

OTTAWA, KANSAS, DECEMBER 4, 1930



*President Smith Resigns*

# SMITH RESIGNS AT TRUSTEE MEETING

## Ottawa in Good Condition After 7-Year Leadership

### FOOTBALL TO BE STRESSED

#### Tuition Cut; Chandler Offers \$50,000 to University on Certain Conditions

The most important matter presented at yesterday's special meeting of the board of trustees of Ottawa University was the resignation of Dr. Erdmann Smith as president of the University, effective at the close of the school year, June 30. He stated that although he would be glad to give much time in soliciting money for capital funds of the institution, he is unwilling to continue soliciting funds for operation. The resignation was accepted by the board, with regret. Dr. Smith said he could not announce his future plans at this time. June 30 will complete Dr. Smith's seventh year as president. A committee was appointed to seek a successor.

Yesterday's meeting of the board was called three months earlier in the year than is customary, to consider finances, the budget for the year 1931-1932, and other matters.

#### O. U. In Good Condition

During the period of the presidency of Dr. Smith, Ottawa University has received in cash, gifts averaging over \$4,500 00 a month and he is leaving in the treasury of the institution pledges yet to be collected amounting to over \$261,000 00. Approximately \$25,000 of this is in the form of certain receivables for which the institution has already qualified.

It was recognized by the trustees that during the six years for which records are complete Ottawa registered almost as many students as in the previous eight years and sent out only seven fewer graduates than in the previous 11 years, and that capital assets were increased by a little over \$133,000 00.

#### Express Appreciation

With his resignation President Smith expressed his appreciation of the devotion of time, thought, and money given to the interests of the institution by the members of the executive committee, the support and the cooperation which had been given by the trustees, the hearty response of the constituency, the cooperation of teachers, the support of the city of Ottawa and especially the aid given by the Ottawa Herald. In closing his report of the trustees President Smith said: "I shall be glad to help you to the limit of my ability because I believe Ottawa has been and is now one of the outstanding Christian colleges of the United States when measured by what has she given to the world."

In taking action concerning the resignation of President Smith the members of the board were deeply appreciative of the splendid service he had rendered in the state in harmonizing the Baptists of Kansas and bringing new allegiance to the University. He has rendered a great piece of work in this respect. The school is on the hearts of Kansas Baptists as it has not been for many years.

#### For Stronger Football

On the recommendation of President Smith, the trustees approved a vigorous program in athletics especially football, the details to be worked out by him and the executive committee.

#### Tuition and Fees Cut

The trustees adopted the recommendations that the tuition and incidental fees be reduced from \$6 00 to \$5.00 per credit hour for the second semester of this session, the only remaining regular fees, registration and student activity to continue without change.

#### Dr. Cassidy as Field Agent

Dr. Geo. W. Cassiday, of Wichita, was requested by the board to undertake the collection of \$25,000 00 between January 1 1931, and May 31, 1931 from pledges which have been secured since Dr. Smith became president.

President Smith was relieved of the burden of soliciting funds for operation for the remainder of his tenure and was asked to continue the administration of the affairs of the college just as he would had he not offered his resignation.

It was voted also that Ottawa University put on a first class exhibit at the Northern Baptist Convention to be held in Kansas City, Mo., the latter part of next May.

#### Chandler Offers \$50,000

A climax of the meeting occurred when Mr. C. Q. Chandler, of Wichita, announced an offer of \$50,000 on conditions to be stated later by him.