

AN ACRE OF SEATS IN A PALACE OF SPLENDOR

By Bill Peterson, Number 7 in a series. THE MICHIGAN THEATRE, DETROIT.

Designed by C. W. and George L. Rapp, the Michigan opened in 1926 with a seating capacity of 4,050. The house originally had one of the largest vertical signs ever installed above a theatre marquee. The magnificent lobby has bronze gates leading into the inner foyer, and the marble columns lining the lobby are of unusual coloring. The organ, a five-manual Wurlitzer, is now owned by Fred Hermes of Racine, Wisconsin. After being closed early this year with its future very clouded, recent word that the Michigan will reopen this December is good news to all who have seen far too many of these grand palaces become parking lots.

—Photo by THE DETROIT NEWS, Feb. 19, 1927; from Kaasa collection