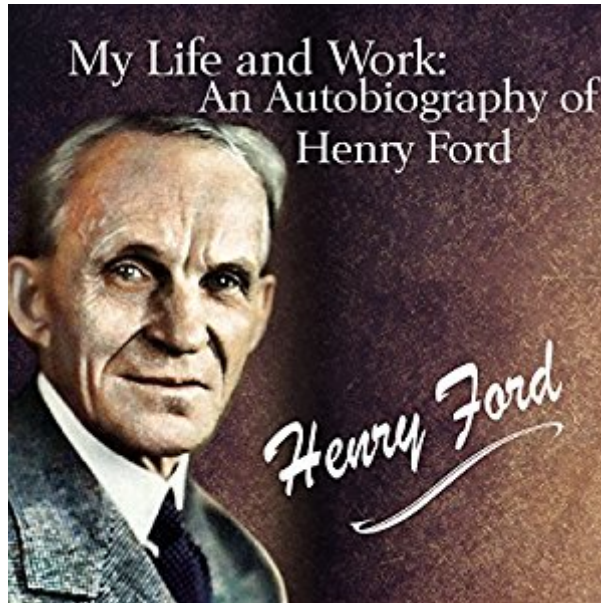




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My Life And Work: An Autobiography Of Henry Ford



Synopsis

We have only started on our development of our country - we have not as yet, with all our talk of wonderful progress, done more than scratch the surface. The progress has been wonderful enough, but when we compare what we have done with what there is to do, then our past accomplishments are as nothing. When we consider that more power is used merely in ploughing the soil than is used in all the industrial establishments of the country put together, an inkling comes of how much opportunity there is ahead. And now, with so many countries of the world in ferment and with so much unrest everywhere, is an excellent time to suggest something of the things that may be done in the light of what has been done. When one speaks of increasing power, machinery, and industry there arises the idea of a cold, metallic sort of world in which great factories will drive away the trees, the flowers, the birds, and the green fields. And that then we shall have a world composed of metal machines and human machines. With all of that I do not agree. I think that unless we know more about machines and their use, unless we better understand the mechanical portion of life, we cannot have the time to enjoy the trees, and the birds, and the flowers, and the green fields.

Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 8 hours 52 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: American Classic Audio

Audible.com Release Date: September 5, 2016

Whispersync for Voice: Ready

Language: English

ASIN: B01LBMNZCU

Best Sellers Rank: #83 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Biographies & Memoirs > Business Leaders #251 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Scientists #381 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Professionals & Academics > Business

Customer Reviews

Amazing story of one of the first great industrialists ever. Henry Ford was a true entrepreneur who understood extremely well the very fundamentals of business and industry. He expresses his ideas clearly and directly breaking paradigms of the time. It is surprising that still today his basic concepts are not widely accepted by some people. Worth read.

When I sat down to read this book I almost couldn't put it down. I was expecting a lot of writing about how Henry grew up, how he got involved in cars, and how he built his company. All of which I found in great detail and made for a fascinating read. What I didn't expect to find was how strong Henry's economic, political, and social ideals were. For instance, he prided himself on the fact that he made his company so efficient that he could readily employ blind people, deaf people, people with missing appendages, etc. And he could employ them at full wages because he found a way for them to provide valuable work. He also talked about how horrible he thought banking institutions had become and he also prided himself on building his company with profits only. He had lines of credit for efficiency reasons, but never took out loans, and always had sufficient cash on hand to pay off his lines of credit. (perhaps the owners of Ford today took a queue from Henry Ford by refusing to accept government bailout money?) All in all, this is a great book that I think everyone should read, but especially the leaders of our businesses and government should read. If our leaders had the same ideals as Henry Ford I am sure that everyone would benefit greatly!

A lot of good business and practical wisdom. Many of his speculative comments regarding the future were overly optimistic. Some couldn't be more incorrect. My biggest concern centered around statements regarding Jewish peoples; I am not knowledgeable about the events of his day, so it's difficult to comment appropriately. Having reminded myself of the age of the writing, I can look past the negatives and glean much.

Very interesting book that is Henry Ford's perspective on the topics addressed in the book. If you are interested in how he thought and the reasoning behind his actions, this is a great good to get. Another aspect of this book that I find fascinating is that several challenges that Henry Ford comments on in this book still exist to this day. Be it the reason for wages being what they are, how businesses are run and managed, and what industry can do for a country, there are a lot of things that have not changed in almost 100 years since this book was written. A question I do have about this book is when was this writing completed by Henry Ford? How was this writing found and not published sooner.

I have realized that I have very misunderstood his ideas. I thought he is a capitalist but actually he was very keen on public, workers, family life, self improvement. He has established not only Ford Motor Company but also Ford Hospital & Ford Technical School as well. You could trace footsteps of

lean, TQM, TOC around his ideas. I do like his way of approaching education & knowledge & expertise. I strongly suggest this book to comprehend first industrial revolution and basis for today.

Interesting and informative historical read. Mostly personal views of Ford himself. Very little technical content about evolution for automobiles.

A Man before his time I have read books written about Henry Ford . I have been involved in the restoration of some Model A Fords Although I spent my youth in the General's camp I have always had a great deal of respect for the man and what he did for the automotive industry as a whole. For any student of business and history this is a great insight in to how the Ford motor company was developed and what has made it such a global success. This book is Henry Ford putting his thought process on paper. It is little wonder, he has produced a legacy that still stands today with his vision that extended past his life time. If you run a business this book hold many lessons worth looking at.

When this book arrived in the mail the first thing I did was to look at the front of the book for the copyright information. There was none, just blank pages, which I had never seen and really surprised me. Then I turned to the back page and it said "Made in the USA, Lexington, KY, January 22, 2013". I was shocked for that is the day I ordered the book from . It was like wow, they printed this book just for me. Kind of eerie. As far as the book, I got it because I have long been a fan of Henry Ford, believing him to be one of the creative genius that shaped this country and the world, and as you read through the pages you see his special perspective at work. As a business owner and someone who is currently in the process of creating a unique business it is very inspiring to read how the mind of such a great man worked. Henry Ford shows how any of us can carve out the world of our dreams for ourselves and this book is a guidebook for making those dreams come true. Edgar Cayce said "mind is the builder" and Henry Ford shows how your thoughts create your reality, or as Mr. Ford put it in my favorite quote "Whether you think you can or think you can't, (either way), you're right".

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