

Modern Inventions

Great advancements in medicine and technology accompanied the Industrial Revolution in England. Industrialization competition between nations motivated new scientific inventions, which improved factory efficiency and increased productivity. Industrialization and innovation in England spurred the growth of industry in other European countries, as well as the United States, leading to further discoveries. Some major discoveries are listed below.



In 1796 Edward Jenner discovered that by injecting someone with a small dose of a disease such as cowpox, it was possible to prevent that person from contracting the full-blown disease in the future. Through developing vaccination, Jenner saved more lives than any other person had in history.



In 1876 Alexander Graham Bell created a revolution in communications with his invention of the telephone.



In 1879 Thomas Edison discovered the light bulb, which resulted in great domestic demand for light bulbs in homes. Electricity began to be used to power motors, which in turn powered railways and machinery.



In 1895, The German Wilhelm Röntgen developed the first x rays, which enabled doctors to see what procedures needed to be done before surgery. Medical schools came to realize the value of using corpses to train medical students to perform surgery, resulting in far better surgeons.

In the next century, the revolutionary age in inventions would continue with such developments as the radio, the car, and later, the television.

