

NAMPA THEATRE BEING REBUILT

Complete Renovation of Majestic Is Nearing Finish, Manager Reports

(Special to The Statesman)

NAMPA—The Majestic theatre of Nampa, closed two months ago for remodeling, has undergone a transformation that will place it among the most beautiful theatres in the intermountain country, Herman J. Brown, owner and manager, revealed Saturday.

Little information has been given out regarding the radical change that is being made, as the management, Brown confessed, wishes to surprise the public with the novelty of the effective architecture and decoration.

For two months large crews of carpenters, building artisans and decorators have been at work completely remodeling the theatre. Gone are the posts under the balcony, a memory of old "opry house" days, and other characterizing marks of earlier days. The play house reveals a radical departure from all previous types of theatres in the Rocky mountain states, Brown admitted.

New Sound Equipment

"Beauty alone is not the only change that is being made in the Majestic, as sound of super-excellence will be the result of scientific modern treatment of the theatre from the standpoint of acoustics," he said. "In addition, Western Electric's new wide-range sound reproduction apparatus of the latest model is being installed.

"Some idea of the detail of a modern theatre built for sound, can be gained when it is known that 18 tons of super-acoustic plaster alone was used on exposed surfaces of the Majestic. Mr. Allerbeck, acoustic engineer, aided by the experts of the Western Electric company and the R. C. A., worked out the intricate detail of the 'periods' or cycles of sound vibration covering every foot of the theatre. Nothing was left to chance.

One of the comfort installations is the new cooling and air conditioning system. The electrically-driven pumping and pressure apparatus is capable of reducing 350 gallons of water per minute to a white fog. This fog is used to cool the air. In addition, rain sprays are employed to wash the air, Brown explained. The 10-by-10-foot eliminator removes free water from the air before it passes to the refrigeration chamber. The system permits the use of both refrigeration and washing, a feature exclusive to the Majestic in this state.

New Chairs

Nineteen tons of new steel chairs are a special pride of the management. Deeply upholstered and in beautiful colors, they represent the last word in theatre seating.

H. H. Clausen, whose work at the Hotel Boise, the Fox Egyptian theatre in Boise, the Boise cathedral, the Owyhee hotel, and the Egyptian theatre in Ogden is well known, has charge of the decorations. The National Theatre Supply company is furnishing the theatrical equipment, which includes installation of the first tube transformer sets for electrical current for the use of motion picture machines, that has been made in Idaho, according to the theatre operator.

A new and larger and improved screen is being installed for picture projection.

The management promises that the finished play house will prove a revelation to show goers and boasts that it is the first showman-built modern theatre in the state.

Into the theatre has gone the fruit of 29 years of theatre operation by Herman J. Brown, who has operated 26 of his own theatres, it was learned. "It is essentially a showman's theatre, built by a showman for the giving of shows."

The opening date of the Majestic has not been set, but it is planned to open it before August 15.