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### Brandenburg, William Aaron, collection, 1911-1942, 1989

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#99        Brandenburg, William Aaron (1862-1940) Collection, 1911-1942, 1989  
             14 Folders

## **INTRODUCTION**

A collection of materials relating to William Brandenburg's time as the president of the Kansas State Teachers College (now Pittsburg State University). The collection consists of university documents, celebrations, and basic biographical information.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

William Aaron Brandenburg was born October 10, 1869 in Volga, Iowa. He earned both bachelor and master degrees from Drake University. Following graduation he served as superintendent of schools in Mason City, Iowa and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma before becoming president of the Kansas State Teachers College of Pittsburg, Kansas, now Pittsburg State University. He was the first leader of the institution to be titled President. He celebrated 27 years of leadership at the university from 1913 to 1940. During his presidency ten new buildings were added to the campus, along with numerous programs, degrees and certificates, and many members of the faculty. He was married to Alta A. Penfield on June 22, 1893. They had six children. William Brandenburg was still president when he died from an ongoing illness on October 29, 1940 in St. Louis, Missouri.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The William Aaron Brandenburg Collection consists of documents concerning the Kansas State Teachers College of Pittsburg, Kansas, photographs, newspapers, items related to both the 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, and biographical information. The collection is arranged into five series: **Photographs, Biographical, University, Anniversary, and Newspapers.**

The **Photographs** series consists of one folder. Most of the photographs are not dated. The series contains mostly portrait photos of Mr. Brandenburg. Some photographs are original and other photographs are from newspaper clippings and other publications.

The **Biographical** series consists of three folders. The first folder consists of a paper written about President Brandenburg and a basic layout of his biography. The second folder contains newspaper clippings arranged in a scrapbook manner regarding his death in 1940. The third and final folder of this series includes several tributes made to Mr. Brandenburg following his death.

The **University** series consists of six folders. The first folder contains information relating to some of the buildings on campus including a program for the rededication of Brandenburg field/Carnie Smith Stadium from 1989. The second folder in the series contains various meeting minutes from university meetings. These minutes include the adding and changing of various classes on campus and the discussion of the adding of faculty and buildings as well. The third folder consists of papers regarding the history of the Kansas State Teachers College of Pittsburg, Kansas. Items in this folder include several essays about the founding and history of the school, letters to alumni regarding the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the institution, along with a program for the anniversary celebration, and the music to the Kansas State Teachers College's fight song. The fourth folder consists of newspaper clippings regarding university news. The fifth folder includes programs from the following events: Dinner for the sophomore class at Mr. & Mrs. Brandenburg's home; Faculty and Chamber of Commerce Dinner on May 3, 1937; KTSC graduation ceremony (unknown date); Junior College Conference held at KSTC April 11, 1942; Summer Course on School Law and Administration June 1933; signed copy of "My Golden

Kansas” by Harry W. Stanley; Speech Department recitals in May 1939 and March 1931; and commencement programs for Minden Public Schools, May 21, 1908 and Kansas State Manual Training Normal, June 1, 1913. The sixth folder contains invitations to several annual Apple Day commemorations. The seventh and final folder of this series contains Christmas letters and greeting from both Mr. Brandenburg and faculty members.

The **Anniversary** series contains two folders. The first folder contains programs and invitations to the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary recognition service in appreciation of William Brandenburg’s tenure as president and two copies of a commemorative booklet recognizing his two decades as president. The second folder contains minutes from planning meetings, booklets, invitations, and programs celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of William Brandenburg’s presidency. The last series of the collection is the **Newspaper** series. It contains one folder with two issues of the university newspaper, The Collegio, paying homage to President Brandenburg’s 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, March 18, 1938, and reporting his October 29<sup>th</sup> death, November 15, 1940. The issues contain tributes and an overview of his career as an educator.

## FOLDER LIST

### **Photographs Series**

f. 1 Photographs

### **Biographical Series**

f. 2 Biographical Information

f. 3 Death

f. 4 Tributes

### **University Series**

f. 5 Buildings

f. 6 Meeting Minutes

f. 7 University History

f. 8 University News

f. 9 University Programs

f. 10 Apple Day

f. 11 Christmas

### **Anniversary Series**

f. 12 20th Anniversary

f. 13 Silver Anniversary

### **Newspaper Series**

f. 14 The Collegio