

FRANKLIN INSTITUTE

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1909, WITH APPENDICES EM- BRACING THE ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND SECTIONS.

To the Members of the Franklin Institute:

The Board of Managers herewith transmits the reports of its Committees on Instruction, Elections and Resignations, Stocks and Finance, Publications, and Sectional Arrangements, and of the Curators, for the Institute year ending September 30, 1909.

What is probably the most important work of the Institute's year, outside of the regular routine of the various committees, finds expression in the changes in the By-laws, which have been voted upon to-day. These changes in part create a new class of membership, which we believe will result in an extension of the usefulness of the Institute, and an increase in the number of its members. They provide for an increase in the number of the Institute Managers by one—from 24 to 25—the additional member to be elected by the Alumni Association. They provide for the election of the Secretary, and the appointment of members of the Science and Arts Committee by the Board,—thus centralizing the responsibility for the conduct of the routine work of the Institute. They make various changes in the methods of procedure by the Science and Arts Committee, which it is believed will increase the efficiency of the Committee, making the work more attractive to men of ability,—reducing the clerical work to be done by them, so that hereafter men serving on this Committee will find the work of higher class, more commensurate with their abilities than heretofore, and therefore more attractive. The Chairman of the Science and Arts Committee will be ex-officio a member of the Board.

These are the principal changes proposed and we believe them to be very important and valuable.

I am pleased to report that the Alumni Association of the Institute, which was mentioned in our last Annual Report, has organized and is in a healthful condition. The Association has 89 members. We believe that the interest of the Alumni in the Institute will be fostered and the Institute's work materially aided by this organization.

During the year the Board has lost by death Dr. Persifor Frazer, whose service on the Board dates, with an intermission, from January, 1880. Dr. Frazer's "interest in the Institute may be said to have come as a heritage." A memorial to Dr. Frazer appears in the *JOURNAL* for July, 1909.

The status of the proposed new building for the Institute is practi-

cally as it was at the time of the last Annual Report. The Institute has available a fund of \$331,000, and its equity in this building—about \$65,000. This is enough for the erection of a suitable and sufficient building, but not for the purchase of a site on the Boulevard and the erection of a building monumental in character. We have hope that the City will give us an appropriate site on the Boulevard, in which event work on the building will be begun almost immediately. In the meantime, the fund, which is in the hands of the City Trusts, is invested and increasing.

It would be very satisfactory to provide a better home for the Institute, but if the time comes to leave this building the parting will be with regret. This old building has been the scene of much work of the highest class. From it have gone out to the work of the mechanical world, hundreds of boys much benefited by the instruction here given them, and through that benefit largely benefiting industrial Philadelphia. This old building has been the centre of work that has been extensive and useful far out of proportion to the moneys expended, and due to the intelligent self-sacrifice of our predecessors. It is an honored building, and its work is known in every centre of scientific thought the world around. While we remain here may our work be worthy of the old home, and of our honored predecessors—if we leave may it be to make the new home a worthy successor to the old. We cannot presume to wish more.

For the Board of Managers,

WALTON CLARK,
President.

PHILADELPHIA, January 19, 1910.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION.

To the Board of Managers:

Your Committee on Instruction begs to report as follows:

Early in the spring of 1909, it was considered advisable to reorganize the curriculum of the Schools connected with the Institute.

After numerous meetings, Mr. William H. Thorne—who has for many years been associated with the Schools, and upon whose energy and ability their success has largely depended—was appointed Director of the Schools, having for his able Assistants:

Messrs. Lucien E. Picolet, Principal of the School of Machine Design; M. H. Keil, Principal of the School of Naval Architecture; John Loman, Instructor in Algebra; H. E. Hutchins, Instructor in Geometry and Trigonometry; Clement Remington, Principal of the School of Architectural and Free-Hand Drawing; I. P. Pedrick, Assistant Instructor in Elementary Drawing; and W. W. Twining, Assistant.

Through the generosity of one of the Trustees, your Committee was enabled to introduce individual instruction in mathematics for such of the students as required it. The plan has proved most successful, and the Committee feel confident it has filled a long needed want.

A table is herewith submitted showing the attendance during the Winter