

CAPITOL THEATER NEARS COMPLETION; OPENS SOON

PLAN AIRPORT NEAR BELOIT

Beloit, Wis., Jan. 17.—(Special.)—Acquisition of a tract of land either by purchase or lease on the Morgan farm, two and one-half miles east of Beloit, for an airport is contemplated by a group of local residents interested in development of air travel.

Rockford's newest south side amusement palace, the Capitol, seating in excess of 1,000 people, will probably be opened with vaudeville and films on Saturday, Feb. 4, it was announced today by Theodore Ingrassia, director of the building corporation, and C. E. Anderson, who becomes manager of the playhouse.

Only delay in shipping of stage settings and the elevated organ apparatus will postpone the opening date, according to Mr. Ingrassia and officials of Holmquist-Peterson
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Co., general contractors on the \$175,000 project.

"We will book vaudeville acts through independent agencies in Chicago and will have a selection of standard first run pictures through our Chicago connections." Manager Anderson announced today. "The report that the new Capitol would be booked through local connections is erroneous, as the theater company is independent in ownership and policies.

Choose Orchestra.

"Victor Rodwell has been chosen as orchestra director and he will have four or five trained musicians in the pit.

"We are pleased to announce the selection of H. F. Robinson, Muskegon, Mich., as organist. This artist will be here in time to watch the installation of the disappearing console, which will be of the same design as that to be found in the Coronado.

Decorating Done.

Beautiful color combinations have been developed in the spacious auditorium of the theater, a periwinkle blue sky effect being worked out in the ceiling with lighter pastel shades on the side walls and ceiling grills. This work is practically completed, as is the pouring of the concrete floor.

Placing of opera chairs will be started next Monday, the last sections of flooring being sufficiently dried at this time. Drapes will be hung within ten days, at which time finishing touches on the lobby and completed.

Van De Meer Drew Plans.

Wybe J. Van der Meer, architect in the Mead building, drew the plans for the Capitol building and in so doing developed a Spanish type of ornate beauty both in the exterior and the interior.

Swords Bros., are responsible for the plumbing and wiring, while America Heating Co., installed the heating and ventilating systems.

Luminous Sign Co., built the lobby sign, which is ready for use as soon as the management cares to throw on the switch.

The building, which fronts on S. Main st., 29 1-2 feet and extends east to an alley 157 feet, has been erected through the faith in the south side business district of two men, Theodore Ingrassia and Anthony Domino. There will be four store spaces available for rentals, two on either side of the lobby, while four spacious apartments will utilize second story space in front of the auditorium.

The stage is sufficiently large to allow elaborate "big time" vaudeville acts, while six large dressing rooms are located on either side of the stage and in the rear of the basement.