Plaza Theatre opens today

Though plagued by the misfortunes which come with moving, the Cooper Plaza Theatres will open the doors of their new building today.

Cooper executives still are trying to combat minor moving problems—like an end table crushed by a falling desk. And the building itself is still unfinished. The telephones aren't hooked up and the fountains don't work.

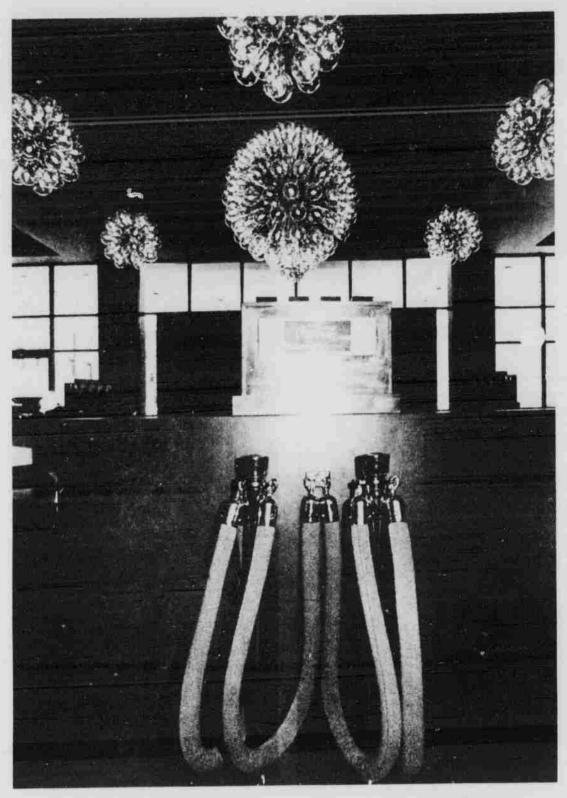
But the sparkling theater part of the building is completed. The four new theaters, on the the corner of 12th and P Streets, will bring Lincoln's downtown movie screen count to 13. The building also will house the home offices of Cooper Theatres and the Cooper Foundation.

The theaters' lobby is roped off to keep audiences for theaters one and two in one area, and audiences for theaters three and four in another area. Mike Gaughan, Nebraska district manager for Cooper Theatres, said this will help prevent overselling performances.

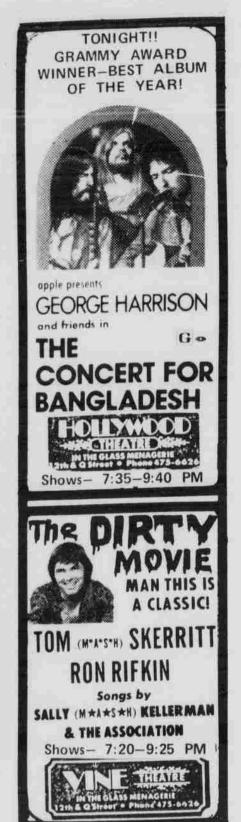
Each theater seats approximately 300 people and can show 16 mm, 35 mm and 70 mm films. There are two fountains on the east side of the plaza.

Gaughan said he hopes the plaza will eventually show specialty films, such as foreign and domestic films which may have limited audience appeal.

Gaughan said he hopes the proliferation of movie theaters in Lincoln will not cause undue competition among the current downtown movie theaters. "No one profits then," he said.



The new Cooper Plaza Theatres . . . embody a circular concession stand illuminated by bulb-shaped crystal chandeliers.





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