

Contents

	<i>page</i>
<i>Preface</i>	ix
I Diversity, Necessity, and Evolution	1
II Continuity and Discontinuity	26
III Novelty (1): Psychological and Intellectual Factors	64
IV Novelty (2): Socioeconomic and Cultural Factors	103
V Selection (1): Economic and Military Factors	135
VI Selection (2): Social and Cultural Factors	169
VII Conclusion: Evolution and Progress	207
<i>Bibliography</i>	219
<i>Sources of Quotations</i>	241
<i>Index</i>	245

Index

- Aesop, 3, 6, 13
agriculture, 14, 116; modern, 212–13; primitive, 212–13
airplane, 142, 181–2, 217
Aitken, Hugh G. J., 99
Alexander, Christopher, 108
alphabet blocks, 57
alternative paths, 189–204
American system of manufacturing, 116, 118–19
analogies, organic–mechanical, 14–21
animal kingdom, 13, 14
animal tool use, 13
Aristotle, 15
Arkwright, Richard, 28
artifact, 30; hand-crafted, 103–10; mass-produced, 103–4
Atoms for Peace, 163, 165, 184
Australian aborigines, 18, 64
automobile, 6, 7, 91, 138, 143, 159, 212; electric, 198–200, 201, 202; gasoline, 198, 200, 201–3; steam, 197, 198, 200–2, 203
axe, 88–9, 108

Bachelard, Gaston, 14
Bacon, Francis, 129, 130, 132, 133, 169, 172, 176, 192
Bacon, Roger, 75–6
Bardeen, John, 44
Barnett, H. G., 103
baskets, 104, 106
Bell, Alexander Graham, 98, 141
Bell laboratories, 44, 45, 126, 127
beverage can, 103–4
bicycle, 57
book-writing machine, 55–7
Boulton, Matthew, 82

bow and arrow, 186
Brattain, Walter H., 44
Braun, Ferdinand, 44, 101
Brittain, James E., 91
Bruland, Tine, 111
Brunel, Isambard K., 177, 179–80, 181
Bunzel, Ruth L., 104–5
Butler, Samuel, 15, 16, 24

calculators, mechanical, 56
camel, 10, 11
camera, 142, 217
canals, 195, 196, 197, 203
canoe, 108, 186
Capek, Karel, 76
Cardwell, D. S. L., 50
Carelman, Jacques, 76
change, cumulative, 21–4
chemistry, organic, 28, 124–5
Childe, V. Gordon, 212, 213–16
classification, 16, 17, 137
clock, mechanical, 7, 56, 59
Coalbrookdale, England, 106
compass, magnetic, 41, 169, 172, 173, 176
computer, 141, 143, 185
Constant, Edward W., 28–9
continuity (case studies): barbed wire, 49–55; book-writing machine, 55–7; cotton gin, 32–4; Edison's lighting system, 46–9; electric motor, 40–3; steam and internal combustion engines, 35–40; stone tools, 30–2; transistor, 43–6
continuity, concept of, 21, 26, 208–9
Cooke-Taylor, W., 35
cooking, 14
cotton gin: Whitney, 32–4, 35, 62; *charka*, 33–4, 57, 62
Crochett, Thomas, 84

246 INDEX

- Crompton, Samuel, 28
Crookes, Sir William, 99
cummings, e. e., 2
- Darwin, Charles, 1, 21, 207–8, 217
Daumas, Maurice, 40
David, Paul A., 153
De Forest, Lee, 44
design process, 108
detector, crystal, 44, 45
Diaz, May N., 104–5
Diderot, Denis, 33
Dillon, Sidney, 195
dirigibles, 188
discard, 185–8
discontinuity, 21, 26, 57–62
diversity, 1, 2, 64, 108, 187, 208
dreams, technological, 67–73
Du Pont Company, 125, 128
duration, 187, 189; intermittent, 188, 189
Dyson, Freeman J., 182–3
- Eastman Kodak, 126
Edison, Thomas A., 46–9, 60, 61, 125, 139–40, 141–2, 143, 217
Einstein, Albert, 162
Eisenhower, Dwight D., 163, 164
electricity, 28, 125
electromagnetic waves, 97–102, 216–17
electromagnetism, discovery of, 41
Ellwood, Isaac L., 53
Engels, Friedrich, 61
Ericsson, John, 40
Evans, Oliver, 117
evolution: organic, 1, 2, 3, 15, 16, 20, 135–9, 207, 213–14, 217–18; technological, 1, 2, 3, 15, 16, 30, 61, 135–9, 207–10, 213–15, 217–18
extinction, 185–7, 188, 189
extrapolations, technological, 67–9
- fantasies, popular technological, 74–7
Faraday, Michael, 41, 97, 101
Federal Aviation Agency (FAA), 155, 156, 157, 158
fence: barbed wire, 50–5; hedge row, 51–4; smooth wire, 52; stone or wood, 51
Ferguson, Eugene S., 69, 97
Fermi, Enrico, 162
fire, 7, 11, 13
firearms: in Japan, 78–9, 188–9
Firth, Raymond, 65–6
Fleming, John A., 44
Flink, James J., 159
flour mill, automatic, 117
Fogel, Robert W., 195–7
Ford, Henry, 57, 143, 181, 198
Fulton, Robert, 151
- Galilei, Galileo, 92, 130
General Electric Company, 125–6
generator, electric power, 91, 112, 165, 166, 167
Gilligan, S. C., 21–3, 24
Gille, Paul, 40
Glidden, Joseph F., 53
Goldberg, Rube, 76
grain mills, 144–6, 147, 148
Great Exhibition of 1851, 59, 115–16
Greenwalt, Crawford H., 128
Groves, General Leslie R., 162
Guericke, Otto von, 92
gunpowder, 169, 171–2, 173, 176
Gutenberg, Johann, 192, 194
- Habakkuk, H. J., 116–19
Haish, Jacob, 53, 54
hammers, 2
Hargreaves, James, 28
Henry, Joseph, 41, 61
Hertz, Heinrich, 98–9, 100, 101, 102, 216, 217
Hicks, John R., 115
Hindle, Brooke, 30
Homans, George C., 105
homo faber, 66
homo ludens, 66
Hornblower, Josiah, 82
Horwitch, Mel, 156
hot air engine, 40
Hughes, Thomas P., 91
Huguenots, 81, 84
Huygens, Christiaan, 92
- industrial espionage, 86
industrial research laboratories, 124–7
Industrial Revolution, 27–8, 59, 61–2, 113, 122, 214, 215
innovation, routine, 104, 108
Insull, Samuel, 141
integrated circuit, 45–6
internal combustion engine, 40, 142, 197, 198, 200–3, 217
invention: cumulative synthesis approach to, 23; heroic theory of, 21, 26, 59–60; potential for, 65, 134; psychological aspects of, 24, 64–5, 66; as social process, 21, 103
inventions: capital goods, 114, 115; labor-saving, 115–19; and play, 66, 67; selection of, 139–43
inventor: corporate, 121; as entrepreneur, 151; heroic, 26, 34, 59–60; independent, 128; modern, 130; Renaissance, 129; in U.S.S.R., 123–4
- Jeremy, David J., 83
Jervis, John B., 90–1

- Johnson, Lyndon B., 156
 journalism, scientific/technical, 77
- Kay, John, 28
 Kelly, Michael, 53
 Kennedy, John F., 155
 Kepler, Johannes, 130
 knowledge: scientific, 91–102; technological, 78–91
 Kroeber, Alfred L., 137–8
 Kubler, George, 187, 188
 Kuhn, Thomas S., 28
 Kyeser, Conrad, 71
- Landes, David S., 7, 192
 language, 12
 Laplace, Pierre-Simon de, 209
 Lenoir, Jean Joseph Etienne, 40
 Leonardo da Vinci, 71–2
 light bulb, incandescent, 48, 217
 lighting systems, 46–9
 Locke, John, 57
 locomotive, steam, 90–1, 188
 Lodge, Sir Oliver, 98–9, 100, 101, 102, 216
 Lodygin, A. N., 60
 Lombe, John, 84
 Lombe, Sir Thomas, 84
- McCormick, Cyrus H., 63, 116, 151–4
 machine tools, 16, 118
 machines: imaginary, 55; impossible, 73–4; fantastic, 57; perpetual motion, 73–4
 McLuhan, Marshall, 192
 Marconi, Guglielmo, 60, 100–2, 216–17
 Martinez, Julian and Maria, 105
 Marx, Karl, 2, 13, 21, 81, 110, 207–8
 materials, new, 106
 Maxwell, James Clerk, 97–8, 99, 100, 101, 102, 216
 Mesopotamia, 8, 9
 metaphor, 2, 3
 Morse, Samuel F. B., 60–1, 80, 151
 motor, electric, 40–3
 motor truck, 7, 159–61
 Mueller, W. F., 128
- nature, 4; conquest of, 132–3
 naturfact, 50, 55
 necessity, 2, 3–7, 208, 218
 Needham, Joseph, 40, 174–5
 needs: fundamental, 12–14, 66, 218; perceived, 14, 218
 Neolithic, 31
 Newcomen, Thomas, 35, 37, 40, 92, 93–7, 102
 Nixon, Richard M., 56
 novelty, 25, 63, 134, 209–10; artifactual diversity, 64, 65; culture, 64, 65, 129–
- 33; economic incentives, 110–19; excess of, 135; fantasy, 66–78; hand-crafted artifact, 103–10; industrial conflict, 110–12; industrial research laboratories, 124–9; Islam, 130; knowledge, 65, 78–102; labor scarcity, 115–19; market demand, 113–15; patents, 69–71, 113, 115, 119–124; play, 66–78; psychological factors, 64–5; rejection of, 130, 154; resource scarcity, 112–13; socioeconomic factors, 65, 103, 129
- nuclear airplane, 183–4
 nuclear energy, 161–8; Manhattan project, 162, 168; reactors, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167; Shippingport generating station, 164–7
- nuclear merchant ship, 184–5
 nuclear rocket, 182–3
 nuclear submarine, 163–4, 166
- Oersted, Hans Christian, 41
 Ogburn, William F., 21–2, 23, 24, 114
 O'Neale, Lila M., 104
 Ortega y Gasset, José, 13, 208
 Orwell, George, 55
 Osage orange (*bois d'arc*), 51–4
 Otto, Nikolaus A., 6, 40, 198, 203
- Page, Charles G., 41
 Paleolithic culture, 18
 paper, 170
 Papin, Denis, 92–7
 Parke-Davis, 125
 Pascal, Blaise, 92
 patent system, 60–1, 69, 71, 120–4
 patents, 64, 69, 71, 113, 114, 115; diversity, 2, 64, 119–20, 124; Great Britain, 120, 122; inventor, 60–1, 71, 121; Netherlands, 122–3; Switzerland, 122–3; U.S.A., 69, 74, 120–1; U.S.S.R., 123–4
- Perkin, William H., 125
 Perry, Commodore Matthew C., 189
 Pershing, General John J., 160–1
 phonograph, 139–40, 141–2
 Pitt-Rivers, General Augustus Henry, 15, 16–21, 24, 108
- plastics, 108
 play and technology, 66–78
 pneumatics, 92, 95, 96, 102
 Popov, A.S., 60
 pottery, 104–5, 106, 107, 108, 186
 prehistory, 213–14, 215
 printing, 169, 170, 173, 176, 192; typography, 170, 192–5; xylography (block printing), 170, 192–5, 203
- progress: organic evolution, 217–18; technological, 20, 130–2, 210–18
- Prometheus, 11

- radio telegraphy, 99–101, 141, 216–17
 railroad, 90–1, 153, 190, 195–7, 203; atmospheric, 177–81; India, 80–1
 Ramelli, Agostino, 67–9
 reaper, mechanical, 63, 151–4
 reaping, hand, 63, 151, 153
 recorder, magnetic-tape, 86, 140–1
 revolution: scientific, 26–7; technological, 26–8, 61
 Reynolds, Terry S., 146
 Ricci, Matteo, 194
 Rickover, Admiral Hyman G., 163–6
 rifles, 17
 Righi, Augusto, 100
 Rivers, W. H. R., 186
 Robinson, W. Heath, 76
 Roosevelt, Franklin D., 162
 Rose, Henry M., 53
 Rosenberg, Nathan, 112, 144, 203–4
 saw, Japanese hand, 190–1
 Schiff, Eric, 122
 Schmookler, Jacob, 69, 113–15, 119
 Schuyler, Colonel John, 82
 science fiction, 15, 57
 scythe, 151, 153
 selection, 135, 204–6, 210; artifactual and natural compared, 135–9; in Chinese culture, 169–176; economic constraints, 143–158; fads and fashions, 176–185; military necessity, 158–68; unconscious, 18
 semiconductor, 44
 ship, 22–3
 Shockley, William, 44
 Silberston, Z. A., 122
 silk production, 83–6
 skeuomorph, 106–8
 sledge, 8, 212
 Smiles, Samuel, 59
 Sony, 86–7, 140–1
 Sparks, Samuel S., 69
 species: organic, 1, 138; technological, 2, 137–9
 Spencer, Herbert, 17
 spinning mule, 111
Stagenkunst, 149
 Stanley steamers, 202
 steamboat: American, 89–90; in India, 79–80
 steam engine, 35–40, 41, 43, 141, 217; diffusion of, 82; Newcomen (atmospheric), 35, 37, 40, 92–7, 149–50; Watt, 35, 37, 40, 41, 96, 150
 Stirling, Robert, 40
 supersonic transport (SST), 154–8
 Swan, Sir Joseph W., 60
 Swift, Jonathan, 55–7
 Szilard, Leo, 161–2
 Taintner, Charles S., 141
 Taylor, C. T., 122
 Taylor, Theodore, 182
 technology: autonomous, 204–6; Chinese, 169–76; military, 158–9; prehistoric, 109–10
 technology transfer, 78–91; environmental influences, 88–91; imperialism, 79–81; India, 79–81; migration, 81–3; textile technology, 82–3
 telegraphy, India, 80
 television, 142, 217
 textile machinery, 28, 82–3, 110–12
Theatrum machinarum, 67
 Thorndike, Lynn, 130
 Tikopia, 65–6
 tools: hand, 190–1; metal, 31–2; stone, 13, 27, 30–2, 50, 104, 137
 Torricelli, Evangelista, 92, 102
 transistor, 43–6, 86–7, 217; Japan, 86–7; junction type, 45; point-contact type, 45; radio, 86
 turbojet engine, 28–9
 typewriter, 142
 Usher, Abbott P., 21, 23–4
 utility, 2
 vacuum tube, 44, 45, 46
 variations, random, 103–4
 Vergil, Polydore, 129
 Verne, Jules, 76
 Villa, Pancho, 160
 Villard d'Honnecourt, 73
 visions, technological, 71–3
 watch, digital, 59
 waterwheel, 144–51; Antiquity, 145–6; Middle Ages, 147–9; post-Renaissance, 149, 150
 Watt, James, 35, 37, 40, 63, 82, 150, 217
 Wells, H. G., 76
 Western Electric, 86
 wheel, 7–11, 12
 White Jr., Lynn, 133
 Whitney, Eli, 32–4, 57, 61, 62, 63
 windmill, 79
 Winner, Langdon, 204–5
 wireless telegraphy, 98–102, 217
 wood-carvers, African, 105, 106
 wool-combing, 111–12
 World War I, 7, 160, 161
 World War II, 161, 162, 168
 Wright, Orville and Wilbur, 142, 217
 Yurok-Karok Indians, 104
 Zonca, Vittorio, 84