

Assessing the Validity of Two Statements About Andrew Carnegie

Many robberbarons dominated America in the late nineteenth century. No tycoon dominated the public mind like Andrew Carnegie. Two viewpoints about Carnegie exist. In this essay, the validity of whether Carnegie ~~was~~ a "prime representative" of robberbarons and whether he was an "atypical leader" of his time is assessed.

First of all, Andrew Carnegie is a "prime representative" in the minds of many people. Carnegie is the perfect model for the advocates of this label. He came to America as a Scottish immigrant. He started working at respectable jobs. In time, Carnegie ~~was~~ invested much of his money in iron, a hot commodity. Carnegie had a vision, and steel was the new way to go when constructing. So, Carnegie invested in steel, and it brought him a fortune. People that say Carnegie is the ~~very~~ model of the industrial age have a point. Carnegie came to dominate the steel industry, and owned many ships to haul his steel. People of this viewpoint are also correct in the assumption that Carnegie wasn't very kind to his workers. In the Homestead Strike, Carnegie would not give in to his employees. Finally, advocates of this view of Carnegie are correct in seeing that Carnegie was a wise investor. Carnegie saw that through the Bessemer process, steel was ~~the~~ better to invest in rather than iron. Carnegie, like Rockefeller, looked to the future to invest his money in a commodity. To sum it up, Carnegie was the "prime representative of the industrial age".

People suggest that Carnegie was not a "prime representative", but an "atypical leader" of his time. The people that say this are only looking at Carnegie's philanthropy. They say he gave millions of dollars for

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libraries and other buildings. People of this viewpoint also suggest Carnegie is different, because he is poor when he starts out, unlike Rockefeller or Vanderbilt. These people fail to see Carnegie's industrial and labor problems. They also fail to recognize Carnegie's idea of "Gospel of Wealth". This meant ~~that~~ God gave fortune to some people, and those people could use it. Others aren't as well endowed as Carnegie or the Robberbarons.

The validity of whether Carnegie was a "prime representative" or an "atypical leader" is discussed in this essay. Carnegie was obviously an important man in his time, otherwise people wouldn't study about him.

well done,
good pts on both sides,
but you need to develop
a thesis