

Contents

	TRANSLATOR'S NOTE	XI
	PREFACE	XII
1.	A LONG BEGINNING: THE LOW COUNTRIES THROUGH THE TENTH CENTURY	
	<i>L.J.R. MILIS</i>	1
	1. CELTS, ROMANS, AND GERMANS	2
	A GEOGRAPHY OF PREHISTORIC TIMES 2	
	ROMAN RULE AND GERMANIC MIGRATION 3	
	2. THE MEROVINGIAN PERIOD	6
	CHANGE AND CONTINUITY 6	
	FRANKISH RULE 8	
	3. THE CAROLINGIAN PERIOD (EIGHTH AND NINTH CENTURIES)	12
	ANointed Kings and Crowned Emperors 12	
	IDEAL AND REALITY 16	
	4. THE "IRON" TENTH CENTURY	18
2.	COUNTS, CITIES, AND CLERICS: THE ELEVENTH, TWELFTH, AND THIRTEENTH CENTURIES	
	<i>L.J.R. MILIS</i>	23
	1. POLITICAL FRAGMENTATION	24
	FLANDERS'S LEAD 24	
	POLITICAL LIFE IN LoTHARINGIA 25	
	GRADUAL CONSOLIDATION 27	
	2. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RELATIONS	32
	DEMOGRAPHY, AGRICULTURE, AND THE NEW LANDS 32	
	CITIES, TRADE, AND COMMERCE 36	
	3. RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL LIFE	42
	THE CHURCH 42	
	RELIGION 44	
	CULTURE 48	
3.	THE FORMATION OF A POLITICAL UNION, 1300-1588	
	<i>W.P. BLOCKMANS</i>	55

1. THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY: THE AGE OF UNCERTAINTIES	57
INTRODUCTION	57
TOTTERING DYNASTIES	57
SOCIAL TENSIONS	60
THE FIRST REVOLUTION	61
POLITICAL STRUCTURES AND CULTURE	64
CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS	64
PARTY STRIFE	67
THE CREATION OF THE FLEMISH CITY-STATES	69
ECONOMIC REORIENTATION IN THE LOW COUNTRIES	71
POPULATION, STANDARD OF LIVING, AND ECONOMY	72
COMMERCIALIZING HOLLAND	74
REGIONAL COMPLEMENTARITY	76
THE BREAKTHROUGH OF BOURGEOIS CULTURE	79
2. THE BURGUNDIAN CENTURY (1385-1477)	82
DYNASTIC STRATEGIES	82
BURGUNDIAN DOMINATION	86
A NEW STATE?	89
RESISTANCE AGAINST INTEGRATION	94
BURGUNDY'S INTERNAL WEAKNESSES	98
BURGUNDY'S GOLDEN AGE	100
DEMOGRAPHIC CENTERS OF GRAVITY	103
ECCLESIASTICAL LIFE	104
BURGUNDIAN PATRONAGE OF THE ARTS	106
3. THE HABSBURG CENTURY (1477-1588)	111
THE LOW COUNTRIES AND THE HABSBURG EMPIRE	111
THE MEANS OF THE STATE: TAXES	117
ECONOMIC GROWTH AND FINANCIAL INNOVATION	121
THE CULTURE OF THE RENAISSANCE	123
THE "DUTCH REVOLT"	127
4. THE DUTCH REPUBLIC, 1588-1780	
<i>A.T. VAN DEURSEN</i>	143
1. THE FIRST TEN YEARS OF THE REPUBLIC (1588-1598)	144
THE SUCCESS OF THE REVOLT	144
PROSPERITY IN HOLLAND	145
THE REPUBLIC'S POLITICAL STRUCTURE	148
THE PLACE OF THE CHURCH	151
THE COURSE OF THE WAR	152
2. THE QUESTION OF WAR AND PEACE (1598-1609)	153
UNCERTAINTY OVER WAR AIMS	153
PEACE OR TRUCE?	156
3. THE DISPUTES OF THE TWELVE YEARS' TRUCE (1609-1625)	158
POLITICAL DIVISIONS	158
RELIGIOUS DIVISIONS	160
A NEW ARRANGEMENT	163

4. THE GOLD OF THE GOLDEN AGE (1625-1648)	167
CONSOLIDATION	167
THE NATURE OF "DUTCH" CULTURE	170
DUTCH PAINTING	174
FREEDOM AND RESTRAINT	177
FROM WAR TO PEACE	181
5. THE "TRUE FREEDOM" (1648-1672)	181
WILLIAM II AND THE EUROPEAN BALANCE OF POWER	181
THE REGENTS OF HOLLAND	186
RELIGION AND POLITICS IN THE AGE OF THE REGENTS	189
THE TRADE WARS	190
6. THE REPUBLIC UNDER WILLIAM III (1672-1702)	194
THE WAR OF 1672	194
WILLIAM III VERSUS LOUIS XIV	198
7. A GREAT POWER IN DECLINE (1702-1751)	201
POLITICAL DECLINE	201
DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATION	203
DEMOCRATIC OPPOSITION	206
CULTURAL AND CHURCH LIFE	208
8. THE CRISIS NEARS (1751-1780)	210
ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS	210
CULTURAL AND POLITICAL REFORM	215
5. THE SPANISH AND AUSTRIAN NETHERLANDS, 1579-1780	
<i>P. JANSSENS</i>	221
1. AN UNCERTAIN EXISTENCE	223
THE BEGINNINGS OF A NEW STATE (1579-1635)	223
THE FRENCH THREAT (1635-1748)	230
MARIA THERESA'S CHARM OFFENSIVE (1748-1780)	236
2. AN ARISTOCRATIC STATE (SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES)	238
THE PROVINCIAL STATES AND FISCAL AUTONOMY	239
THE PROVINCIAL COUNCILS AND ADMINISTRATIVE AUTONOMY	246
3. GOVERNMENT POLICY IN THE HABSBURG NETHERLANDS	252
FROM MERCANTILISM TO LIBERALISM	257
FROM A CLERICAL TO AN ANTICLERICAL POLICY	259
ARTISTS IN THE SERVICE OF CHURCH AND STATE	265
NO LANGUAGE POLICY	268
SUMMARY	272

6. **REVOLUTION IN THE NORTH AND SOUTH,
1780-1830**

J. ROEGIERS AND N.C.F. VAN SAS 275

1. THE NORTH (1780-1813) 276

THE PATRIOTS' ERA 276
THE BATAVIAN REVOLUTION 282
NATIONAL RECONCILIATION 285

2. THE SOUTH (1780-1814) 288

JOSEPH II'S REFORMS 288
THE "SMALL" AND BRABANTINE REVOLUTIONS 291
THE UNITED BELGIAN STATES 294
AUSTRIAN RESTORATION AND FRENCH
"LIBERATION" 295
CONSULATE, CONCORDAT, AND EMPIRE 299

3. THE UNITED KINGDOM (1815-1830) 303

LIBERATION 303
THE UNIFICATION OF THE NORTH AND SOUTH 305
THE POLITICAL SYSTEM 307
CONSTRUCTING A NATION-STATE 309
CRISIS, REVOLT, AND SEPARATION 313

7. **BELGIUM SINCE 1830**

E. LAMBERTS 319

1. THE LIBERAL STATE (1830-1890) 320

THE MAKING OF THE BELGIAN STATE 321
THE UNIONIST GOVERNMENT 321
LIBERALISM'S BREAKTHROUGH 323
THE SHIFT TOWARD AN URBAN, INDUSTRIALIZED
SOCIETY 324
SHARP SOCIAL CONTRASTS 326
LIBERALS IN POWER 328
AN INDEPENDENT, NEUTRAL NATION 330
THE ADVANCE OF POLITICAL CONSERVATISM 330
THE BEGINNINGS OF "PILLARIZATION" 333
ETHNIC NATIONALISM VERSUS STATE
NATIONALISM 334
THE ADVENT OF THE SOCIAL MOVEMENTS 336

2. THE INTEGRATION OF THE
SOCIAL MOVEMENTS (1890-1935) 338

A STRONG ECONOMIC EXPANSION 338
IMPROVED SOCIAL CONDITIONS 341
DEMOCRATIZATION 342
CATHOLIC GOVERNMENT POLICY 347
NATIONALIST MOVEMENTS 349
COLONIAL EXPANSION 352
THE FIRST WORLD WAR AS CATALYST 354
A NEW INTERNATIONAL POLICY 357
ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AND DEPRESSION 358
FURTHER INSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRATIZATION 341

3. THE PARTITION OF THE BELGIAN STATE 369
(1935-2005)
IN THE WAKE OF THE "NEW ORDER" 369
PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURES 371
DECOLONIZATION 373
BUILDING A SOCIAL MARKET ECONOMY 374
RENEWED RELIGIOUS AND IDEOLOGICAL CONFLICT 376
THE AFFLUENT SOCIETY 380
FROM A UNITARY TO A FEDERAL STATE 383
THE PILLARIZED, NEO-CORPORATIST STATE PERSISTS 387

8. THE NETHERLANDS SINCE 1830

J.C.H. BLOM 393

1. A SMALL EUROPEAN NATION-STATE 395
(1830-1870s)
THE NORTH GOES IT ALONE 395
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RELATIONS 397
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY
GOVERNMENT 400
RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENTS AND THE
"SCHOOL CONFLICT" 404
NEW ORGANIZATIONAL FORMS IN POLITICS
AND SOCIETY 407
2. THE "MODERNIZATION" OF THE NETHERLANDS 410
(1870s-1918)
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DYNAMICS 410
CHURCH AND SOCIETY 415
POLITICAL CONFLICT AND PILLARIZATION 418
NATIONAL UNITY 423
FOREIGN RELATIONS AND COLONIAL POLICY 425
THE FIRST WORLD WAR 427
3. A BOURGEOIS AND PILLARIZED SOCIETY 429
(1918-1960)
CONSOLIDATION IN AN AGE OF CATASTROPHES 429
THE PILLARS 431
THE PILLARIZED SYSTEM AND THE BOURGEOIS
MORAL WORLD 435
SOCIOECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND INCREASED
STATE ACTIVISM 439
THE SECOND WORLD WAR AND GERMAN
OCCUPATION 442
BREAKTHROUGH? 444
FOREIGN AFFAIRS 445
LOSS OF THE DUTCH EAST INDIES 446
DUTCH SOCIETY IN THE LATE 1950s 448

4. SEISMIC SHIFTS SINCE THE 1960S	450
THE RENEWAL MOVEMENT OF THE 1960S	450
THE RESULTS: DEPILLARIZATION AND MORE EMPHASIS ON PERSONAL GROWTH	457
NEW PROBLEMS IN THE LAST QUARTER OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY	462

EPILOGUE: UNITY AND DIVERSITY IN THE LOW COUNTRIES	
<i>J.C.H. BLOM AND E. LAMBERTS</i>	471
1. UNITY IN DIVERSITY	473
2. DIVERSITY IN UNITY	478
RECOMMENDED LITERATURE	487
INDEX	507
CONTRIBUTORS	517