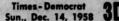
Chicago Banker Backs 'Little Switzerland'



Start Big Ski Resort At Savanna

By STAFF WRITER

SAVANNA, Ill. - A Chicago banker's vision of establishing a ski resort along the Mississippi River near here is fast coming into focus.

Already two ski runs of 2,400 feet and 600 feet have been hacked out of the forest, and Ted R. Haller, vice president in charge of business development for the Northwest National Bank of Chicago, sees within three to five years a ski area which would rival anything in the Midwest.

Haller intends to have two rope Haller's perspective even encompasses development eventual tows operating by next year. ly of a "Little Switzerland" sur-

rounding the steeply-slanting hills walking will get them in good con- he added.

property along the lines of a explained. Swiss chateau.

around his resort here.

Haller has in mind construction ming pool at some time, a la Sun Valley.

Two Rope Tows

"If they want to ski there this

He is now remodeling the house dition for mountain skiing; but which came with the purchase of people won't walk anymore," he

been skiing for 20 years from the whose bluffs tower above the Mis- jump at the resort. of a lodge, complete with swim- Australian Alps to Aspen, Colo., sissippi.

making machine by next year. "This way, you'll be able to ski he says "would be ideal for ski-siderable response from Chicago today of Haller at the resort, and from Thanksgiving to spring; all ing."

you need is 32 degree tempera- He took possession of the prop- sort," he noted. But of more immediate impor-tures. And in checking the temper-erty last spring after searching tance to ski enthusiasts is that ature from the top of the hill and for five years. But of more immediate impor-



year they'll have to walk up the the flat, I've found that it varies hill," Haller said. "Actually, as much as 10 degrees at times,"

Near Palisades Located about four miles north

explained. The Chicago banker, who has from the Palisades State Park chair lift and possibly even a ski ey to make it. And aside from

he pas

make an ideal spot for skiing."

each weekend from Chicago.

which went with it.

pounds," he said.

He purchased the Savanna site

in a crowd (there are rail connec- snowfall.

Haller, who was raised in Ce-tions to Chicago) which would dar Rapids, said it was while on a trip back from Sun Valley that If people coming in would build ssed this way to visit in his here, possibly similar to the Swiss chateau style, we would really "Going through Savanna, I was have something. The area is ideal impressed by the beauty of the for ice-boating, too," he pointed place and the fact that it would out.

"A Lot Of Fun"

The only time Haller displayed without even looking at the house the banker's traditional conversatism was when asked for an ac-

He has led most of the work in- counting of how much he has involved in clearing out the area vested so far. But it wasn't be for ski runs, journeying down cause he was reluctant to tell; he just doesn't know.

"On one weekend I lost 10 "I haven't seen any figures yet, I know it's a lot, but I've been A bachelor, Haller said he in the business long enough to "There has been a lot of cur-for me," he added.

also plans to purchase a snow- Haller, 50, also plans to clear issity about the place among lo- Thirty members of the Jefferout a huge natural bowl which cal people, and I've received con- son Park Lions' Club were guests people interested in a local re- he has been conducting guided tours as well as skiing every

"I think the resort would bring weekend at the site since the first

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