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### Kansas State Teachers College of Pittsburg, Kansas

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THE KANSAS STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE OF PITTSBURG, KANSAS.

The Kansas State Teachers College of Pittsburg, Kansas, is located in the beautiful little city of Pittsburg, on the main line of the Kansas City Southern 130 miles south of Kansas City. It is a city of beautiful homes, splendid churches; situated in one of the most varied industrial sections of the state. It is the center of an interurban railway system of more than 150 miles. It is but a short distance, either by motor or by railway, to the heart of the Ozarks of southwestern Missouri, thus making it an ideal place for the location of a great educational institution.

The school was founded by the state legislature in 1903 by making a very small appropriation for maintenance for the first biennium. It opened its doors for students in September of that year and there were present at the first assembly forty-five students and five members of the faculty. This session was held in one of the small ward school buildings loaned by the city of Pittsburg to the state for the purpose of trying the experiment. From those small beginnings a great institution has developed within the past twenty-seven years.

The first permanent building was erected in 1908. At the present time there are thirteen splendidly equipped buildings, on a campus of fifty-five acres growing into greater beauty each year. The physical equipment of the institution is of the most modern and up to date type due to the fact that practically all of it has been secured within the last seventeen years. While the buildings are large and substantial, as well as beautiful in architectural design both inside and out, all take special pride in the last two buildings which have been erected on the campus in the past five years. The Porter Library, a building 100 by 150 feet in dimensions, is not only beautiful in the outside design but is so arranged on the inside that it furnishes one of the best lighted and most comfortable library buildings on any college campus in the middle west.

The last building to be erected is the Music Hall, which was completed only a year ago. It would appear that the state architect laid himself out in designing a building which for art, beauty and utility is surpassed by none.

The growth of the student body has been most phenomenal. The first year's enrollment amounting to about 145 has grown until there have been more than five thousand students each year for the past six years. Two things are perhaps more responsible for this growth than any other. First, the democratic spirit which has pervaded the institution from its beginning. The policy of the institution from the very beginning to emphasize education for all the people. Likewise to have students feel that they are as important a part of the life and work of the institution as are the members of its faculty. Students are made to feel that they may at any time approach any instructor on the entire staff from the president down in the easiest manner with their problems. No problem about which any student may have concern if so trifling that he may not feel perfectly free to present such a problem to any member of the teaching staff or president. The second is the rich and varied curricula which the institution has gradually built up for the training of her students. Beginning, of course, in a very humble manner but with the feeling that teachers must have something to teach as well as a method of teaching, the curricula have been constantly enriched and increased to meet the growing demand of a rapidly changing and an increasing complex social order. Special curricula are arranged definitely for the training of Primary-Kindergarten teachers, Intermediate Grade teachers, Junior High School teachers, and Senior High School teachers, and these of course with major lines of work that are offered in the public school system of this and other states.

Last year the institution was authorized by the State Board of Regents to set up Graduate work. At the beginning of the summer term of 1929 a limited number of courses were introduced in the departments

of Education and Psychology. The demand for this work has warranted the opening of four additional academic departments to full majors, and two additional departments for minors for the Master's degrees. As the demand increases the institution will endeavor to meet that demand on as high a plane or standing as is found in standard Graduate schools in the country.

The work of the institution has been recognized in a splendid way by standardizing agencies of educational institutions, being accredited as a Class A. institution in the American Association of Teachers Colleges. It is also a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities in both the liberal arts section and the teachers college section. This means that students graduating from the institution will have their work recognized by any teachers college of like rank anywhere in the United States and any university or liberal arts college in the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities.

The institution has not been unmindful of the necessity of proper health training. It has, therefore, one of the finest athletic fields in the middle west and an excellently equipped gymnasium for athletic and physical education. In the field of athletics achievements have been marked. But the institution believes in physical education to the extent that it not only requires either gymnasium or corrective physical training of all students but it has certain well planned health courses which are offered in the various departments of the institution which tend to train men and women in this important field of educational work.

Any young man or young woman in this section of our country looking toward a college education might well pause to consider the advantages and opportunities which the institution affords. If you desire to know more of it you have only to drop a line to the Kansas State Teachers College of Pittsburg for literature.