

# Presidential Library for Mt. Edgecumbe

Mt. Edgecumbe school is one of 1,000 schools in the U.S. and its territories to receive a gift of a "Presidential Reference Library" donated by the Encyclopedia Britannica on the occasion of its 200th Anniversary during 1968.

Encyclopedia Britannica announced the bicentennial gift program recently in a ceremony at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington attended by President Lyndon B. Johnson.

The gifts were presented in the name of President Johnson by William Benton, Publisher and Chairman of Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc., and U.S. Ambassador to UNESCO, for the Chief Executive's "leadership and continuing contributions to education for all Americans."

In accepting the gifts, President Johnson called the donation a "very generous and farsighted act...placing these Presidential Reference Libraries in these poor schools attended by our poor children." It would help the children, said the President, by giving them "power—power to rise above the arbitrary 'station' in life they were born to."

The books are being distributed to 665 elementary and 335 high school systems, public and private, selected by the U.S. Office of Education of the Department of Health, Education & Welfare, with the advice of a committee of leading American educators.

They are being distributed "according to the needs of each school district, parish or unit, including state institutions for the handicapped, neglected delinquent children, migratory worker schools and Indian schools."

Each library contains between 62 and 57 volumes, depending upon the age level, with a formal imprint citing President Johnson's contributions to education.

It is dedicated to "The School Children of the U.S.A." Retail value of the 1,000 libraries is estimated at \$750,000.

A letter from U.S. Commissioner of Education, Harold Howe II announcing the gift of the library to Mt. Edgecumbe school said: "This should be an inspiration to your community to supplement these volumes and to build a reference library that will provide children in the area with these most necessary aids to further their education."

Included among the books are the 24-volume Encyclopedia Britannica, the 15-volume Britannica Junior Encyclopedia, the 10-volume Gateway to the Great Books, the 24-volume Compton's Encyclopedia, G. & C. Merriam Company's Webster's Third New International Dictionary and other works on science and literature.

Women are wiser than men because they know less and understand more.

—JAMES STEPHENS

From birth to age eighteen, a girl needs good parents. From Eighteen to thirty-five, she needs good looks. From thirty-five to fifty-five, she needs a good personality. From fifty-five on, she needs good cash.