

2006

David Spence Hill - Biography

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Davis, William E.. "David Spence Hill - Biography." (2006). https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/president_bios/6

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DAVID SPENCE HILL

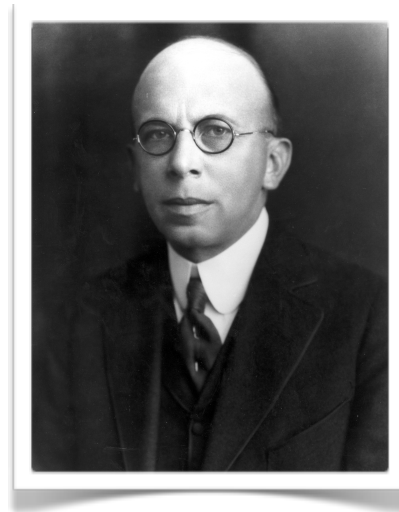
6th University President

Served 1919 - 1927

Born Nashville, Tennessee

December 14, 1873

Dr. Hill inaugurated high scholastic standards at the University which made possible the accreditation of the institution.



Education

Dr. Hill received his undergraduate degree from Randolph-Macon College in Virginia in 1897 and Ph.D. from Clark University, Massachusetts in 1907. He was granted an honorary LL.D. from the University of Kentucky and the University of Arizona

Career

Dr. Hill was a member of the Faculty of the Department of Education at the University of Illinois at the time of his appointment with U.N.M. President. He had been on the faculty of several institutions during his teaching career.

University Activities

Professor Hill was authorized in 1920 to make a geological survey of the state during that summer and he made subsequent survey trips which culminated in a 1921 map

and description of the economic possibilities of the Sandia Mountains. A later publication featured a map of the geographical strata of the state.

The University profited from the 1924 discovery of oil on university lands by the Illinois Producers Oil Company bringing in Well #3 located 14 miles east of Artesia.

The spring semester of 1920 saw a shake up in the Faculty resulting in the resignations of 8 members. The fall semester saw a new group of professors on board.

The new Public Health Laboratory was opened shortly after the beginning of 1920 supported jointly by the University and the State Department of Health.

In April 1922, the University was accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities.

The present seal of the University was officially adopted at a Board of Regents meeting in July, 1923.

The "new" reservoir was built on the site of the old one in January 1924.

The first separate library was erected in 1924 and opened with a ceremony on May 17, 1926.

The Committee on Admission from Higher Institutions at The University of Illinois accredited our University in 1926.

The Alumni group was reorganized in 1927.

President Hill resigned in January of 1927 requesting a leave of absence until September 1. James F. Zimmerman was appointed acting President until September 1.

(On March 11, Judge Bernard S. Rodey, "Father of the University" passed away and the school closed for the afternoon.)

Excerpt from William E. Davis' Miracle on the Mesa.

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