in print. The series includes three Pulitzer Prize-winners, a New York Times bestseller, and winners of prestigious Bancroft and Parkman Prizes. From Colony to Superpower is the only thematic volume commissioned for the series. Here George C. Herring uses foreign relations as the lens through which to tell the story of America's dramatic rise from thirteen disparate colonies huddled along the Atlantic coast to the world's greatest superpower. A sweeping account of United States' foreign relations and diplomacy, this magisterial volume documents America's interaction with other peoples and nations of the world. Herring tells a story of stunning successes and sometimes tragic failures, captured in a fast-paced narrative that illuminates the central importance of foreign relations to the existence and survival of the nation, and highlights its ongoing impact on the lives of ordinary citizens. He shows how policymakers defined American interests broadly to include territorial expansion, access to growing markets, and the spread of an American way of life. And Herring does all this in a story rich in human drama and filled with epic events. Statesmen such as Benjamin Franklin and Woodrow Wilson and Harry Truman and Dean Acheson played key roles in America's rise to world power. But America's expansion as a nation also owes much to the adventurers and explorers, the sea captains, merchants and captains of industry, the missionaries and diplomats, who discovered or charted new lands, developed new avenues of commerce, and established and defended the nation's interests in foreign lands. From the American Revolution to the fifty-year struggle with communism and conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, From Colony to Superpower tells the dramatic story of America's emergence as superpower--its birth in revolution, its troubled present, and its uncertain future.

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Superpower, an international narrative that blends political, diplomatic, and military history with economic, cultural, and religious history. It includes a new introduction and a new chapter that brings the narrative up to the present.

americas great war robert zieger: Kentucky and the Great War David J. Bettez, 2016-10-07 From five thousand children marching in a parade, singing, Johnnie get your hoe.... Mary dig your row, to communities banding together to observe Meatless Tuesdays and Wheatless Wednesdays, Kentuckians were loval supporters of their country during the First World War. Kentucky had one of the lowest rates of draft dodging in the nation, and the state increased its coal production by 50 percent during the war years. Overwhelmingly, the people of the Commonwealth set aside partisan interests and worked together to help the nation achieve victory in Europe. David J. Bettez provides the first comprehensive analysis of the impact of the Great War on Bluegrass society, politics, economy, and culture, contextualizing the state's involvement within the national experience. His exhaustively researched study examines the Kentucky Council of Defense—which sponsored local war-effort activities—military mobilization and preparation, opposition and dissent, and the role of religion and higher education in shaping the state's response to the war. It also describes the efforts of Kentuckians who served abroad in military and civilian capacities, and postwar memorialization of their contributions. Kentucky and the Great War explores the impact of the conflict on women's suffrage, child labor, and African American life. In particular, Bettez investigates how black citizens were urged to support a war to make the world safe for democracy even as their civil rights and freedoms were violated in the Jim Crow South. This engaging and timely social history offers new perspectives on an overlooked aspect of World War I.

americas great war robert zieger: Illustrated Sheet Music in the U.S., 1830-1930 Theresa Leininger-Miller, Kenneth Hartvigsen, 2025-01-23 Illustrated sheet music was one of the most democratic forms of visual imagery in the U.S., owned by millions of Americans wooed by compelling lithographic covers, who displayed and performed compositions on home pianos. Advancements in printing technologies in the 19th century, together with an emergent commercial system that facilitated the publication and broad distribution of popular music, led to a surge of elaborately illustrated sheet music. This book features essays by cutting-edge scholars who analyze the remarkable images that persuaded U.S. citizens to purchase mass-produced compositions for both personal and social pleasure. With some songs selling millions of copies as printed musical scores, music publishers commissioned artists to draw every conceivable subject as promotional illustrations, including genre scenes, portraits, political and historical events, sentimental allegories, flowers, landscapes, commercial buildings, and maritime views. As ubiquitous and democratic material culture, this imagery affected ordinary people in far greater ways than unique objects, like paintings and sculpture, possibly could. The pictures, many in saturated color with bold graphics, still intrique, amaze, and amuse viewers today with their originality, skill, and content. Rooted in visual analysis, topics in this collection include perennially significant themes: race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class, politics, war, patriotism, propaganda, religion, transportation, regional centers of production, technology, Reconstruction, romance, and comedy, as well as bodies of work by specific illustrators and lithographic firms. In recognizing the role that individuals have played in preserving these remarkable objects, it also features interviews with enthusiasts who own two of the largest private collections of sheet music in the U.S.

americas great war robert zieger: The Wilson Circle Charles E. Neu, 2022-02-22 An in-depth look at the key advisers to Woodrow Wilson during the course of his tumultuous presidency. Nearly 100 years after Woodrow Wilson's death, historians continue to be divided over the impact of his presidency and his political leadership. The collapse of Wilson's health in 1919 and his failure to win Senate approval of the Versailles Treaty have tainted his legacy, as have the racism of his administration and its disregard for civil liberties after American entry into World War I. In The Wilson Circle, Charles E. Neu takes a new look at the Wilson presidency through the lens of his inner circle, a group of ten advisers. Some of these advisers, like his wife Ellen, were by his side at the start of his term, while others joined him as the challenges facing Wilson's presidency mounted.

All of these advisers believed that, whatever Wilson's flaws as a leader, they had served a great man whose legacy would endure. Struck by his magnetism, his oratorical gifts, and the power and precision of his mind, they each became, to one extent or another, friends of the president. Looking back, they acknowledged that their relationship with Woodrow Wilson had transformed their lives. Challenging the publicly held assumption that Wilson was a remote, harsh president by exploring the intense emotional connection he developed with this tight-knit group, Neu argues that we can partially credit Wilson's remarkable journey in American politics to his ability to bring together such an impressive group of advisers. Wilson realized that, given his limited energy and experience, he had to rely on advisers to help him maintain his physical and emotional equilibrium and to achieve his far-reaching political goals. And as the demands on his presidency changed, changes also occurred in his group of presidential confidants. Informing vivid biographical sketches with a wide range of recent scholarship, The Wilson Circle shines a light on the exceptional people whose advice impacted the course of a presidency.

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americas great war robert zieger: Colonel House Charles E. Neu, 2014-11-28 A biography of Edward M. House, a patient, crafty, and sometimes cynical political infighter who would become Woodrow Wilson's closest foreign policy adviser.

americas great war robert zieger: *Pilgrims Society and Public Diplomacy, 1895-1945* Stephen Bowman, 2018-02-01 Drawing on rich archival research, this book explores how the elite network of the Pilgrims Society - whose members included J.P. Morgan and Andrew Carnegie - attempted to influence the Anglo-American relationship in the days before it became special'.

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americas great war robert zieger: Woodrow Wilson Michael R. Cude, 2023-07-28 This volume contributes to the Routledge Seminar Studies history series by providing a concise narrative overview of the ideas and foreign policy of Woodrow Wilson. It focuses on Wilson's response to the First World War and his efforts to formulate a new international system, while also outlining Wilson's policies toward different parts of the world. The book shows how Wilson shaped the direction of the 20th century in areas such as global governance, nationalism, decolonization, and international relations theory. In doing so, the book introduces the reader to the many debates over Wilsonian foreign policy. With a target audience of college undergraduates and non-experts, readers will gain a better understanding of Wilson's vision for the world, his administration's approaches to foreign policy, particularly during the First World War, and the global impact of his program.

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