

1961

## Gene Ebert Bartlett

Mr. President, I have the honor to present as a candidate for an honorary degree Gene Ebert Bartlett. He is a distinguished son of Denison University and of Colgate Rochester Divinity School. Denison honored him in 1952 with the conferring of an honorary degree. Colgate Rochester honored him this year with election to its presidency. Indeed, that election was all but inevitable, for among the alumni of that institution he has been consistently recognized for his unusual combination of skills in preaching, pastoral care, administration, and scholarship. He is precisely what the president of a seminary ought to be: an exemplar of the personal and professional virtues at which theological education aims. In his service to congregations in Syracuse, Columbia, Evanston, and Los Angeles, he showed a capacity for ministry in a complex situation which included both the inner city and the academic community. Just as remarkably, he is both a popular preacher—in the highest sense of that term—and a preacher's preacher. At Garrett he has been "Preacher of the Quarter"; at Vanderbilt he was Convocation Preacher at the Cole Lectures; and at Andover Newton he gave the John F. English Lectures in Preaching. This spring he has been Lyman Beecher Lecturer at Yale. Those lectures will soon appear in print under the title, *The Audacity of Preaching*, which reveals his own high view of the preacher's calling. He is an effective spokesman of the Christian message in and for our time. Therefore, on behalf of the Faculty of Kalamazoo College, I recommend that upon him be conferred the honorary degree, Doctor of Divinity.