

# Slum Clearance Plan Wins City Highest Honor

The National Municipal League's award to Baltimore will be made by Dr. George Gallup to Mayor D'Alesandro next Monday evening in conjunction with the premiere of the movie.

Dr. V. C. Arnsperger, president of Encyclopedia Britannica Films, G. H. Griffiths of the Fund for Adult Education of the Ford Foundation, and Vernon C. Myers, publisher of Look will be among the featured guests at the premiere.

The Baltimore Plan for slum elimination has been awarded the top honor in a nation-wide survey of citizen action programs made by the National Municipal League. James W. Rouse, chairman of the Advisory Council of the Health Department's Housing Bureau announced last night.

The panel making the survey consisted of a group of business, educational and civic leaders headed by Dr. George H. Gallup, president of the American Institute of Public Opinion.

Awards were made to eleven cities for a variety of programs. Dr. Gallup explained, "The citation is given not for good government or efficient municipal administration or some specific improvement, but rather on the basis of energetic, purposeful, intelligent citizen effort."

## Plan Described

At the recent National Conference on government meeting at San Antonio, Texas, Miss Shirley Biddison, chief inspector of the Housing Bureau and Clark S. Hobbs, of the Association of Commerce, described the Baltimore Plan for neighborhood rehabilitation.

Baltimore's efforts to rehabilitate the 27-block pilot area in Northeast Baltimore are being recognized in three national magazines this week. An article entitled "These Slum Landlords Got Smart," describes in detail the co-operative work being done by the Citizens Planning and Housing Association, the Housing Bureau and other city agencies, the Housing Court, the Fight Blight Fund, and community organizations in converting slum properties into livable homes.

## Ten Years Reviewed

The article reviews ten years of neighborhood rehabilitation work done in Baltimore, and recommends that this plan, or some similar plan be inaugurated in other cities where over-aged housing has become a problem.

In an editorial, another magazine suggests that President Eisenhower investigate "The Baltimore Plan" and make it part of a national policy on housing for the new Administration.

Mr. Rouse pointed out that the documentary motion picture on "The Baltimore Plan" produced by Encyclopedia Britannica Films with the co-operation of the University of Chicago and a group of Baltimore business leaders has just been completed and will be premiered next Monday evening at the Valencia Theater.

## In Process 2 Years

This film has been in process for two years. It shows progress made in the Pilot Area, and graphically illustrates the neighborhood rehabilitation program of the Housing Bureau.

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