**Inventions by African Americans**

**What if there were no black people in the world?**

George T. Samon, a black man, invented the clothes dryer. Sarah Boone, a black woman, invented the ironing board. And Jan E. Matzelinger, a black man, invented the shoe lacing machine.



Walter Sammons, a black man, invented the comb. And Lydia O. Newman, a black female, invented the brush.



Lloyd P. Ray, a black man, invented the dustpan. And Thomas W. Stewart, a black man, invented the mop.



John Love, a black man, invented the pencil sharpener. And William Purvis, a black man, invented the fountain pen.



Lee Burridge invented the typewriting machine. And W. A. Lovette the advanced printing press.



Philip Downing, a black man, invented the letter drop mailbox. And John Burr, a black man, invented the lawn mower.



Richard Spikes, a black man, invented the automatic gearshift. And Joseph Gammel invented the supercharge system for internal combustion engines.



Garrett A. Morgan, a black man invented the traffic light. And Lewis Howard Latimer, a black man, invented the filament within the light bulb.



John Standard, a black man, invented the refrigerator. Alice Parker, a black female, invented the heating furnace. And Frederick Jones, a black man, invented the air conditioner.

 

Precursor to the bus was the electric trolley, invented by another black man, Elbert R. Robinson. And Alexander Miles, a black man, invented the elevator.



Daniel Hale Williams, a black doctor, performed the first open-heart surgery. And Dr. Charles Drew, a black scientist, found a way to preserve and store blood, which led to his starting the world's first blood bank.

