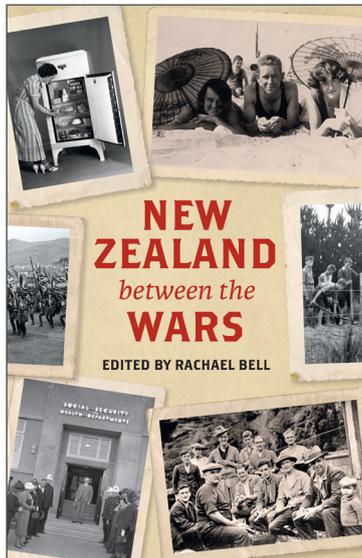




New Zealand Between the Wars

EDITED BY RACHAEL BELL



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EXAMINING NEW ZEALAND'S PIVOTAL INTERWAR YEARS, WHEN THE FOUNDATION FOR A NEW NATION WAS LAID

If World War One was the crucible that forged an independent New Zealand identity, then the two decades following are surely the years in which the foundation for the new nation was laid. In shedding the last vestiges of colonial society in exchange for the trappings of a modern democratic nation, the 1920s and 1930s in New Zealand set a blueprint for state intervention and assistance that remained unchallenged for the next 50 years.

Along with the period's vast technological and infrastructural changes, most of which were state-funded and controlled, came new forms of communication, transport, entertainment and employment which led to changing expectations and reform in education, health, welfare, home ownership and commerce. From the depths of the Great Depression to the bright promise of the Welfare State, the interwar decades transformed New Zealand society, consolidating trends established before the war and initiating a slew of changes in attitude and practice that, as markers of modernity, set New Zealand firmly on its current course.

ABOUT THE EDITOR

Dr Rachael Bell is a historian teaching New Zealand social history at Massey University. Her papers include 'New Zealand Between the Wars 1919–1939' and 'Radical Nation', a survey of protest in New Zealand since World War Two. Rachael's research focuses on the transmission of history within the national narrative, particularly as it has occurred through government-sponsored initiatives. Recent projects have included an examination of the official histories of New Zealand in World War Two and a consideration of the changes in understandings of the Treaty of Waitangi prior to 1972.

SALES POINTS

- Few publications address New Zealand's important interwar years; a book that deals with this period and contextualises it in relation to both its antecedents and future impacts is well overdue. This book fills that major gap
- Written by leading historians and geographers at a range of New Zealand universities
- Lively and accessible, yet based on deep research and scholarship
- Academically sound and also of interest to a general market, this is good, solid, relevant history with a student and a general market
- Well-packaged with plenty of images, this is an attractive book

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