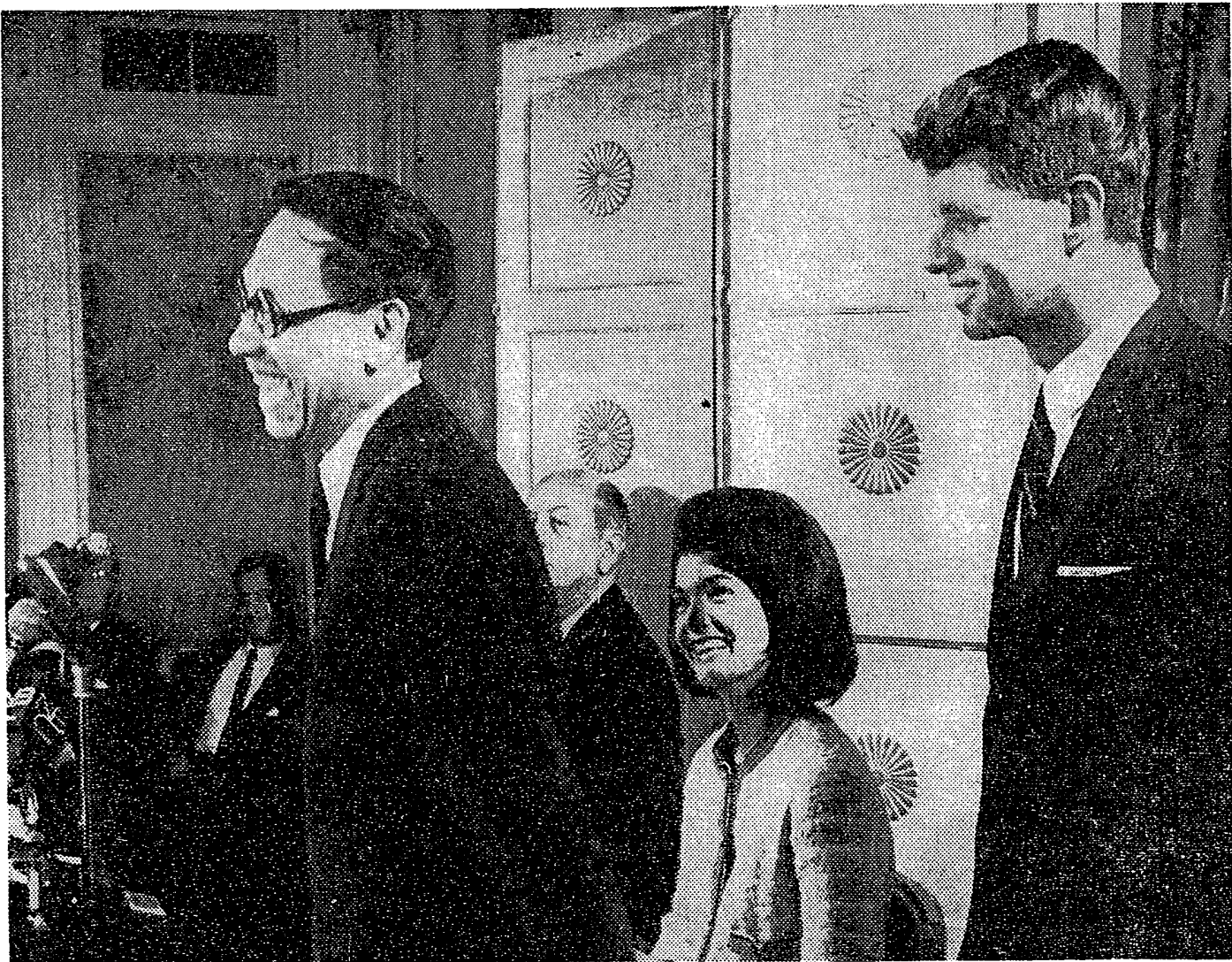


## Kennedy Family Announces the Selection of Pei to Design Library



*The New York Times (by Edward Hausner)*

**I. M. Pei, the architect, joins in the laughter at question put to him by a reporter. Behind him are Eugene R. Black, partly hidden; Mrs. John F. Kennedy and Robert F. Kennedy. Mr. Black has charge of fund-raising for the library.**

### **By ADA LOUISE HUXTABLE**

The Kennedy family announced yesterday the selection of an architect for the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library at Harvard University. At a news conference at the Hotel Pierre, Senator-elect Robert F. Kennedy named I. M. Pei, Canton-born New

York architect, as the designer of the library and, in conjunction with it, of a projected institute for advanced political studies. Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, widow of the President, was present but did not say anything. Nathan M. Pusey, president of Harvard University, out-

lined plans for the Kennedy Institute, which will be connected with the Graduate School of Public Administration. When negotiations are complete, Richard E. Neustadt, professor of government at Columbia University, is to be the institute's director. Eugene R. Black, in charge of

fund-raising for the library, announced that more than the original goal of \$10 million had already been raised. But he said fund-raising would continue, to provide an endowment for the institute. "I have never had a job as easy

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# PEI WILL DESIGN KENNEDY LIBRARY

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as this one," said Mr. Black, the former president of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. "Contributions have come in from all over the country and the world, ranging from a few cents to a quarter of a million dollars. Over four million Americans have given something."

He listed \$1 million from the Kennedy family and \$2 million from labor groups.

Arrangements are being made between trustees of the Kennedy Library and Harvard officials to work out the form and organization of the institute and define its relationship to the university.

"No one can describe the institute before it gets started," Dr. Pusey said. "But this will be a new kind of institution in American life—a university setting to provide a meeting place between the academic world and the world of public affairs."

Planned as a center for research and writing for people in governmental and academic fields, it is tentatively visualized as similar to Harvard's Nieman program for journalists, which offers fellowships for a period of academic study.

"The idea of the institute is to stimulate interest in politics," Robert Kennedy said.

Quoting Lord Tweedsmuir's definition of politics as "the most exciting of adventures," he explained that the purpose would be "to make young people interested in politics and government and the welfare of the country."

"This is what President Kennedy stood for, and this is what the institute will stand for," he said.

Commenting on the selection of Mr. Pei as architect for the project, Mr. Kennedy said:

"We all feel that he will be able to capture the spirit and style that we wish to express in this building."

"From now on, we will just wait and see what he does," said William Walton, former adviser on the arts to President Kennedy and chairman of the Washington Commission of Fine Arts.

Those who know Mr. Pei's buildings believe he may do something similar to his present work, which uses sensitively shaped and finished reinforced concrete construction to make strongly framed buildings of simple, straight lines.

Like other members of the group of leading American architects in their middle 40's, his design effects are sought through the possibilities opened up by current advances in building technology. He is not a traditionalist in any way.

With the New York realty man William Zeckendorf, Mr. Pei has been active in urban renewal and has executed several projects that critics have acclaimed as among the country's best.

These include the Mile-High Center and Courthouse Square in Denver, the Kips Bay Plaza apartments in Manhattan and Society Hill townhouses and apartments in Philadelphia.

Mr. Pei was chosen unanimously by a subcommittee of an international advisory committee of architects, after Mrs. Kennedy and the subcommittee had spent several months visiting architects' offices and studying their work, Mr. Walton said.

There is no design for the library and institute yet, Mr. Pei said, "because the program has to be formulated first."

The enlargement of the orig-

inal plans to include the institute raises the question of the adequacy of the present two-acre site on the banks of the Charles River in Boston. It has been suggested that the location might be shifted across the Charles to the subway-train yards of the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority, in Cambridge. But no decision has been made.

Both the larger program and the possibility of a change in site make the architect's assignment a nebulous one at present. Asked if he were, in effect, starting with a blank piece of paper, Mr. Pei replied that he was.

"Good luck, Mr. Pei," Mr. Kennedy said, with an encouraging grin.