

Franklin Gazette

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Friends of Franklin, c/o Dr. Larry E. Tise, Benjamin Franklin National Memorial, The Franklin Institute, Philadelphia, PA 19103

Being ignorant is not so much a Shame, as being unwilling to learn

Benjamin Franklin

from Poor Richard's Almanack, 1755

FROM THE DESK OF LARRY E. TISE

As per usual Benjamin Franklin is getting plenty of attention all around the world. If you missed our jaunt into Benjamin Franklin's historic Connecticut, you--once again--failed to enjoy another priceless moment. But look for a report on that elsewhere in this issue of the *Gazette*. On to a recounting of some juicy tidbits.

1. Bicentennial of Autobiography. Our faithful correspondent, William Carr of Washington, D. C., has reminded us that 1993 is the bicentennial of the publication of Franklin's famous Autobiography. Published originally in England, Carr mentions that despite the fact it got a "lukewarm notice" in the Edinburgh Review, the book became a perennial best-seller in America by 1794. The Autobiography, of course, has gone through dozens if not hundreds of editions and has been translated into many languages. In fact, I am reminded when The Franklin Institute has given awards to individuals from China and Japan, they almost invariably are familiar with Benjamin Franklin because they were required to read the Autobiography when they were students. Thanks Bill.

2. Giant Franklin Sculpture in Cedar. Bill Carr also sent along information on another special Franklin sculpture, pictured in this issue of the *Gazette*. The piece, today in Portland, Oregon's Benjamin Franklin School is 16 feet 8 inches tall and weighs 7,000 pounds. Carved from a single cedar log, the giant statue was created in 1975 in connection with the bicentennial of the American Revolution. The piece was arranged by Betty Fry, long time teacher and fan of Benjamin Franklin, who was recognized in 1989 by the Benjamin Franklin Guild for her work in telling the Franklin story. Her husband Wayne Fry made the excellent photograph for us.

3. Franklin Urn and Obelisk in Mount Auburn Cemetery. Thanks to Friend Nian-Sheng Huang we also now know more about a memorial urn created in Boston by Charles Bulfinch in honor of Benjamin Franklin. Graduating from Harvard in 1785, Bulfinch traveled abroad before launching his career as a Boston architect in 1787. In 1793 in connection with his design for the first row houses in Boston, Bulfinch also ex-

News from the Franklin Papers

Barbara Oberg, Editor

One of the most thrilling moments in the production of the Franklin volumes is the arrival of page proofs. At that instant we begin to appreciate just what the volume will actually look like: we learn how long it will be; we observe the growing list of contributors thanked on the acknowledgements page; we note with relief that the document which had arrived by fax from France just as the volume was going into press--a rare printed form printed on Passy Press for condemning prize ships--did in fact make it into the volume; we have the pleasure of looking at our names on the title page once again. When we see page proofs we sense that, yes, indeed, the work we have done will really be transformed into a book. On April 1 we received with delight the pages for volume 30.

Along with the satisfaction of holding the page proofs in our hands comes one of the most frantic and pressured stages of editing: creating an index. The next time you read one of our volumes, take a

moment to consider the index and think how much easier it makes your reading of the volume. Curious about Franklin's health, his contributions to charity, his scientific interests, his accounts, which books he bought, what he said about fresh air and diet? The index tells you exactly what pages to see. Did you know that he admitted an aversion to writing letters? That he had a habit of composing angry letters and refraining from sending them? The index points you to the references. Are you interested in artisans, celebrations, crown soap, marriage, music, prisons, privateers, typesetting, or wine? Just turn to the index and discover what connection Franklin had with them.

Looking for a good holiday present in late December? Volume 30 of the Franklin Papers may be your answer. It is a rich treasure of new material on Franklin as diplomat, as a printer, as an American in Paris. Bound volumes are due in the warehouses in December.

Mystical, Musical Mystic!

More than fifty Friends of Franklin and Friends of the Franklin Papers came together on June 11 and 12 to enjoy the pleasures--historical, architectural, and musical--of Benjamin Franklin's Historical Connecticut. On Friday, June 11, we toured the campus of Yale University in New Haven and were agog at the fact that only one building remains on the campus from the days when Benjamin Franklin came there (September 1753) to receive an honorary degree for his amazing scientific work in the field of electricity. We were then captivated with an absorbing talk given by Jonathan Dull of the Franklin Papers staff on the incredible exploits of John Paul Jones as he sallied forth from France blasting British enemies--all, of course, with the encouragement and support of Benjamin Franklin. Jonathan's tales prepared us for a hearty lunch at Yale's ancient, hallowed eating emporium, Mory's, home of the renowned Whipin Poofs. A stroll through New Haven's Grove Street Cemetery where everybody who was anybody in Connecticut got laid to rest, completed our visit to the neighborhood of Yale.

Everything else was pretty much Mystic and the neighborhood thereof. Everyone adored the Old Lighthouse Museum in neighboring Stonington. While some of us got a good lesson on historical architecture at historic Whitehall Mansion, others chose to take an impromptu tour of the gardens of Stonington. At Mystic Seaport we picnicked and then got a tour to beat all tours of Mystic. Don Treworgy of the Mystic staff helped us understand the nature of seamanship in the eighteenth century and focused closely on Franklin's famous "Maritime Observations" written in 1785 as Franklin made his eighth and final crossing of the Atlantic. After this tour we were happy that we could relax at a concert where Ellen Cohn, of the Franklin Papers staff, and some of her friends presented a concert of 18th century maritime songs including some of Franklin's favorites. Given the warmth of the day, we were then thrilled with a long, relaxing cruise on the Steamboat Sabino as it glided down an early evening Mystic River.

See "LET", Page 2, Column 1

See "Mystic", page 4



Sculpture by artist Bart Kenworthy at the Benjamin Franklin School in Portland, Oregon. Carved from a single cedar log 22 feet long in 1976, the statue is a single unit rising 16 feet, 8 inches above the floor and weighs 7,000 pounds. Surrounding the statue are the school's fife and drum corps with director Bill Martin.

LET, continued -

ecuted the Franklin urn which was put at a site renamed Franklin Place. Both the houses and the urn became well-known Boston landmarks. Furthermore, Mount Auburn Cemetery contains another large granite obelisk memorial for Franklin. The latter was executed by Thomas Dowse in 1853. William C. Clendaniel, trustee of Mount Auburn Cemetery, says plans for the restoration of the urn are underway. Indeed, Clendaniel is looking for contributors to the project. He needs to close the gap between \$40,000 in needed funds as compared with \$33,955 already in hand. Anyone wishing to make up all or part of the \$6,045 needed can send contributions to William C. Clendaniel at Mount Auburn Cemetery, 580 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

4. Frank Jones--Fundraising Fanatic.

Frank Jones sent a letter to Friends and others asking for contributions to the Franklin Papers project at Yale. The date of the letter was May 20. By the time we met in Mystic, Frank was already counting contributions from Friends in excess of \$3,000. And the checks kept coming while we were at Mystic. Several individuals on our tour decided on the spot to make generous contributions. Those wishing to meet Frank's challenge should send their checks to Friends of Franklin, Inc., either to this address or to Barbara Oberg at the Franklin Papers, Sterling Library, Box 1603A, Yale Station, New Haven, Conn. 06520. As Frank noted, contributors of \$200 or more will be acknowledged in a future volume.

5. Famous Franklin Descendants.

David Meschutt, Curator of Art at the West Point Museum at the U.S. Military Academy has noted that some of Benjamin Franklin's most famous descendants had some very direct ties with the military academy at West Point. After Franklin's favorite grandnephew, Jonathan Williams, served as the first Superintendent of the Academy, three direct descendants graduated and went on to outstanding careers. Hartman Bache and Alexander Dallas Bache, great grandsons, came first and then

much later came Hugh Lenox Scott. Scott, a famous U.S. Senator from Pennsylvania, was first a general in the Army and also a Superintendent of the Academy. Wow! Meschutt is also looking for two portraits of Hartman Bache said to be painted by Thomas Sully. The first was painted between July 19, 1824 and September 16, 1826; the second between June 7 and 14, 1828. He is also looking for other likenesses of Hartman and Alexander Dallas Bache. Anyone with information on such pieces can contact David directly at the West Point Museum, U. S. Military Academy, West Point, New York 10966.

6. Pennsylvania Gazettes Galore.

Franklin stuff still turns up everywhere. Laurie J. Thompson, Director to the California Book Auction, informed us that on June 14 her firm held an auction containing 223 issues of Franklin's Pennsylvania Gazette published between October 9, 1729 and December 12, 1734. The issues were sold to a private collector for an undisclosed amount of money. Interested folk should contact Laurie Thompson directly at (415) 861-7500, extension 204.

7. Correction. In our last issue of the Gazette I said that Franklin was "reading a newspaper" in the now famous bench sculpture that has appeared in various places around the country. Bill Carr says, no, he was reading proof-sheets of the United States Constitution. I stand corrected.

8. Thank you. Every time we have a tour or a local meeting of the Friends of Franklin, we get incredible host assistance from a wide range of folk. Such was the case recently on our tour of Franklin's Historic Connecticut. Floyd Shumway and George Selden, mainstays of the Connecticut based Friends of the Franklin Papers, their spouses and other associates made our visit to Mystic and New Haven both enjoyable and educational. We could not have made the event happen without their excellent assistance.

Keep those cards and letters, suggestions and ideas coming our way. We hope to see you in Chicago in the fall.

When Franklin Played Cupid...

by Claude-Anne Lopez

In the course of November, 1779, Franklin, then Minister Plenipotentiary in France, received the visit of a young Frenchwoman in distress, a Mademoiselle Desbois. She had brought along a recommendation from a man he knew well, the Treasurer of Brittany, M. Beaugeard. The purpose of her trip to Paris was to plead her case, or rather that of the American sea captain she had fallen in love with, John Locke¹. That captain, a whaling master, had been seized by the French while serving on an English vessel, and was currently languishing in prison in Nantes. Could Franklin help them both?

To the Plenipotentiary, the plight of John Locke was a routine case. When the French captured an English ship, they had no way of distinguishing the British crew from the Americans who had been "pressed" into service, generally, though not always against their wishes. Everybody was thrown in jail together and it was up to the Americans to convince Franklin of their nationality and patriotism. When this happened, he, in turn, obtained their release from the French Minister of the Navy, the comte de Sartine.

Love and a prospective marriage were the new elements in this case and imbued Franklin's appeal with a special fervor: "...as your Excellency will see by the enclosed, by the letters that have passed between this captain and the lady and by her earnestness in her solicitations, I perceive they are passionate lovers, and cannot but wish the obstacles to her union removed, and that there were a great many more matches made between the two nations, as I fancy they will agree better together in bed than they do on ships."

Those were indeed the days when the fight between John Paul Jones and the French captain Pierre Landais was reaching its paroxysm and every mail brought the unfortunate Franklin some belligerent memorandum from one party or both. Clashes on ships had become so frequent that efforts had to be made to keep the Allied crews separated.

The prospect of a transatlantic rapprochement made Franklin grow lyrical: "You may lose a prisoner by granting this grace, but I hope the king will gain by it some good young subjects."

Sartine must have been flabbergasted. Former police commissioner that he was, he viewed life with circumspection. Did France's American allies have no grasp of matrimonial laws and customs, did people marry just like that in their country, for love? Come to think of it, the revered, the beloved Doctor himself had demonstrated a rather cavalier attitude toward the sanctity of institutions, what with his common law marriage and illegitimate grandson. All this called for an answer as firm as it was

William Temple Franklin: Dreams of Glory

Part VII

by Claude-Anne Lopez

In the eyes of all Frenchmen, the spring and summer of 1779 belonged to Lafayette. The twenty-one-year-old hero had returned from America in February, cloaked in Washington's friendship and burning with zeal for the revolutionary cause. He had brought Franklin his commission as Minister Plenipotentiary and lost no time in paying him a call, as soon as his few days of house arrest--a slap on the wrist for having left France without permission--were over. Together they planned the illustrations for a book (never published) on British atrocities.

Temple's rather shaky wagon could not be hitched to a brighter star. The perfect occasion presented itself when Congress commissioned Franklin to procure a beautiful ceremonial sword for Lafayette, a task which entailed much preparation. By late August, Temple was dispatched to the Norman port of Le Havre to deliver the precious gift to the marquis.

The sword was a resplendent affair. Executed by Lafayette's own cutler, Liger, it cost 200 louis. Franklin described it to Congress in the following terms: "On one side of the pommel are the Marquis's arms, and on the other the device of a new moon reflecting rays of light on a country partly covered with woods and partly cultivated, symbol of the Republic of the United States. The motto: Crescam ut prosim.¹ By this it was intended modestly to express:

1. Her present mediocrity of strength, as the light of the moon, though considerable, is weaker than that of the sun.

2. Her expectation of becoming more powerful as she increases, and thereby rendering herself more useful to mankind.

3. The gratitude with which she remembers that the light she spreads is principally owing to the kind aid of a greater luminary in another hemisphere."

Did John Adams ever read this? Can't one just hear him exclaiming "No, no, no! We're the sun and they're the moon, not even the moon..."

But Franklin, basking in Adams' absence, proudly launched into a description of the handle, ornamented with two medallions. "In one, America is represented by a woman presenting a branch of laurel to a Frenchman." (One more instance of his visualizing America as the bride, France

as the husband and protector). "In the other a Frenchman is treading on a lion." (The British lion, of course.)

He then explains that various episodes of Lafayette's American campaigns, such as the affair at Gloucester, the retreat off Rhode Island, the battle of Monmouth, etc. are represented in fine relief on the guard. As to the hilt, it was of massive gold and the blade two-edged.²

Along with this beautiful object, Temple brought along a most amiable letter from his grandfather, ending with a flourish in honor of both the hero and his native country: "By the help of the exquisite artists France affords, I find it easy to express everything but the sense we have of your worth and of our obligations to you. For this, figures and even words are found insufficient..."

The encounter between Lafayette and Temple, who were less than three years apart, must have gone extremely well. The reason for Lafayette's presence in Le Havre was that the French had decided to make a descent on England--more specifically on the Isle of Wight. By early July, some thirty-one thousand troops had been assembled at the ports of Le Havre and St. Malo. Lafayette was to serve as staff officer to one of the quartermasters general of the expeditionary force. And now Lafayette offered Temple to become his aide-de-camp for this operation. He promised to keep the young man at his side in active duty and have him "see as much of the service" as he did himself.

Things moved very fast after that. On August 29, Temple brought back to Paris Lafayette's letter to Franklin, asking for his permission to carry out the plan and advising him to contact Foreign Minister Vergennes if he approved of it. Franklin did so two days later, expressing himself with particular graciousness: "I am willing he /my grandson/ should embrace the opportunity of improving himself, in seeing the excellent discipline of the Armies of France, hoping he will thereby be render'd more capable of serving his country and our common cause." Vergennes forwarded the request to the War Minister on September 1st and by the next day word came to Passy that the King had given Temple permission to wear the uniform of aide-de-camp. Apprised of

this, Lafayette sent his congratulations on the 7th and agreed that Temple could wait until the wedding of Jonathan Williams, Jr. which was to take place on the 12th. Meanwhile, news of the event had spread through their circle of friends and the Doctor was congratulated by one and all on his generosity and courage in letting the dear boy go to war.

With everybody predicting mountains of laurels, Temple's sudden glamour may well have eclipsed the bridegroom's own on the wedding day. But as had already happened so often in his life, his joy was of brief duration. By mid-September, when the French and Spanish fleets returned to Brest from their extended stay off the coasts of Spain and England, more than eight thousand French crewmen were sick and the proposed descent on England was canceled in the early days of October because the death toll was mounting. It wasn't really canceled, said the authorities, only postponed, but it never took place. Disappointed as he was, Franklin thanked Lafayette in glowing terms: "Had the Expedition gone on, it would have been an infinite advantage to my grandson to have been present with you so early in life at transactions of such vast importance to great nations. I flattered myself too that he might possibly catch from you some tincture of those engaging manners that make you so much the delight of all that know you."

Christmas day brought both Franklins a bad blow. News arrived from America that John Adams had been appointed to return to Europe, in order to assist in any future peace treaty. This meant more haggling, more recriminations on the horizon. Worse yet, John Laurens--the son of the former President of Congress--had been appointed to the post of secretary of the Embassy in France, at a salary of one thousand pounds. That was Temple's job, slipping away from him, just after his dream of glory had collapsed.

1 May I grow to be useful.

2 The sword is still in the possession of Lafayette's descendants.

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A SPECIAL SMATTERING: BENJAMIN FRANKLIN TOUR OF EUROPE, 1990 (continued)

by Larry E. Tise

21 February, 1990 (Wednesday)

My train from Euston Station to Manchester was met by Ann Boulton, of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society ("Lit and Phil"), who gave me a very efficient tour of the city.

The Society folk are very proud of their Franklin connection. They brought out their early publications and showed various pieces of correspondence from Franklin that had been published by the Society. One article was on rates of rainfall at different elevations; the other a speculation on the effects of long-persisting cloud formations on global temperatures and thereby the amount of accumulation of frozen precipitation during any particular winter. Everywhere I went the story was the same: Franklin not only joined these organizations or was honored by them; he was very active in them.

22-23 February, 1990 (Thursday/Friday)

My itinerary included a visit to the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry, whose historic buildings are a part of its interpretation of the history of science and industry. I was most pleased to visit the large exhibit on electricity and to find Benjamin Franklin the first image seen. And in the museum's gift shop were several good books on Franklin. From here it was on to Edinburgh, where my stops included the Scottish National Library. A variety of Franklin letters are kept here, including a good diary of an individual who visited Franklin while he was ensconced in Passy. Back to London, and then to Brussels.

25 February, 1990 (Sunday)

From the hotel I made a direct line to the Royal Museum of Art, where I wanted to get information on the residence of the Prince of Lorraine. Franklin visited the Prince in the 1760s, and the two of them evidently conducted some joint electrical experiments. The Prince also had vast natural history collections that interested Franklin. With some considerable linguistic difficulty I finally got a knowledgeable person who had heard of the Prince and who with the address and information I had along was finally able to determine that the former residence of the Austrian prince was adjacent to the Royal Museum! Indeed, it is today a part of the Royal Library and contains historical publications and records of the period of Austrian domination over Belgium. I was frustrated that I was unable to get into the place (universally, it seems, libraries are closed on Sundays, museums on Mondays). When I called the curator on Monday I learned that the building can be toured but contains little that belonged to the Prince of Lorraine.

Unable to complete my mission, I got on the phone to the secretaries general of the two international scientific unions that are located in Brussels. I had hoped to meet with both of them on Monday before departing for Rotterdam. I had to content myself with talking with them by phone, but both are ensuring that nominations for our Bower Award will be forthcoming from their unions.

To be continued in the next Gazette

Mystic, continued

Surrounding all of the touring was, of course, plenty of good food, more entertaining talks, and some of the best socializing ever done in the name of Franklin. Floyd Shumway astonished us with the story of all of Benjamin Franklin's connections with New Haven, especially in the form of yet another publishing partnership. And, then, our two day outing was fittingly concluded by yet another entertaining lesson on Franklin's connections with Nantucket delivered by Claude-Anne Lopez.

This tour was cosponsored by the Friends of the Franklin Papers, which during the course of the tour presented a gift of \$2,000 to Barbara Oberg for the Papers project. Floyd Shumway and George Selden of the Friends gave us great assistance in organizing the tour; and Mr. and Mrs. Norman Boas proved to be faithful guides as we wended our way around the historical byways of the Mystic area.

And now Chicago, here we come.

Cupid, continued -

courteous: "I would be glad to grant the man his freedom, but allow me to observe that the English Court is claiming him because, by escaping, he broke his word of honor, and furthermore abducted a demoiselle who is probably the very one you met. You will understand, Sir, that I cannot possibly help join those two people without knowing the intentions of the young lady's family. A premature release on my part would give the impression that I approve of the prisoner's conduct, whereas, in fact society requests that I do not grant him lightly the means of abusing her parents' trust and perhaps even the trust of the girl he has seduced. I shall look further into this affair..."

He did. And two weeks later he reported that the Governor of Nantes, M. de la Villehelio, strongly suspected Locke of being already married in America. Sartine also forwarded a letter from Mademoiselle Desbois' mother, referring, as he says, to her daughter's abduction

and plans to flee to England. (This last document does not appear among Franklin's papers; it was sent back to Sartine, at his request.)

Alas, poor Franklin, what a faux pas! The worst of it is that if his files had been kept in Passy with the same care as they are at Yale, he would have known all along that Locke was married. One year earlier, while begging for his release, Locke had informed him of the fact: "Most honrabil docktor Sur, Thease lines comes to in form you that as I am hear and a Marican and a poor prisner & have a wife and famly in a maricah..."

The best thing to do, of course, was to keep quiet and let Mademoiselle Desbois slip out of his life.

But she didn't. A little over three years later, a letter arrived from L'Orient--again from Brittany and again from a respectable source: the rector of the Royal Church, Monseigneur Brossiere. The young woman was nothing if not well con-

nected. After the usual apologies for taking up Franklin's time, the cleric informed him that when Locke was eventually exchanged and went back to England, she had followed him there and lived with him for two years under the name of "Madame Loch." Everybody thought they were married but in fact they were not. She is back in France now and has met a most suitable party but cannot prove that she has never been married to "Loch" unless Franklin helps her make it clear that Locke already has a wife and child in Nantucket. Better still if he can attest that the wife is still alive.

Franklin's answer, if he sent one, has disappeared, but isn't it a wonder that his devotion to Frenchwomen remained unchanged after all that?

1 A Native of Cape Cod, Locke had married Abigail Mayo on July 9, 1775, as indicated in the Vital Records of Nantucket to the Year 1850 (Boston, 1925-8), iv, 131.

Benjamin Franklin: Philosopher and Physician

by William W.L. Glenn, M.D.

Although untrained in science, Franklin solved one of the great riddles of the natural sciences--the true nature of electricity; although not a doctor of medicine, he was a co-founder of the first hospital in America; and although he received only a modicum of formal education, he played a signal role in the establishment of schools of higher learning in Pennsylvania.

In the 18th century, the Age of Enlightenment, it was customary for men of intelligence to dabble in science even though they had no background in mathematics or physics. Franklin, forever stimulated to reveal the mysteries of nature, in 1745 persuaded three Philadelphia colleagues, a silversmith, a minister and a lawyer, to join him, a printer, in experiments to discover the true nature of electricity. With no scientific background and with only the knowledge that they received from books shipped from Britain and Europe, and with no instruments other than those that they made themselves, they would certainly appear to be an unlikely lot to tackle the secrets of the "electric fire". Yet these men were destined to make fundamental discoveries in electricity that would command the respect of the civilized world. Franklin, himself, was two centuries later given credit by the Nobel Laureate Milliken for having discovered the 'electric atom'.

It was undoubtedly his interest in electricity that around this time led Franklin to deliver electric shocks to patients with muscular paralysis. Among the many other medical problems claiming his attention (Table), two in particular were the subjects of repeated correspondence--the common cold, which he was convinced was contagious, and bladder stones (from which he himself suffered but which he refused to be "cut" for). His interest in smallpox took a personal turn

when his son Francis Folger died of the pox. He wrote also on the physiology of heat production and heat loss, fluid balance, circulation, hemostasis, and the effects of exercise and diet on the body.

Franklin's medical knowledge was greatly enhanced during his six-year term as Manager of the Pennsylvania Hospital, a position which required his knowing every patient admitted to the hospital. This institution, which he co-founded with Dr. Thomas Bond in 1752, received his dedicated support, as evident in his report to the public, "Some Account of the Pennsylvania Hospital; From its First Rise, to the Beginning of the Fifth Month, Called May 1754." In addition to being a comprehensive report of the hospital's operation, it was a subtle appeal for support of the hospital in the future. Following his own advice to others, Franklin made the Pennsylvania Hospital a beneficiary in the will he wrote fifty years later. From Franklin's idea in 1743 to establish a place of higher learning in Pennsylvania grew the Academy. This spawned the College of Philadelphia and a medical department was added. The first Bachelor of Medicine degree in America was conferred there in 1768.

The College of Philadelphia evolved into the University of Pennsylvania, which now has an enrollment of over 21,000 students. The first medical school in America, begun at the University, still sends some of its 650 students to learn on the clinical services of the Pennsylvania Hospital. Approximately 20,000 patients are admitted to the Hospital annually. The large new facilities dwarf the still recognizable and useful structure built over 225 years ago.

Franklin's scientific interests covered a wide range of subjects which he pursued with his fellow "artisans" in the Junto and later in the American Philosophical

Society which he founded. The Society, after fading for a time, became a permanent scientific institute and continues today as The American Philosophical Society Held at Philadelphia for Promoting Useful Knowledge. One of its past Presidents is Dr. Jonathan Rhoads, a member of the Friends of Franklin. The distinguished membership holds regular meetings, publishes transactions, and conducts research, grant, and fellowship programs.

What has happened to the medical uses of electricity since Franklin's epochal discoveries? For two centuries many attempts were made by able scientists to apply electrical energy to simulate or supplement normal neural and muscular functions. Although there was ample evidence of temporary success in the alleviation of symptoms, the full potential for functional electrical stimulation of excitable tissue was not realized until the discovery of the transistor in 1948. The rational use of electrotherapy employing modern micro-electronic devices rapidly revolutionized functional stimulation of excitable tissue. Pacemakers for the heart, the diaphragm, the bladder, and extremities already benefit thousands of patients, and there is substantial benefit of similar devices to aid the deaf and to ease the suffering from intractable pain. Electronic devices similar to those used to stimulate excitable tissue are being employed to power the artificial heart. In the latter part of his life Franklin wrote of his disappointment that electrotherapy as he applied it had not benefitted muscular paralysis. What a thrill he would get if from "the being immersed in a cask of Madeira wine then--recalled to life" he saw the many miracles his "little machine" had wrought.

Franklin's Medical Interests		
(partial list)		
Skin	Ears	Smallpox
Absorption	Deafness	Vital statistics
Evaporation	Chest	Yellow fever
Eczema	Colds	Heart
Neuromuscular	Consumption	Circulation
Electrotherapy	Pleurisy	Heat production
Epilepsy	General	Resuscitation
Palsy	Cancer	Gastrointestinal
Eyes	Exercise	Cramps
Optical (bifocal lens)	Gout	Diarrhea
Metabolism	Hemostasis	Genitourinary
Diet	Hydrotherapy	Bladder
Fever	Infection	Urinary retention
Heat Loss	Lead Poisoning	
Heat Production	Sea Sickness	

Dr. Glenn is Charles W. Ohse Professor emeritus of Surgery at Yale University.
* This paper is abstracted from his article published in The American Journal of Surgery, 149 (1985): 426-34.

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Dr. Larry E. Tise, Co-Editor*

Franklin Gazette

Benjamin Franklin's Old Northwest

October 1-2, 1993

Chicago, Illinois

The "Windy City" will be the site of the next exciting event for the Friends of Franklin and all those interested in learning more about "Benjamin Franklin's Old Northwest". Highlights of the event are as follows:

On Friday, October 1, our program will begin at the Field Museum, one of the world's foremost museums of natural sciences. Established in 1893, the museum houses more than 10 acres of exhibits surveying Earth's history. There Dr. Gregory E. Dowd, Associate Professor at the University of Notre Dame, will speak of Franklin and the Indians in an address entitled "Nature's Nobel-man and the American Indian". This will be followed by a guided tour of the museum. Lunch will be held in the Founders' Room at the museum and there will be a short meeting of the Friends of Franklin.

Our next destination is The Newberry Library one of the world's great independent research and education centers for the humanities. Founded in 1887, the Library houses 1.5 million books, 5 million manuscripts, and 75,000 maps. We will be greeted by Charles T. Cullen, Chief Executive at The Newberry Library. He will speak to us on the subject of Jefferson and Franklin's relationship and the importance of Franklin and libraries. Then, in a special presentation, learn about Newberry's collection on American printing and other special collections, fol-

lowed by a reception to conclude our visit to The Newberry Library. A dinner will be held at The University Club of Chicago, a private club founded in 1887 and considered an architectural landmark of the city. After dinner, George Waters (Friend of Franklin) will do a presentation on "Benjamin Franklin's Role in Establishing the Northwest Territories".

Saturday, October 2, we will begin our day at The Field Museum where Dr. Andrew Cayton, Associate Professor of History at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, will talk about "Benjamin Franklin and the Expansion of the American Empire". A wrap-up session will follow. From there, we will begin a guided bus tour of Chicago's most evident pride - its famous architecture. This tour will last approximately 3 1/2 hours and will be led by a docent from the Chicago Architecture Foundation. Lunch will be arranged at a restaurant along the way and there will be a refreshment break and rest stop. An optional dinner will be arranged for those who wish to join the group.

Please plan on joining us for this fascinating program as we discover Benjamin Franklin's connection to the Northwest and explore the vibrant city of Chicago. For more information on this event, please call Kathy Fau at (215) 448-1181. Friends of Franklin— be on the lookout for information packets which will be mailed the first week in August.

New Members

Sustaining

A. L. Brinkman
Peter Van Cleave

Individual

John L. Brown
Chuck Carson

Franklin Friend

Jack H. Hunkele
Skip Lane

Subscriber

Clinton Public Schools,
Clinton Iowa

Schedule of Upcoming Events

September 30, 1993

Friends of Franklin Executive Committee Meeting, Chicago, Illinois
7:00PM

October 1, 1993

Friends of Franklin Board of Directors Meeting, Chicago, Illinois
8:00AM

Friends of Franklin General Membership Meeting, Chicago, Illinois
12:30PM

October 1-2, 1993

"Benjamin Franklin's Old Northwest", Chicago, Illinois

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

All individuals, institutions, scholars, students, collectors and others are invited to become members of the Friends of Franklin at the annual membership rates indicated below.

Life Membership	\$1,000
Institutional Member	\$1,000
Sustaining Friend	\$100
Franklin Friend	\$50
Individual Member	\$30
Subscription to the Gazette	\$20

Send check made payable to:

THE FRIENDS OF FRANKLIN
Dr. Larry E. Tise
Benjamin Franklin National Memorial
20th and The Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1194