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# EDUCATION, NOT LAWS CAN SOLVE PROBLEMS

DR. L. A. PITTENGER SPEAKS  
AT BRANDENBURG BAN-  
QUET LAST NIGHT.

Indiana Educator Appears at Con-  
cluding Event of Visitors' Day  
Honoring College President;  
Gifts Are Presented.

March 19, 1938

Speaking at a dinner honoring President and Mrs. W. A. Brandenburg last night, Dr. L. A. Pittenger, president of Ball State Teachers College, Muncie, Ind., pointed to the need of trust in education instead of legislation as a solution to problems. The dinner meeting concluded visitors' day honoring Dr. Brandenburg's silver anniversary as head of the school.

The speaker's theme stressed the advancement made in this nation, which he declared was made possible because of education and freedom. He pointed to progress made since 1913, the year Dr. Brandenburg took charge of the school.

Dr. Pittenger carried his listeners back to the early day Greece and Rome, and even to Biblical periods to stress his point.

### Toast.

The Indiana educator was the principal speaker on a program that included other talks and presentation of a gift for Mrs. Brandenburg and a joint gift for the couple. F. W. Brinkerhoff in giving a toast to the College head pointed to him as a foremost educator, able administrator and useful citizen.

In his talk, Dr. Pittenger appeared before an audience that filled the College cafeteria. A personal friend of President Brandenburg, and as a representative of the North Central Association of State Teachers Colleges, he brought congratulations from the latter organization.

"Twenty-five years ago," Dr. Pittenger stated, "we were just recovering from a horse and buggy depression."

### Change.

The speaker recalled a motor car trip made from Muncie to Cleveland, a distance of 220 miles, which required three days. "We had five blowouts and 21 punctures," he said. "But the remarkable point of the trip was a 2-mile stretch of pavement that was six feet wide. We were told then that it was planned to widen the route at some time so wagons might pass on the paving, crude as it was. We traveled twenty to 25 miles per hour on the trip."

Dr. Pittenger pointed to the development of the airplane; the electric eye; the telephone and telegraph. "All these have come about in my time, and I'm not old," he pointed out.

"Man," he said, "is that something with a soul, but it seems at times that man is being treated as a machine. That is the situation in Spain now."

### Individualism.

"When dictators stalk the earth, and when there is a 1-man rule, we should be proud of our representative form of government. At times like this, the long shadow of Washington seems to lean out.

"We have men as leaders in various fields whose shadows lean out over our institutions. There is individualism. Individualism is very valuable to a person if that person is free.

"But this individual must be free if the institution for which he stands is to be of value. He must have vision.

### Invention.

"A free man invents. To see the truth of this statement, check back over the history of the United States for the last 50 years. Back in some of the old world countries conditions are virtually unchanged from biblical times, but that is not the case in the United States.

"We educate our children. In biblical times, children quite often were sacrificed. Among the early Greeks and Romans, the will of the father was the deciding factor whether the baby lived or died. Crippled or weak children were killed. Even leading educators and statesmen of that day held the belief that death at the will of the father, for the crippled and weaklings, was proper.

"In this country, with more freedom, that situation is quite different. We build hospitals to treat our children.

### Science.

"We are told that our knowledge destroys us. We have been urged to do away with machinery, and to have all hand labor. We are told that scientific investigation ruins our morals, and that social consciousness is more important than individual."

The speaker pointed to the Sixteenth century, when death was the penalty for a declaration that the Bible teaches morals, not science. This, he pointed out, was not long before in the Eighteenth century the same punishment was demanded for instruction in combustion, the same as is being taught today.

"It is not necessary to go back that far," Dr. Pittenger declared. "We have had our purges in Russia and in Germany."

"We are too ready to blame others. We criticize too easily. When we learn to take our share of responsibility, the situations we find will be met much easier."

Dr. Pittenger called upon his listeners to "dedicate ourselves to something really worth while, as a product of education, we will trust to education rather than legislation."

Mr. Brinkerhoff, as the initial speaker for the program, pointed out "there is a difference in men, and a difference in reaction to men." He told of being in Pittsburg when Dr. Brandenburg came here 25 years ago.

### Contrast.

"When he arrived here in 1913 from Oklahoma, there was a couple of buildings on the prairie; a faculty of between twenty and 25, and a few hundred students," Mr. Brinkerhoff said. "He found an institution many persons in Kansas did not

know existed, but he also found a community that was behind the institution.

"He found a real job. And as for the man, he was one who had met hardships successfully; who had faced obstacles and won, and when a head for the school was sought, and the name Brandenburg was mentioned, an investigation verified the reports that had been received. This man matched the job."

Mr. Brinkerhoff praised the cooperation of faculty members in their assistance to President Brandenburg in placing the school in the position it now holds. He expressed the gratitude of citizens of Pittsburg to President Brandenburg in placing the school in the position it now holds. He expressed the gratitude of citizens of Pittsburg to President Brandenburg for his work.

### Dellinger Presides.

Dr. O. P. Dellinger of the faculty acted as toastmaster. He introduced several guests, and called up representatives of several local organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, Mirza Shrine, the faculty, Pittsburg board of education and citizens to show the representation in the capacity crowd.

Special music for the program included two vocal selections by Karl Redick, tenor.

At the conclusion of the speaking, Mrs. Brandenburg was presented a traveling bag, with the presentation in charge of Mrs. George E. Ruggles, representing the faculty wives group. Prof. J. A. G. Shirk presented Dr. and Mrs. Brandenburg with silver set from the faculty in keeping with the silver anniversary theme.

Both Mrs. Brandenburg in her personal response, and Dr. Brandenburg in responding to the presentation of the silver set, revealed too much emotion in their voices to speak at length. Mrs. Brandenburg spoke a lone word of appreciation and sentiment when she unwrapped her gift and viewed it. She stated: "Good-by." After a brief pause, she added a few additional words of appreciation.