

Unveil Plan for 25-Mile Resort Belt

MARQUETTE, Dec. 8.—Plans for a \$3,000,000 resort complex linked by a 25-mile-long scenic railroad were unveiled today by two Milwaukee land developers.

Extending northwest along Lake Superior from Marquette to Big Bay, the planned tourist attraction would also consist of a ski lodge, mining and railroad museums, a restaurant, country store and an "animal land."

Backers are headed by John Z. Zerbel, a certified public accountant and former resident, and Harry M. Wirth, a financier.

Zerber said the group has applied for a federal Area Redevelopment Administration loan to match funds put up by him, Wirth and others. He did not say how much had been raised.

'SUPERIOR LAND'

Zerbel said the complex would be called "Superior Land" and is scheduled to be opened next summer. More than 100,000 acres would be involved.

The sightseeing train would run along the Lake Superior and Ishpeming Railroad route from Marquette to Big Bay, where a "Swiss Alpine village" would be located.

The village, containing a \$150,000 ski lodge, would operate all year, Wirth said. Summer events would include stock theater and art-music centers in co-operation with Northern Michigan College, he said.

SWANS, ANIMALS

The "animal land" would have swans, animals and other wildlife in natural surroundings, much of which Wirth said would be visible from a paddlewheel excursion boat.

Tourists also would be able to see authentic logging operations, visit iron mines and see natural skiing meets under plans outlined by Wirth.

Zerbel said the tourists the complex would attract would give a "tremendous lift" to the area's economy, predicting that it might some day rank with Disneyland and the ski slopes at Aspen, Colo., as a natural attraction.