

Contents

List of Illustrations ix

Preface xiii

CHAPTER ONE

Democratic Ideals and Realities 1

CHAPTER TWO

The Elusive Mandate: Elections and the Mirage of Popular Control 21

CHAPTER THREE

Tumbling Down into a Democratical Republic:
“Pure Democracy” and the Pitfalls of Popular Control 52

CHAPTER FOUR

A Rational God of Vengeance and of Reward?
The Logic of Retrospective Accountability 90

CHAPTER FIVE

Blind Retrospection: Electoral Responses to
Droughts, Floods, and Shark Attacks 116

CHAPTER SIX

Musical Chairs: Economic Voting and the Specious Present 146

CHAPTER SEVEN

A Chicken in Every Pot: Ideology and Retrospection
in the Great Depression 177

CHAPTER EIGHT

The Very Basis of Reasons: Groups, Social Identities,
and Political Psychology 213

Contents

CHAPTER NINE

Partisan Hearts and Spleens: Social Identities and Political Change 232

CHAPTER TEN

It Feels Like We're Thinking: The Rationalizing Voter 267

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Groups and Power: Toward a Realist Theory of Democracy 297

APPENDIX

Retrospective Voting as Selection and Sanctioning 329

References 335

Index 371