

Work Rapidly Progressing On Theatre Now In Construction At San Diego

WORK is progressing rapidly on the new Fox Theatre under course of construction in San Diego, Cal., which when completed will be the third largest in the state, with its seating capacity of 3250, and it will also be the third super-Fox house on the Pacific coast. Seattle boasts the largest and San Francisco the second, with 4,000 seats, this being opened on June 28. The San Diego theatre is a part of the \$2,000,000 block which is being built by the Gildred Brothers, the other portions of the structure being given over to offices, stores and a large garage.

More than \$200,000 will be spent for the interior and sound equipment in the new house, which will be opened October 15, according to present plans. The stage is 50 feet wide and 50 feet deep, unusual size for a motion picture house, but the owners are so constructing it that it may be used for the presentation of legitimate plays and operas as well as film plays.

The seats generally will be spaced 32 inches from back to back, while in the loges the distance will be 46 inches. An entrance from B street will lead to the 2,200 seats on the main floor, while another entrance on Seventh Street will lead to the balcony with its even thousand seats, of which 700 will be of the loge

type. One feature of the interior arrangements is to be a huge chandelier 12½ feet in diameter, dropping 18 feet from the ceiling. It is equipped with a 16-foot ladder and circular walk in its interior for the convenience of electricians in cleaning and replacing bulbs. With the equipment and arrangements provided by the new house it is planned to offer full prologues on premier nights as is the rule in some of the larger houses in the north.

Patron's Suggestion for Super-Modern Theatre

Modern as are motion picture theatres in all features of equipment and architectural design, they are not quite modern enough to suit certain groups of moderns among America's rising generation, judged by some of the suggestions showmen receive in letters from patrons.

One of the most advanced ideas expressed recently through this source of suggestion came to light in a mid-western town, where the owner of a theatre was advised that he should bring his house up-to-date by providing special balcony sections for young lovers who like to have their petting parties with their motion picture shows.