

shall be utilized for the purposes of this Act. The Regents shall select such facilities and sites. The Board shall provide for the establishment of such center on such site or sites as may be selected by the Regents from among the following:

"(1) the area in the District of Columbia bounded by the Inner Loop Freeway on the east, the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge approaches on the south, Rock Creek Parkway on the west, New Hampshire Avenue and F Street on the north;

"(2) suitable sites at the Naval Gun Factory in the District of Columbia;

"(3) suitable sites in Potomac Park;

"(4) suitable sites fronting on, or near, the Mall;

"(5) real property (including existing improvements thereon) fronting on Lafayette Park in the District of Columbia;

"(6) any real property (including existing improvements thereon) in private ownership which may be offered the Regents on reasonable terms or which they may acquire on reasonable terms through solicitation or otherwise; and

"(7) other sites (including improvements thereon) in the District of Columbia determined by the Regents to be suitable.

The Board shall acquire by purchase or otherwise such real property as may be necessary to provide for the establishment of the National Cultural Center of the Performing Arts and related facilities."

SEC. 2. Such Act is further amended by striking out "National Cultural Center" each place it appears therein (except section 7) and inserting in lieu thereof "National Center of the Performing Arts."

SEC. 3. Section 7 of such Act is repealed.

[From the Congressional Record, Mar. 24, 1961]

CONGRESSMAN FRANK CHELF'S PLAN FOR A LIVING MEMORIAL TO PAST PRESIDENTS HAS GROWING SUPPORT

(Extension of remarks of Hon. Harris B. McDowell, Jr., of Delaware, in the House of Representatives, Friday, March 24, 1961)

Mr. McDOWELL. Mr. Speaker, our distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. Chelf], has introduced an extremely interesting bill, H.R. 5617, to provide for a living memorial to past Presidents of the United States, including Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and Theodore Roosevelt.

Congressman Chelf has said that "unless plans for a living memorial or memorials are vigorously pushed, the Nation's Capital will be overrun with statuary and resemble a graveyard."

It has been pointed out by such publications as the New York Times that there are nearly 200 statues to statesmen, many of them nearly forgotten, in the confines of the Federal City.

The major newspapers in the Nation's Capital have grown increasingly critical of the memorials proposed for our past Presidents, and the suggestion is being heard more and more frequently that living memorials for our past Presidents make a lot more sense than many of the plans for memorials currently being considered.

I include as part of my remarks a letter which was published in the always informative and readable "Letters to the Editor" column of the Washington (D.C.) Evening Star:

"LIVING MEMORIAL

"Representative Frank Chelf, Democrat, of Kentucky, deserves the thanks of a grateful and patriotic public for his significant new bill to make the National Cultural Center permanent. Such a step is long overdue. Haste makes waste, and if we have more time to examine the plans for the center, and to raise the money, everyone, including the donors, will be more satisfied and the results will be more enduring.

"At the same time, Chelf has taken steps to provide that the National Cultural Center shall, with its various facilities, such as auditoriums, libraries, and art galleries, be a living memorial to all past Presidents.

"His reasoning is sound. He points out that 'unless plans for a living memorial or memorials are vigorously pushed, the Nation's Capital will be overrun with statuary and resemble a graveyard.'