



DR. J. D. S. RIGGS.

12

**John D. S. Riggs** - (1896-1905) was president when fire hit the central part of the administration building which meant the loss of the chapel, offices, classrooms and the library. Riggs led a successful campaign to rebuild. In 1898 the faculty voted to offer free tuition to the highest graduate of Ottawa High School.<sup>9</sup> OU was a charter member of the Kansas Inter-Collegiate Athletic Conference. Riggs suggested both a plan for student self-government and the awarding of the "O" for athletic excellence.<sup>13</sup>