A PROCLAMATION
(Benjamin Franklin Day)

WHEREAS, the life of Benjamin Franklin, journalist, scientist, statesman and diplomat, exemplifies in full measure the American Way of Life; and

WHEREAS, no one of his generation did more towards conferring upon the American Colonies the priceless ingredients of independence and a popular government; and

WHEREAS, though probably the most inventive genius of his age, and thus indirectly the founder of many fortunes, he never asked a patent for any of his inventions or discoveries; and

WHEREAS, the most impressive characteristic of his life was his constant study and singleness of purpose to promote the welfare of human society;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. Strom Thurmond, Governor of the State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim January 17, 1949, as Benjamin Franklin Day in fitting tribute to his memory and urge all citizens to review his accomplishments in relationship to the beneficial effect his genius had upon the progress of the world.

Given under my hand and seal this 16th day of January, in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and forty nine.

J. Strom Thurmond, Governor