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Chicago, Ill., Dec. 23--Bricklayers are winning a race with the weather at the Illinois Pavilion at the New York World's Fair fairgrounds in Flushing Meadow.

The last of 252,000 Illinois bricks will soon be in place and the roof-decking is now nearing completion.

Ralph G. Newman, Chicago Lincoln authority and chairman of the Illinois Commission in charge of the "Land of Lincoln" exhibit, said this means the Illinois building is "on schedule" for the Fair opening next April 22.

Newman said the Illinois construction drew special attention at the fairgrounds when the George A. Fuller Co., general contractors for the building, put 40 bricklayers to work at one time to beat the first predicted cold wave and snowfall in the New York area. He said the swarm of workmen inspired smiles and interest for the Illinois site.

Designed by the architectural firm of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, the Illinois Pavilion is the only all-brick structure at the fair. Dark reddish-brown in color, the bricks were fired in the Danville kilns of the Western Brick Co., plant of the Illinois Brick Co. The quarter of a million bricks were shipped by railroad from Danville to New York to help make the Pavilion "native Illinois" from the ground up.

Windowless and cornerless, the building is a series of curvilinear walls which form semi-enclosed courtyards. Entrance and exit "necks" are a continuation of the curved walls to effect an even flow of traffic for the seven to eight million visitors expected to tour the Illinois exhibit.