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State Teachers' College
Planned Today
Special to The Globe
Oct 30 1940

Pittsburg, Kan., Oct. 29.—Devotions in memory of Dr. William A. Brandenburg, president of Kansas State Teachers college for more than a quarter of a century, who died in St. Mary's hospital in St. Louis at 1:45 o'clock this morning, will be offered by the faculty and student body at chapel services at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Shocked by news of the death of the beloved prexy, plans of faculty, students and alumni were at a standstill today awaiting announcement of funeral details. The family of Dr. Brandenburg, en route here from St. Louis today with the body, was expected to arrive late tonight. The body will be received by the Brenner mortuary.

Homecoming Plans Off.

Plans for a homecoming celebration in connection with the scheduled football game with St. Benedict's college here Saturday have been cancelled. In event the funeral is announced for Saturday, the game will be called off. If services are held before Saturday, the conference game will be played, but there will be no student celebration.

Miss Belle Provorse, secretary to Dr. Brandenburg, is directing affairs of the college until a successor to the president is named. No meeting of the board of regents has been announced as yet.

Dr. Brandenburg was 71 years old. He had been a patient in the St. Louis hospital several weeks.

One of the outstanding educators of the middle west, he came to Pittsburg 28 years ago to become head of a small normal training school branch, building it into a college of 1,800 students.

Before coming here, he was superintendent of schools at Oklahoma City, Mason City, Ia., and in a suburb of Des Moines. Dr. Brandenburg was educated at Drake university, where he was a Phi Beta Kappa student, and later received the honorary degree of LL.D. from Monmouth college in Illinois.

Headed College Ass'n.

He served in high capacities with numerous educational committees and organizations, his latest and most significant honor being election to presidency of the American Association of Teachers Colleges.

A man of vast energy, Dr. Brandenburg worked tirelessly in the interests of the college here. Shortly after he became president, one of the school's two buildings, Russ hall, was destroyed by fire and only through his leadership were funds obtained to assure the continuation of the school.

On numerous occasions he made tiring trips to Topeka to "lobby" for appropriations in favor of his school. He was widely recognized as a constructive builder.

Because of the effect it might have on the school, he preferred that the seriousness of his illness not be disclosed, and his death came unexpectedly to most persons.

He was taken to St. Louis the last of September for treatment of complications of diseases. A week ago he was removed to the home of a daughter, Mrs. H. K. Leedham in Webster Groves, but suffered a relapse and was returned to the hospital Friday.

He remained active in management of the school affairs, even during his illness, corresponding and talking by telephone almost daily with other school officials.

Dr. Brandenburg was never too busy to be "available" to students for advice. His democratic principals extended throughout the campus, and the faculty became unusual for its lack of distinction of rank.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete but services probably will be held in the college auditorium here.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. W. A. Brandenburg of the home; three daughters, Mrs. Leedham, Mrs. Helen Carney of Gallup, N. M., and Mrs. Amy Halliday of Pittsburg; two sons, William A. Brandenburg, jr., dean of the faculty of William Woods college at Fulton, and Harold Brandenburg, a teacher in the Columbus, Kan., schools; and a sister, Dr. Amy L. Rennie of Los Angeles.

Pittsburg, Kan. 
Oct 30, 1940
Brandenburg, the Leader.

President William A. Brandenburg would have been a leader of men in any field of activities to which he had committed his career. Kansas and the wide area over which the College has extended its influence, and educators throughout the country knew him as president of the College, as an educational administrator of high rank, but Pittsburg knew him not only as chief executive at the College but as a virile, aggressive and tireless worker in civic affairs. Kansas saw a great deal of him on the platform as he responded to innumerable calls, ever accepting such invitations as part of his duties as head of a large state institution. Graduates of the College, occupying educational posts over the state, felt free to ask him for addresses and he tried to serve them all. Long favored with good health and a strong physique, he carried on without ill effects. And to the large number of tasks he assumed in the line of official duty, as he interpreted it, President Brandenburg added a multitude of other tasks both in the state and in his own community. In the more than 27 years of his residence in Pittsburg, he served on scores of important civic committees, sometimes as a member and often as chairman. Whatever his assignment, he took it not only cheerfully but enthusiastically. No man in Pittsburg in the last quarter of a century has been more of a leader.

Primarily, President Brandenburg was a great executive. When he came to Pittsburg he knew that it was a small school he was to direct. He was aware of the difficulties through which it had survived. Its facilities were limited. But he welcomed the opportunity to build on the foundation already laid an institution that would justify recognition in the world of education. The growth of the College, as shown by the splendid structures on the campus, all except one of which he saw erected according to his plans, the large student body, the faculty four or five times as large as the faculty that greeted him in 1913 and multiplied thousands of men and women who passed through the College and received from his hands the awards for their work, is the highest tribute to his greatness.

The College could not have advanced without leadership and direction. Its continuous progress is the proof beyond challenge that a steady hand and a master mind were in the administrative office.

Here, William A. Brandenburg, with the aid of loyal men and women, built not only an institution of learning of value that cannot be overestimated but he built a monumental career for himself. And in that career, Pittsburg and Kansas can long take pride.