



Author Information

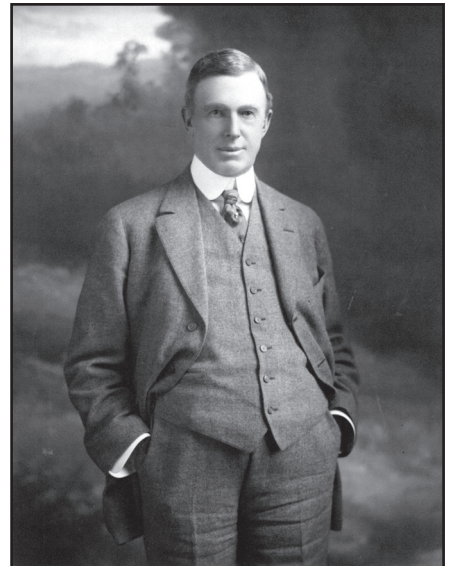
Justus S. Stearns: Michigan Pine King and Kentucky Coal Baron, 1845—1933



Michael W. Nagle is a professor of history and political science at West Shore Community College in Scottville, Michigan. He is the author of *LecturePoint*, a series of web-based interactive lectures covering topics in U.S. history.

About the Justus S. Stearns:

Near the turn of the twentieth century, “Pine King” Justus S. Stearns was Michigan’s largest producer of manufactured lumber and the owner of a prosperous coal mining operation headquartered in Stearns, Kentucky, a town he founded. Over the course of his career, Stearns would own at least thirty manufacturing businesses—making everything from finished lumber to kitchen utensils, game boards, and motors—as well as hotels, a railroad, and a power company. He was also an active member of the Republican Party who served one term as Michigan’s secretary of state and a philanthropist who gave a great deal of his wealth to causes in both Michigan and Kentucky. In *Justus S. Stearns: Michigan Pine King and Kentucky Coal Baron, 1845–1933*, author Michael W. Nagle details Stearns's astounding range of accomplishments and explores the influence of both paternalism and Social Darwinism in his business practices.



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