



Garden Theatre, 13th and McGee Sts., Kansas City's New \$175,000 Play House

THE most unusual and artistic structure in Kansas City is the new Garden theatre, Thirteenth and McGee streets, which will open its doors for the first time Monday afternoon. Architecturally and in its interior equipment there has been a wide departure from accepted types of amusement places, and in carrying out the unique scheme of construction many masters of the building craft have contributed their best efforts and most original ideas. From the foundation to the roof the materials that have gone into the structure have been of the highest grade obtainable, furnished by the firms that have established themselves as leaders in their various lines.

Much of the credit for the execution of the unique plans for the Garden Theatre belongs to J. C. Long of the Long Construction company, the general contractor under whose supervision the building was erected. The firms that aided in the construction work or furnished material for the building and its furnishings included: Kansas Buff Brick & Manufacturing company, Caney Brick company, which supplied the brick; the Iola Portland Cement company, which supplied the many tons of cement used in the structure; the Kansas City Structural Steel company, which supplied and erected metal framework and ornaments; the Bell Telephone company; the Southwest Wire and Iron Works company, which supplied and erected the complete system of fire escapes, including 260 square feet of landings, 115 lineal feet of stairs and 250 lineal feet of double railing; the Pehl Metal Products company; J. P. Sprague & Company, metal lathing, installed by the company's force of expert workmen; the Philip Carey Roofing company; the American Electrical Equipment company; Chas. A. Pierson designed the wonderful electrical effects, making it impossible for the eye to see a single light; the Bunting-Stone Hardware company hardware sundries; the Carnie-Goudie company, which supplied the awnings; Lewis & Kitchen, which installed the hot and cold air ventilation system; Fillmore & Rindskopf, decorators; James A. Biggam, the florist, the natural and artificial floral decorations; the Kansas City Scenic company, which painted and installed the stage equipment, and Warren, Webster & Company, who supplied the modern air washing device.

Nothing in the new playhouse was given more careful study by Lewis & Kitchen than the heating and ventilating problem, and the most perfect equipment known was installed. More than 2,500,000 cubic feet of pure, water cleansed air is delivered into the auditorium each hour, and driven to all parts of the structure by immense fans in the basement. In winter the air will be heated and properly humidified before it enters the house. In summer it is cooled by means of the Warren-Webster Air Washer, which "launders" the air and removes all dust, germs and other impurities. The plant was designed by B. Natkin, the heating and ventilating expert.

The many unique features of the building and its furnishings demanded the personal attention of the foremost workmen in the building trades, and probably no structure ever erected in Kansas City assembled so many expert supervisors. The greater part of the work was creative, and many of the conveniences and features of embellishments were originated as the construction progressed. The result, as the completed building stands today, probably is the best example in America of a theatre artistic and beautiful, and at the same time so safe, comfortable and convenient that it stands alone among amusement places. The Garden is certain to remain in a double sense one of the show places of Kansas City for a long time to come, and is a monument to the ingenuity and skill of the masters of the building crafts who contributed to its erection.