



Michael Owens and the Glass Industry

By Quentin Skrabec Jr.



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The first comprehensive biography of the visionary and craftsman who defined the modern glass industry. With nine companies and 49 patents bearing his name, Michael J. Owens is a paradoxically inconspicuous influence on daily life. His invention of the Owens Bottle Machine revolutionized the container industry, making mass-marketed food and beverages both sanitary and consistently proportioned. A big-picture, true-to-life Horatio Alger character, his automated inventions were vital to electric lighting, food and beverage packaging, advanced optics, and automotive safety. The reduction of child labor was a direct and significant outcome of his inventions. Born in 1859 to an Irish West Virginian mining family, Owens, himself a child laborer, ultimately became known as the father of project management. Quentin Skrabec's engaging account is the first biography on this unpretentious, resourceful, colorful, and dynamic industrialist and inventor.

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Editorial Review

From the Inside Flap

Michael J. Owens' innovations in mass-produced glass paved the way for modern conveniences in use today. His invention, the Owens Bottle Machine, transformed the American diet by standardizing and sanitizing food and beverage containers. His automated inventions were vital to electric lighting, advanced optics, and automotive safety, as well as the reduction of child labor.

In this first biography of the unassuming visionary, artist, and craftsman, a historical account of glass making sets the stage for Owens, born in 1859 to an Irish West Virginian mining family. With nine companies and forty-nine patents bearing his name, Michael Owens ultimately became known as the father of project management. This is an engaging account of this unpretentious, resourceful, and dynamic industrialist and inventor, who began as a glass blower.

Quentin R. Skrabec's long list of academic degrees includes a Ph.D. in manufacturing management from the University of Toledo, an M.S. in metallurgical and industrial engineering from Ohio State University, an M.S./B.S. in management, operations, systems, and organizational leadership as well as an M.B.A. in business administration, organizational leadership, and behavior from Robert Morris University, and a B.S. in materials engineering from the University of Michigan. He has written over fifty articles and five books on history, industrial history, and business. Dr. Skrabec is a professor at the University of Findlay and is a sought-after speaker for management conferences, having appeared at over thirty national gatherings.

From the Back Cover

He stands next to Thomas Edison in the pantheon of inventors. Commercial products stamped with his name are ubiquitous in modern life. His inventions are directly responsible for safety glass in car windshields and consistently proportioned medicine jars. His designs have changed the way we illuminate a dark room and buy pasteurized milk. Michael J. Owens has left an indelible mark in human history, yet his name often has been overlooked publicly, until now.

Michael Owens was a driven but unassuming man who shunned the spotlight, wanting only to create. In this first biography of a visionary, artist, and craftsman, Quentin R. Skrabec's research has uncovered a resourceful, colorful, and dynamic industrialist and inventor. This insightful account sets the stage for Owens by going back to the beginning--the history of glass as an art form. Today, his flourishing legacy includes Owens-Corning, employing twenty thousand people worldwide.

About the Author

Dr. Skrabec's long list of academic degrees includes a Ph.D. in manufacturing management from the University of Toledo, an M.S. in metallurgical and industrial engineering from Ohio State University, and an M.S./B.S. in management, operations, systems, and organizational leadership as well as an M.B.A. in business administration, organizational leadership, and behavior from Robert Morris University. He has written more than fifty articles and five books on history, industrial history, and business. Dr. Skrabec is an adjunct professor at Findlay University and is a sought-after speaker for management conferences, having appeared at over thirty national gatherings.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Kelly Neidig:

Nowadays reading books be than want or need but also get a life style. This reading routine give you lot of advantages. Associate programs you got of course the knowledge the rest of the information inside the book that will improve your knowledge and information. The data you get based on what kind of guide you read, if you want attract knowledge just go with schooling books but if you want sense happy read one together with theme for entertaining such as comic or novel. The actual Michael Owens and the Glass Industry is kind of book which is giving the reader unforeseen experience.

Jennifer Bell:

Reading a book tends to be new life style in this particular era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that could give you benefit in your life. Having book everyone in this world can share their idea. Guides can also inspire a lot of people. A lot of author can inspire all their reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only the storyline that share in the books. But also they write about the knowledge about something that you need example of this. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your children, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors on earth always try to improve their talent in writing, they also doing some study before they write for their book. One of them is this Michael Owens and the Glass Industry.

Mary Mohammad:

In this particular era which is the greater man or who has ability in doing something more are more treasured than other. Do you want to become one among it? It is just simple strategy to have that. What you must do is just spending your time not very much but quite enough to possess a look at some books. Among the books in the top record in your reading list is actually Michael Owens and the Glass Industry. This book which is qualified as The Hungry Hills can get you closer in becoming precious person. By looking upwards and review this book you can get many advantages.

Mae Bushee:

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