ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPETITION AND AWARDS

AN ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION AND EXHIBIT leading members of the profession anticipate entering again is programmed and announced by AIA's Potomac Valley Chapter.

The event, as now being conducted for the fifth time, immediately will begin attracting more entries in competition for more awards than ever before. On June 5, it will climax in a great display of current architecture and a dinner with award ceremonies at the new Indian Spring Country Club, Silver Spring. It will all be open to friends and the interested public and draw what should be the Chapter's largest exhibit attendance.

It has been decided that the chapter would conduct the 1958 competition without the former co-sponsorship of the Prince Georges County Chamber of Commerce and the Silver Spring Board of Trade. This decision properly places responsibility for the success of an important architectural undertaking squarely with architects and at once requires every Potomac Valley member to have an entry while actively helping the project's committee with every detail.

Increased entries from all Maryland registrants and better public attendance at the final exhibit are encouraged by the offering of awards in six classifications: residential, public buildings, commercial buildings, apartments or group housing, remodeling in all classifications and interior or exterior details. Too, there are added winning opportunities within each group not offered in previous competitions. The judges will be of such national reputation as to make the jury's awards especially coveted. The new club's beautiful, spacious banquet hall will furnish an ideal setting.

The program provides that any building may be entered by the registered Maryland architect, owner or contractor, each being eligible for awards. The building must have been completed within the two-year period from January 1, 1956 to the date of entry which must be received by 5 p.m. May 13 at the A.I.A. Competition Chairman's office, 5007 Elm Street, Bethesda, Maryland. Mounts shall be on artists', or equivalent, rigid board 20" x 30", 30" x 40" or 40" x 40" and there shall be only one building to a mount and not more than two mounts to a building. The size and number of pictures and rendered plans are at the discretion of the entrant and may be arranged in any suitable way. Except for color prints, all photographs shall be of non-glossy type. One glossy 8" x 10" must be enclosed in an envelope on the back of the board for publication, but three other glossies are desired for newspaper use by May 13 at the office of the Editor of the Potomac Valley Architect. All other requirements, conditions and information for competitors are contained in a special bulletin now in the reader's mail or available from the Chairman, phone OL 4-5959.

Why such a competition and all the skill, talent and effort that must be called upon to conduct it?

For the competing architect, Potomac Valley's members know the event has become something far beyond a chance to win an award. It is an opportunity such as a clinic or graduate course offers the doctor who needs to get away from his practice to match and share his diagnoses, skills and prescriptions with as good or better specialized professionals. From placing his art before judges and studying his fellow artists' work, the architect returns to his clients inspired and rededicated. As a man who loves his productions, he has battled for his convictions of design. If in competition he has lost he has also won, for those whose work hasn't quite made the grade know why and how to do better. The judging has not been a simple matter of elimination, but done by talented jurymen who visualized all creative efforts as adjusted to clients' wants. The Chapter feels, too, that the competitive exhibitions help architects jointly the better to meet their obligations to the public—in demonstrating the irreplaceable functions of the profession in creating, designing, supervising the architecturally-right buildings which endure, serve best, yet which are the most economically constructed.

Continuously, it seems necessary to prove the invaluable service of the architect to some of those concerned with building the largest projects as well as many prospects for residences. The Chapter's Competition and Exhibit, in view of all its purposes, has always been a civic event in which social, civic and business leaders have taken pride. It hopes our members' enthusiasm will be shared to help this year's architectural event here be the greatest accomplishment in this direction.
No Cork This Time-Baltimore Hosts Regional Conference April 18-19

WELCOMED AT ALL TIMES is a chance to support any Baltimore activity and get together with its members. The last such pleasant occasion was way back in December when a number of us joined the Port City's AIA's as at producers' Council meeting at the Sheraton Belvedere Hotel to see an Armstrong Cork show and display.

Now the eyes of all Potomac Valleyers are on Baltimore and the same fine hospitality. J. Roy Carroll, Jr., our popular Regional Director, has sent out the call. With the Baltimore hosts he has announced a program for the Regional Conference of the Middle Atlantic District AIA Friday and Saturday, April 18-19, with the type of speakers and social breaks sure to bring out the greatest possible attendance of members and wives. With most of us being present is only a matter of pushing work on the boards so that we can enjoy the sessions both days.

The timely theme of the Regional Conference is "The Architect and Tomorrow's City." Keynote at the Friday luncheon will be Victor Gruen, city planner, best known for his Fort Worth city plan. Carl Feiss, city planner and urban renewal consultant, will be the moderator of the seminar and before a distinguished panel on "The Nature of Tomorrow's City".

The wives will be looking forward to an architectural tour, tea at historic Hampton House and to the banquet Friday evening.

On Saturday morning David A. Wallace, Director, Planning Council of the Greater Baltimore Committee, will be the moderator of a seminar, and before a similarly outstanding panel, on "How to Build Tomorrow's City." The last day's luncheon meeting will hear an address by Herbert S. Greenwall, Chicago developer.

Post convention tours will not interest many of our delegation, since they are to familiar Maryland points, but their Saturday time will be enjoyably spent visiting with AIA families. President Ted Englehardt urges you to tie down your Regional Conference plans by making up your transportation parties at our April 7 luncheon.
REGIONAL CONFERENCE
Baltimore, Maryland - April 17 & 18, 1958

THEME - "THE ARCHITECT & TOMORROW'S CITY"

Friday -
10:00 a.m. Meeting of the Regional Chapter Presidents with Roy Carroll. This is the only business meeting of the Conference and all are welcome to bring any problems or questions of Regional concern to this session.

11:30 a.m. The Conference gets under way with a Raw Bar. All the clams, oysters and beer you can hold. Chincoteagues on the half shell, or Cherry-stones if you prefer.

12:30 p.m. Luncheon with Victor Gruen as the speaker to set the tone of the Conference. More Maryland seafood featured.

2:30 p.m. A seminar on "The Nature of Tomorrow's City", Carl Feiss, presiding, (moderating, if you prefer) with a panel made up of: Victor Gruen, Architect; Edmond Bacon, Exec. Dir., Planning Commission of Philadelphia; James W. House, Mortgage Banker of Baltimore; Harry Weese, Architect.

6:00 p.m. Cocktail Party and chance to mingle with the celebrities, guests and fellow architects.

7:30 p.m. Dinner with J. Roy Carroll presiding and a nationally prominent person to speak on Urban Development.

Saturday

12:00 noon Another round of drinks to get braced for the afternoon.

12:30 p.m. Luncheon with Herbert S. Greenwald as the speaker to wrap the whole thing up on a highly practical note.

SPECIAL EVENTS
For the ladies Friday afternoon, Bus Tour of northern Baltimore with tea at Hampton House. For everyone - Saturday afternoon: (A) - Bus Tour of Baltimore put on by Bill Hunter, Director of the Peale Museum. This has been run several times before and is a very well organized architectural tour that deals pretty much with the past but is most interesting. It winds up at Evergreen House (the estate that the Garretts gave to the Hopkins as a Museum) for more refreshments. (B) Bus trip to Annapolis and tour of the Naval Academy. (C) A trip to a timber race; the Grand National is being run in the Worthington Valley to the north of Baltimore. The tariff for everything, from oysters to after dinner mints on Saturday is $25.00. The only extras are breakfast, your hotel room, and the special events. There will be other rates for those who cannot stay the whole time. The Conference will be at the Sheraton-Belvedere.
Senseman’s Hat in Delegates’ Ring

THE POTOMAC VALLEY ARCHITECT, in company with most media, must divorce itself from any responsibility for the political, and some other views, of any candidate.

With this said, there are appealing facts, known to AIA’s everywhere, and even to many people not privileged to be acquainted with him, about Ronald S. Senseman which can be printed here without fear or future. If this year’s crop of political candidates had nothing else to offer than in being so numerous and up to their usual antics, Maryland voters have no occasion to complain about the pre-election show. In one District—Ron’s—the voters have been provided with something new. As an announced and filed candidate for Delegate to the Maryland Assembly, here is an outstanding professional man, not an attorney, and not in any way tipped with many of those having hats in the political arena.

People who damn the politicians, even those qualified and conscientiously serving the best interests of their states or nation, frequently try to point to what they believe is a great absence of successful business and professional men willing to sacrifice the time to run for and hold office. In the case of Ron Senseman such saying tongues must stop for a startling exception. If they have mud to throw, another target must be found for, in all of this candidate’s 30 years of deeply religious living in Silver Spring, he today presents next-to-nothing for a person of any creed, race, color or political belief seriously to criticize.

As far as the discerning, professional architects of this Chapter are concerned, Ron is an open and fine book to read. Three times we have succeeded in making him spend his valuable time in serving our hats off to Ron who, of all people, didn’t ask for it. We do not with ammunition, so be it. Our purpose once more is only to take our hats off to Ron who, of all people, didn’t ask for it. We do not know what ambitions he may have in thinking of a seat in the House at Annapolis other than to be one of its best informed and responsible delegates. Of one thing we are sure: he has no present intention of suggesting an extension of the East Front, West, North or South Fronts of Maryland’s State Capitol.

Chapter Notes

Storm-Bound Members

The electricity knock-out by the snowstorm at some members’ homes dealt real hardship, while keeping them away from the office boards. Worst off to your reporter’s knowledge were the John d’Epagniers. Just before the storm struck on March 18, John brought Rite home from the hospital where she had only partly recovered from serious injuries suffered in an automobile accident. John’s solar house brought little help from the sun as, until late March 23, he stoked fireplaces and tried to keep his bedridden wife and the children warm and fed. . . . The Phil Masons, while Phil was kept away from putting finishing touches on his designs for a new fire sub-station in Montgomery Hills, and the Sligo Park Golf Clubhouse, (design mysteriously credited by one newspaper to Washington’s Don Draper) were blocked in a cold house through Saturday. At Damascus, the freakish storm left power lines up but there Ben Elliott, with Texas-like loyalty, claimed the snow was deeper than anywhere, . . . In Bethesda, one AIA, Leon Chatelaine, Jr., National President, did wish he could join any members with phones dead. With the storm came a revival of controversy about the 94-year-old (almost as old as AIA) proposed alteration of the Capitol’s East Front, News reporters, along with John Harbeson and a host of others, kept Leon’s lines more than hot.

MILT PRASSAS (You can see now why his recent article for the PVA was the first and only contribution to be published intact without editing) was the writer of the Star’s “Lenten Thoughts” and one of most inspiring among the witnesses of the series.

YESTERDAY, March 31, was Doctor’s Day, an observance founded 20 years ago by doctors’ wives. The Montgomery County Medical Society’s Auxiliary held a reception. In the District the Commissioners for the first time issued a proclamation making the day official. Architects, no more than doctors, can ethically ask for recognition. Your editors suggest that here is a leaf from the book of another profession’s wives our Chapter’s lovely wives might think about.

SECRETARY STAN ARTHUR, it might be said, is in the unwelcome swim of controversy. Having designed the big pool for the Brookville Road site, Stan finds he must appear at zoning hearings to help fight with the many Chevy Chase residents who want the tank’s summer relief and recreation.

DANA “JOE” JOHANNES last month at Charleston spoke to the West Virginia AIA Chapter on “Today’s Trends in Schoolhouse Design and Construction.”

If in these true observations we provide the candidate’s supporters with ammunition, so be it. Our purpose once more is only to take our hats off to Ron who, of all people, didn’t ask for it. We do not know what ambitions he may have in thinking of a seat in the House at Annapolis other than to be one of its best informed and responsible delegates. Of one thing we are sure: he has no present intention of suggesting an extension of the East Front, West, North or South Fronts of Maryland’s State Capitol.