

Monument May Be Ready For Unveiling September 1

Columbus Statue Arrives in New York, But Much Work Remains to Be Done at Site

Christopher Columbus, discoverer of America, arrived in New York city yesterday morning aboard the S. S. Rex, with Syracuse as his destination.

Capt. Pasquale Bennett of the Syracuse police force, down in New York to arrange for shipment of the big bronze statue to this city, telegraphed Joseph Pietrafesa, president of the Columbus Monument association, of the statue's arrival. What arrangements Captain Bennett was going to make for transporting the statue here were not known.

The 29-foot granite pedestal is waiting for the 11-foot statue, taller than the Cardiff giant, which will stand on top of it looking westward, as the original Columbus stood on the deck of the Santa Maria gazing over the rolling billows into the unknown.

Altho hopes had been expressed that the statue could be completed and unveiled about the first week in August, such an early date appeared doubtful yesterday. So much work remains in putting the finishing touches on the monument that it appears likely it will not be completely finished before September 1.

One of the many problems which has beset William A. Barry, commissioner of parks, in building the monument, was the finding of suitable pebbles to "floor" the pool surrounding its base, and also the circular walk outside the pool.

The drawings of Dwight James Baum, of Riverdale-on-Hudson, who donated his services in designing the base, called for panels of pink, white and blue pebbles, in imitation of the pavements of Italian streets.

After much hunting, Commissioner Barry finally located what he wanted on the shores of Lake Ontario. For days work relief employes have been scouring the beaches in the neighborhood of Mexico and Fair Haven, armed with buckets in which they have been collecting pebbles of the right size and color. Six truckloads have already been brought in, and more will be required.

These have to be set individually by hand in white mortar. Several panels already have been laid.