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Paper, "Man of Vision, Practical Dreamer"

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indent for photo (reverse?)

M a n o f V i s i o n , P r a c t i c a l D r e a m e r

The many tributes to R.S. Russ, founder and first head of the College, who died in August at the age of 102 in Muskogee, Oklahoma, are summed up in the funeral address by F. W. Brinkerhoff, Pittsburg publisher, and in a statement and action by President Axe at

R. S. R u s s

the College's Opening Convocation

President Axe led the near-capacity Carney Hall auditorium convocation audience of students, faculty and guests in a silent observance of the veteran educator's death with these words:On Tuesday, August 21, 1962, at the age of 102, the founder and first head of Kansas State College of Pittsburg quietly passed away. Without his vision and willingness to fight for what he believed to be necessary and right, none of us would be here this morning. He remained vitally interested in the welfare, progress and future of this college to the very end of his life. I believe it is fitting that I ask those assembled here this morning to rise and observe with me one minute of silence in the memory of Russell S. Russ, founder and first head of your college-----Thank you.....

Mr. Brinkerhoff said in his funeral address August 23 at Muskogee that the College's founder was a man who combined dreams with practical action with great success. He said:.....Mr. Russ was a dreamer who did not depend on some mystic power to force the acceptance of his dream. His dream produced the idea and then the visionary phase ended and the practical took over.....

Mr. Russ, who is buried in Muskogee, served as head of the College

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after spearheading its founding in 1903 until 1911 which was two years before the ultimate success of his fight for independence from the parent school at Emporia. He also originated annual Commemoration Day observances following his being fined a barrel of apples and winning a \$10,000 land appropriation from the state legislature in 1905.....

H.
Dr. Rees Hughes, president emeritus; Dr. Alvin M. Proctor, dean of graduate studies; Dr. Willis L. Tompkins, dean of instruction; and Donald L. Miller, director of alumni relations, attended the funeral. President Axe was taking part in a meeting of educators in Arizona and was unable to be in Muskogee for the services.