

## *E. H. Little Gives Second \$500,000 For Davidson's New \$4 Million Library*

E. H. Little of New York, a native of Mecklenburg County, N. C., and former president and board chairman of Colgate-Palmolive, has given Davidson College a second \$500,000 challenge contribution for the college's new \$4 million library named in his honor.

In 1969 the college claimed Little's first challenge gift of \$500,000 after raising \$1,-500,000 in matching funds. Now the college will be seeking to raise that amount again to match Little's second challenge gift by the time the library is completed in 1974.

"Initially Davidson was thinking in terms of a library of 60,000 square feet at a cost of \$2 million," explained College President Samuel R. Spencer, Jr. "As long-range plans for the college developed, it became clear that future needs demanded a structure of 100,000 square square feet, estimated to cost about \$4 million.

"The E. H. Little Library (pictured on page 112) will be our most important building since Chambers (the main classroom building) was constructed in the late 1920's," the president continued.

"Mr. Little's gracious willingness to start us so magnificently on the final phase of fund-raising is thoroughly characteristic of him. Because of his vision and generosity, Davidson will have a library second to none."

Spencer announced the gift at a joint meeting on campus of trustees, faculty, staff and students October 21, 1971. The group had gathered to hear the presentations of the library planning committee, architects and a landscape designer concerning the appearance and functions of the new library.

Plans call for the building to extend 276 feet from north to south and to contain 100,000 square feet of floor space. It will be located east of the main classroom building, Chambers, on the site presently occupied by the College Union. The two buildings will thus form an academic center for the campus.

The library will be three stories high, with

the top two stories visible from the front and all three visible from the rear. It will be built on land sloping eastward so that the main floor will be in the center, on ground level when entered from the main entrance on the side nearest Chambers Building.

The brick exterior will have both Georgian and neoclassical architectural features, described by library officials as "simple but elegant, and entirely harmonious with other campus buildings."

A prominent feature of the front will be an arcade along the main floor, formed by an extension of the top floor 15 feet further forward.

On each half of the front side will be five arches, each revealing a window 15 feet behind it on the main floor. The top floor will have a matching row of windows, but they will not be recessed. The far ends of the front will be extended slightly forward, each with a covered porch and columns on the ground level.

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## Reference Services

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