

American Architecture Exhibition Opens today

AMMAN (J.T.) — American architecture is the subject of a special exhibition which will open at the city of Jordan's Faculty of Engineering Saturday.

The "American Architecture Innovation and Tradition" exhibition looks at small town and urban architecture in six regions of the United States.

It explores the sources of the culture of each region and influences that shaped them. The exhibition focuses on American architectural innovations and the iron and steel frame made the skyscraper possible.

The display, created by Columbia University together with the American Institute of Architects, is being brought to Jordan by the United States embassy in Amman. The exhibitors of the display will be with portable cassette recorder equipped with earphones and tapes that explain the exhibits by audio.

The exhibition will be held on Friday, March 19 at 3:30 p.m. and will be a panel discussion related to the exhibition at the Faculty of Engineering.

The exhibitors will be Ralph Monahan of Jafar Toukan and Parviz Taleb Rifa'i of the University of Jordan, Dr. Laila Busaba of Yarmouk University, Habib of Habib and Associates and Farouk Yaghmour, technical representative of the Engineering Syndicate.

The exhibition will remain at the University of Jordan between March 17-22.

It will then open at Yarmouk University March 25 and will continue there until March 28.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) has signed contracts with seven local firms to lay a sewer network 240 kilometres long here at a cost of about JD 5 million.

Signing the contracts for the WAJ was its Director-General Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani while the managing directors of

the seven companies signed on behalf of their respective firms.

The WAJ, Dr. Keilani, said, will float more tenders within the next two months for similar projects.

Local contractors will be invited to execute WAJ's projects both inside and outside of Amman, as part of its policy to encourage local contractors.

Meanwhile, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the WAJ will Saturday float 13 tenders for sewerage projects in various parts of Amman and its suburbs.

Work on these projects is scheduled to finish by the end of the year, WAJ officials were reported as saying.

U.N. to establish poultry training centre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Agriculture has signed an agreement with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to set up a regional training centre for poultry raising here at a cost of \$3 million.

The Italian government will cover the costs of this project, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported Friday.

The agreement also includes provisions for the holding of training courses on topics connected with the poultry industry and on combating related diseases.

Instructions on marketing methods and studies aimed at defining the problems encountered by the

industry are also to be included.

The agreement also provides for the setting up of a laboratory to test the quality of fodder and to advise farmers especially in this respect.

The agreement, Petra said, also stipulates for the production of instructions pamphlets and to organise activities through the various institutes in the FAO participating member countries.

The long-term plan, Petra added, aims to assist these countries in increasing poultry meat and egg production and for increasing the income of farmers in the sector.

Signing the agreement were

Minister of Agriculture Mohammad Bashir, for the Jordanian government, and Mr. Adnan Raouf, the U.N. resident representative in Jordan for FAO.

Memorandum on Israeli expropriation of Arab water sent to U.N.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Yarmouk University has sent a memorandum to the United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar containing the recommendations of an international seminar held here last month called "Israel and Arab Waters."

The memorandum, according to President of Yarmouk University Adnan Badran, outlined the aggressive steps taken by the Israel occupation authorities against water-resources in the occupied Arab lands, the exploitation of water-reserves for the benefit of Israeli occupation authorities, the plans made by Israel to continue aggression on neighbouring Arab countries to reach for more Arab water-resources.

These, he said, are all facts that show the extent to which Israel has gone to violate laws governing occupation forces, international pacts and convention and the various resolutions issued by the international organisations and specialised committees.

Dr. Badran said that the main motivations for submitting the memorandum to the U.N. secretary was out of a recognition of the role which the international organisation can and make to put an end to "these covetous intentions" and "to expose the Israeli measures taken against the neighbouring countries."

He also said it would facilitate the job undertaken by the specialised U.N. committees to realise the facts about these situations.

Art auction successful beyond expectations

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan's first ever auction of fine arts, held at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Thursday evening, proved to be an exciting event that ended in a success way beyond the expectations of the organisers. Although the bidding started cautiously, things soon warmed up and, under the gentle guidance of professional auctioneer Mr. Jonathan Harris, all 64 of the works of art by local artists were sold.

The prices, which started at JD 50, averaged around JD 200 and peaked at JD 1,000 for a work by Princess Fahrelnissa, were on the whole fair. Inevitably there were some injustices done when a few indifferent pieces fetched more than they deserved and other good works went for bargain prices. The latter, although discouraging for the artists concerned, added to the thrill and interest of the evening.

The proceeds from the sales were split three ways — 50 per cent to the individual artists themselves, 10 per cent to the Jordan

Artists Association and the rest to the Jordan National Gallery.

"We haven't worked out how much the Jordan National Gallery will receive yet," the president of the Royal Society for Fine Arts, Princess Wijdan, told the Jordan Times, "but however much it is, most of it will be going back to the artists as we plan to buy more works of art from them with the money."

Commenting on the auction, the Princess was enthusiastic. "It was great," she said, "not only did people really enjoy themselves, but a new atmosphere of awareness was created among the public of their artists. What struck me most, however, was the co-operation between the artists and the organisers in staging this event. Everybody, especially Mrs. Viets, the American ambassador's wife, did a wonderful job."

Encouraged by an excellent turnout — over 300 people attended — the organisers say the auction will take place again next year.