

Phillips' Chief Briggs, 87, Dies

ENID — Dr. Eugene S. Briggs, 87, president emeritus of Phillips University, died at 2 a.m. Tuesday in an Enid Hospital following a lengthy illness.

Services are pending. Briggs was Phillips' third president, serving from 1938 to 1961. During his term, the university doubled its enrollment, expanded its campus facilities and increased its endowment by more than \$1 million.

Briggs was a native of Howard County, Mo. He received his B.S. degree at the University of Missouri. He received his Ph.D. from Columbia University's Teachers College in New York.

Briggs served as principal at three Missouri high schools and at Okmulgee High School before becoming president of the State Teachers College at Durant in 1928.

After five years in the Durant post, he returned to Columbia

University for graduate study. He was later named president of Christian College at Columbia, Mo.

Briggs was inducted into the Oklahoma Hall of Fame in 1951.

While president of Phillips, he received an honorary doctor of law degree from the university. He was the author of several books.

Briggs served as a member of the executive committee and board of directors of the Christian Board of Publication in St. Louis, and vice president of the International Convention of Christian Churches.

He also served as president of the International Association of Lions Clubs, was a member of the executive committee of the Department of Higher Education of the North Central Association and had served as president of the Great Plains Council of Boy Scouts.



Dr. Briggs in 1960