

# Lindberghs still tethered to geography

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It was 74 years ago this month that Charles A. Lindbergh, with his wife, Anne, as co-pilot, set off from Long Island in their Lockheed Sirius monoplane on a survey flight to the Orient, opening the windows of flight for the average citizen.

On Wednesday the variable pitch propeller and a Bausch & Lomb bubble sextant used on the flight will be auctioned by Christie's in New York. The propeller is expected to bring \$30,000-\$50,000. The sextant, which has a \$10,000-\$15,000 estimate, was also used by the Lindberghs on their 14-hour, 45-minute California-to-New York flight in 1930 that set a transcontinental record.

The propeller and sextant are being deaccessioned by The American Geographical Society, to whom Lindbergh donated a number of items, to enable the Society "to further its mission of geographical research and education."

The auction also will include a collection of photographs relating to Lindbergh's New York-to-Paris flight in 1927, when "The Lone Eagle," as he came to be known, made aviation history by becoming the first person to cross the Atlantic Ocean nonstop and alone. The collection has a \$1,500-\$2,000 estimate.

A second collection of photos, which relate to Lindbergh's 1933 flight from New York to Labrador, Greenland, Iceland, Europe, the Azores, Africa, Brazil, and back, is expected to bring \$1,000-\$1,500. The Lindbergh lots are among the scientific and engineering offerings featured in Christie's Maritime Auction.

Skinner, the only big auction house in the nation that specializes in all types of scientific artifacts, holds two Science & Technology Auctions a year.

At the spring auction, held in conjunction with the sale of toys and dolls, offerings were as varied as scientific and technical instruments, early tools, sewing machines, cameras, phonographs, and typewriters.

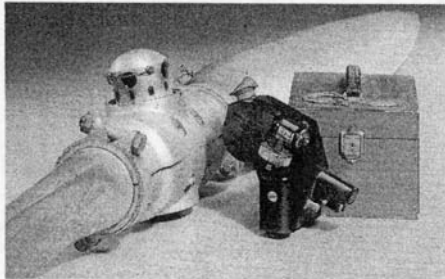
The top seller of the more than 600 lots was an 18th-century optical toy, "L'Habit fait l'Homme," a transformation game that dealt with human perception and conjured images. An example of that era's growing interest in recreational science, the game brought \$24,675 against an \$8,000-\$12,000 estimate.

Other top prices included \$8,813 for a rare colonial brass theodolite, a surveying instrument used to measure horizontal and vertical angles; \$5,288 for an 1871 four-inch astronomical refracting telescope by Alvan Clark & Sons of Cambridgeport; and \$8,225 for an Edison electric pen.

Designed for stencil duplicating, Edison's electric pens are said to have sold in large numbers when they went on sale in 1876, but the demand soon lessened with the development of the typewriter. A circa 1883 Hammond Model 1 typewriter, expected to bring \$200-\$300, fetched \$1,243.

The Science & Technology session was preceded by the sale of mechanical music, toys, and dolls, which saw a Welte Briscovia "A" piano orchestrion bring \$70,500; a circa 1840 unpublished and autographed draft of "The Remarkable Story of Chicken Little" by

## Antiques & Collectibles



The variable pitch propeller used on the survey flight that Charles Lindbergh and his wife, Anne, took to the Orient in 1931 is expected to bring \$30,000-\$50,000 at Christie's Wednesday auction of scientific and engineering offerings. Jumeau's "Triste" or "Long Face" doll, which sold for \$16,450 at



Skinner's auction of mechanical music, toys, and dolls, science and technology, appears to be captivated by the rare advertising automaton that fetched \$17,625 at the two-day auction. The automaton depicts the heroine of



John Greene Chandler \$45,825; and a circa 1885 French Triste or "Long Face" doll by Jumeau \$16,450.

Art Deco jewelry, the geometric designed and often bold jewelry that became fashionable in the 1920s, continues after some 80 years to be one of the strong areas of the market today.

That was evident at Skinner's Fine Jewelry Auc-

tion where all but three of the 50 Art Deco lots offered sold and all for more or within their estimates.

Among the top sellers were four platinum and diamond pieces, including a bracelet highlighted with emeralds that brought \$24,675 against a \$10,000-\$15,000 estimate; a pair of ear pendants \$21,150 against an \$8,000-\$12,000 estimate; and a tassel pendant \$18,800 against an \$8,000-\$10,000 estimate.

Signed pieces are especially coveted as was the Art Deco platinum and diamond pendant watch by Cartier that brought \$6,463 or more than six times the low of its \$1,000-\$1,500 estimate.

Even some of the lesser pieces exceeded their estimates, with an Art Deco 14-karat gold, enamel, and hardstone bracelet, expected to bring \$600-\$800, selling for \$1,410, and an enamel and diamond compact with a \$500-\$600 estimate fetching \$2,233.

The highest prices were \$41,125 for a two-stone diamond ring, one of them colored, and \$36,425 for a silver brooch designed by sculptor Alexander Calder as a fish. Estimates were \$20,000-\$30,000 for the ring and \$8,000-\$12,000 for the brooch.

Outer Cape Auctions will hold its 7th Anniversary Summer Auction Friday and Saturday at 4 p.m. at Provincetown Town Hall.



Friday's session featuring 188 works on paper is highlighted by a watercolor "Cottage in Winter" by John Whorf and a pastel portrait of the actress Angie Dickinson painted in 1969 by LeRoy Neiman (1921-). The Whorf painting is expected to bring \$13,000-\$15,000 and the Neiman portrait \$8,000-\$10,000.

William Wallace Denslow's 1901 picture book "Denslow's Mother Goose." This Art Deco platinum and diamond tassel pendant brought \$18,800 at Skinner's Fine Jewelry Auction last month. Aldro T. Hibbard's "Motif #1, Rockport" is one of more than 300 works of art to be offered by Outer Cape Auctions at its 7th Anniversary Summer Auction next weekend in Provincetown.

Whorf (1903-59) is also expected to be the top selling artist at Saturday's session of 140 works on canvas and of bronzes. His 1923 oil painting "Moroccan Townscape" has a \$30,000-\$40,000 estimate. Other expected top sellers include Karl Knaths's (1891-1971) "Cattle, Provincetown" (\$25,000-\$30,000) and Aldro T. Hibbard's

(1886-1972) "Motif #1, Rockport" from 1947 (\$10,000-\$12,000).

Two oil paintings by Arthur Vidal Diehl (1870-1929), "The Net Menders" and "Race Point Dunes," each have a \$6,000-\$8,000 estimate.

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