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Recommended Citation

Fort Hays Kansas State College, "1933 Commencement Ritual, Greetings Speech" (1933).
Commencement Programs & Materials. 129.
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1933
Greetings,

from Fort Hays Kansas State College

by Floyd B. Lee, Dean

The primary function of a college is to prepare the intellectually elite, for those services in society which require social generalisations, social abstractions, and social inventions. Should the college fail in this particular it fails in its basic function.

With the rise of democracy and the demoralization of education large numbers of those intellectually mediocre and even less than average have asked for ^{admittance} admission and have been admitted to the college. The modern college had accepted the challenge and has expanded its curriculum, has expanded its faculty, and consequently has expanded its responsibility.

When in the course of human events a man is called upon to accept the presidency of a modern college, he is called upon to accept a responsibility far greater than the responsibility in any other calling in life, because his institution with its faculty is shaping the destinies of his Nation and his world by shaping the destinies of the professional, economic, social and political leaders of the age.

It is fitting and proper, that when a man has served his age in the capacity of a college president for twenty years, for a fifth of a century, when five full generations of college students have passed under his hand, that we of the college world, and those of the non-college world, pause long enough to figuratively and literally take off our hats to this achievement. Yea, it is fitting and proper that we gather in assembly and acclaim the achievement.

It is such an achievement that we at this commencement acclaim and at this time we of the faculty and the students of the Fort Hays Kansas State College come bearing good will and congratulations to President William Alexander Lewis, who has served this college for full twenty years and we

rejoice in the fact that He has, on this day, pronounced graduation on the twentieth class of his administration. We of the faculty and student body sincerely hope that President Lewis will have the privilege and that we shall have the honor of his officiating at succeeding commencements of this ~~and other~~ colleges, for many years. *to come*