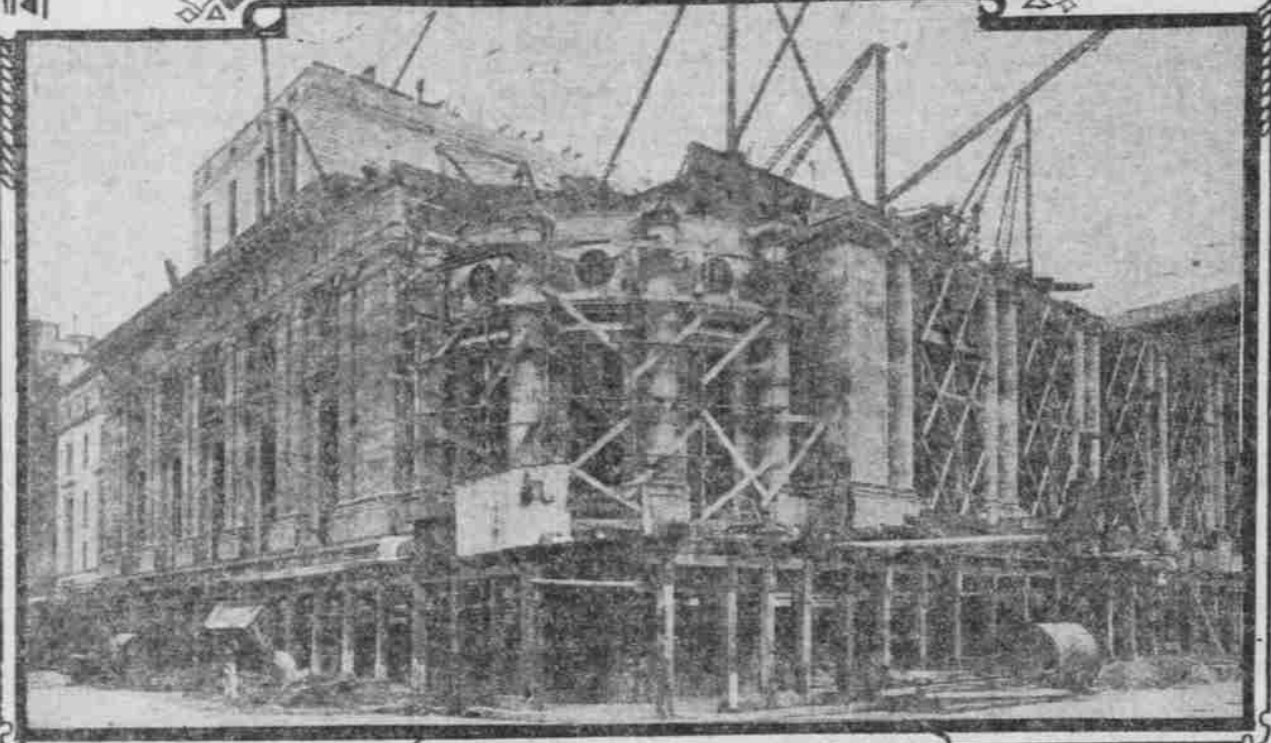


"NEW THEATER," DEVOTED TO PLAYS OF MERIT, IS DEDICATED IN NEW YORK CITY

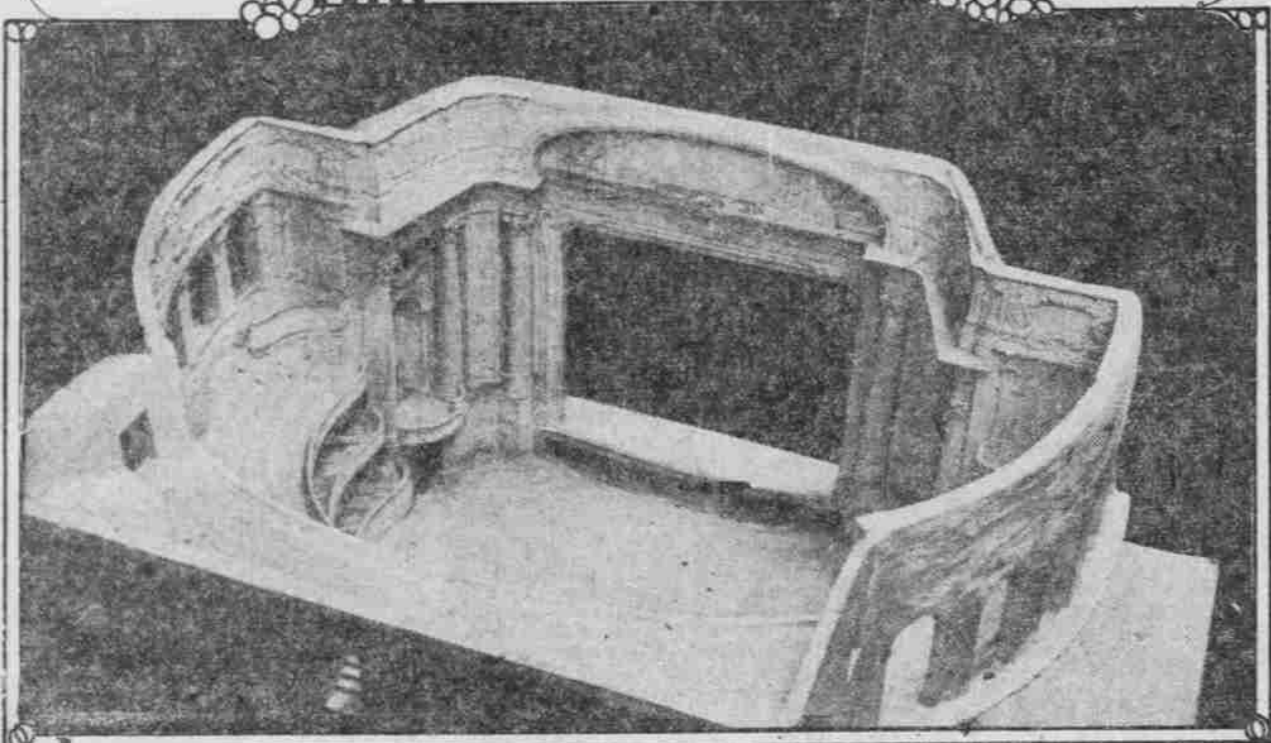
Founders and Promoters Do Not Contemplate Profit, but Hope to Advance Dramatic Art in the United States.



WINTHROP AMES, DIRECTOR NEW THEATER. LEE SHUBERT, BUSINESS MGR. JOHN CORBIN, LITERARY MGR.



EXTERIOR OF NEW THEATER



MODEL OF INTERIOR NEW THEATER

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—(Special)—Mayor McCallan was the chief figure in the dedication of the new theater which occurred in the theater building Tuesday. The exterior of the building is now rapidly approaching completion and from the picture of the model herewith some idea may be gained of the appearance of the interior as the architects have planned it. It is expected that the building will be ready for occupancy in less than a year and already the artistic and literary bureaus are busy making preparations for the event.

Not long ago John Corbin sent out notices through the public press that manuscripts of plays would be examined and the readers are now going through the large number offered since that notice was published. Meantime, Mr. Winthrop Ames, whose home is in Boston, has opened an office in this city. The responsibility for the success of the enterprise from an artistic viewpoint will rest on the shoulders of Messrs. Ames, Corbin and Lee Shubert. Mr. Ames is the director of the institution, Mr. Corbin its literary manager and Mr. Shubert its business manager.

The plan of the new theater does not contemplate profit for its founders and supporters. The money with which it is being built has been contributed by wealthy men and women for the advancement of the dramatic art. Like the Comedie Francaise of Paris, it is to produce plays which are meritorious without regard to their popular qualities—that is, the popular drawing power of a play is to be no consideration with the management. Literary merit is to have great weight in the selection of plays.

Of the three managers, Mr. Ames is the least known to the general public outside of Boston. In that city he is known as the man who with little experience took hold of the Castle Square Theater and established in it a model stock company. Mr. Corbin was for some time the dramatic critic of the New York Sun and his dramatic reviews were widely read. Lee Shubert is one of the Shubert Brothers, who have several theaters in New York and others scattered through the United States, and who have made fortunes in theatrical management.

Architecturally the new building will be nearly perfect. It will be built for comfort both before and behind the scenes. In front there will be a foyer, grand staircase, retiring rooms, cloak-rooms, smoking rooms, restaurant, bar, roof garden, etc. The auditorium will be elliptical, the long axis being parallel to the stage. There will be two tiers of 24 boxes each communicating through private halls. The first tier of boxes will be only four feet above the orchestra floor. The house

SCIENTIST BELIEVES INHABITANTS OF PLANET MARS ARE INTELLIGENT TREES

Dr. Robinson Declares Conditions Such on Planet That Lung Capacity Would Distort Being

MARTIANS, if they exist at all, are intelligent trees rather than human beings. The real genus homo can be grown in but one place in the universe, and that place is the earth. Thus says one learned Dr. Robinson, of London, who seeks to convert his erudite brothers to his way of thinking by innumerable proofs of the inflexible and literal worldliness of the human race. Whatever the inhabitants of Mars may be like, he argues, it would be impossible for us, if we met one of them to recognize him as a man and a brother. How could we? Beings who are equal to gigantic labors such as the digging of "canals."

Using Ferns for Packing. The fern plant, which grows almost everywhere, is an excellent preservative for packing articles of food, fruit, etc. People who have lived in England know that the English have used it successfully for many years. Fine fruit, fresh butter, etc. are no longer seen in the English markets packed in grapevine leaves, but almost always in fern leaves, which keep the articles excellently. This is done even where grapevine leaves are to be had in abundance. Every one posted well in botany knows the high preservative power of fern leaves with reference to vegetable and animal substances.

On the late of Man fresh herrings are packed in ferns and arrive on the market in as fresh a condition as when they were shipped. Potatoes packed in ferns keep many months longer than others packed only in straw. Experiments made with both straw and fern leaves in the same cellar showed surprising results in favor of fern. While the potatoes packed in straw mostly showed signs of rotting in the spring, those in ferns were as fresh as if they had just been dug. Fresh meat is also well preserved by fern leaves. It would seem as if the highly preservative qualities of fern leaves are due to their high percentage of salt. No larvae, maggots, etc., approach ferns, as the strong odor keeps them away.

New Diamond Drill. Consul-General John P. Bray reports that a trial was recently held at Melbourne in the presence of representative Australian mining men of a new diamond drill, the invention of the officers of the Department of Mines of Victoria. The leading feature of the new drill is its portability, the total weight of the machine being only 400 pounds, as compared with three or four tons—the weight of the machines now in use. The Pioneer diamond drill can be worked either by hand or motive power, being capable of boring 20 feet by the former and 600 feet by the latter process. It boro a two-inch hole, producing a core 1 1/2 inches in diameter.

No Women in the Mine. Milwaukee Sentinel. From Culiacan, Mexico, it is reported that because a woman entered the Jesus Maria y Anexan mines several hundred miners went on strike and refused to return to work until the parish priest went into the mines and sprinkled all shafts and tunnels with consecrated water, an old superstition among Mexican miners that if a woman enters a mine a catastrophe will follow.

Kippered Kipling. St. Louis Post-Dispatch. A fool there was and he made his dream (Even as you and I) To a nine-day wonder baseball team (It never was worthy of his esteem). But the fool would holler, and root and scream (Even as you and I): Oh, the hopes we waste and the cheers we waste, And the confidence we misplace Upon our team when the games begin (And now we know they never can win) In the yearly pennant chase!

A fool there was in the clash of clubs (Even as you and I) And a bear never roared so hard for grubs (And this in the end is the thing that rubs) He found he had followed a bunch of dubs (Even as you and I): Oh, the toll we lost and the bats we lost And the beautiful things we'd dreamt Because of the faith that was in us that (Thank heaven we now know where we're at) We'd a pennant-winning team!

The fool has grieved till his soul is sore (Even as you and I) And he hasn't the heart to ask the score (You know you can't care any more) And he'll be believed when the season's o'er (Even as you and I): And it isn't the shame and it isn't the blame That stings like a poisoned lance, It's the conviction lately growing strong (Something they told us all along) That we never did stand a chance!

earth earthy, and that in all his parts, mental and bodily, he is as much a product of the complex conditions of life on this planet as the features of a bronze image are a product of the mold in which it has been cast. If the influence on the earth had been different, man would have been different. Gravity, air pressure, temperature, moisture and light are only a few of these. All along man's history there must have been, in innumerable occasions, a dividing of the ways, in which conditions absolutely peculiar to this planet determined the issue as to which path should lead upward to humanity.

The items which have directed the plastic life stream along this or that channel of evolution were often as inconsiderable and as fortuitous as the utterly trivial events which in everyday life fatally determine our future. Often, in tracing life's numberless cross roads the main procession of living things goes one way, ending nowhere in particular, while a few individuals drift off through some casual influence, along an obscure path, which in the end proves the only track leading upward to the goal.

Division of Animals. A glance at some of these controlling conditions pictures for the Doctor how and why he is, and proves that he could hardly be otherwise. Early in organic evolution some of the primitive forces divided into those that drew carbonic acid. Those that took the carbonic acid about themselves, and those that took it into the channels of becoming active and versatile beings of the nature of man. Then came the division into vertebrate and invertebrate, or, as Professor Lloyd Morgan puts it, into flesh and bone animals and skin and squish animals. Some of the skin and squish animals, like spiders, bees and ants in a sense are much more highly developed, both physically and socially, than the vertebrates. Nevertheless, by dispensing with a backbone their ancestors took a fatal step, so far as ever evolving into human beings is concerned. By depending too much on their skin for protection they became literally hidebound, and when they desire to grow large, like certain crabs and lobsters, they are obliged to periodically burst out of their outer covering and remain dormant long before the new skin is ready for service.

Another crisis came when it was to be decided whether land or water should be the scene of future activity. A momentous question this. For none of the creatures that remained purely water animals ever acquired much brain. Their environment always was cold and wet and hence too uniform, and the forces which controlled their lives were too rigid and too mighty to give them much chance of versatility or choice of action. It was only the waterborn vertebrates who succeeded in adapting themselves to land life that entered upon the narrow path which led upward to humanity.

Moon Was Nearer. In ancient times, as it was, it was the shallow seas which abounded with animal life. Those creatures that were near a sloping shore were liable to be left high and dry twice in the 24 hours at low tide. Long ago, Sir George Darwin shows the moon was much nearer the earth than it is now, and its attraction was much stronger. Hence vast areas were alternately flooded and dry, and myriads of creatures which originally extracted a little air from the water by means of gills found themselves obliged to take their air undiluted or die for want of it. Those who triumphed in the ordeal were on their way to genus homo.

It becomes clear that unless some earthlike planet possessed vast shallow oceans and a moon closely resembling our own, upward progress of this critical epoch would depend on entirely different circumstances, and the results would have to be wholly different. As Darwin pointed out, man still retains in his physical constitution, and in the functions of his body, traces not only of gills for obtaining air from water, but also at the regular periodic recurrence of lunar influence. The next set of crossroads is a maze wherein the devils but ever upward way is hard to trace. Huge populations of cold-blooded amphibia and reptiles swam over the land. Somehow from among these there developed certain sets of creatures with a greatly improved breathing apparatus and a more rapid circulation. These creatures eventually became the birds and the mammals. It was the birds that first took the right turning. Their

bigger than rats, could escape the swarms of enormous reptiles because of their warm blood full of oxygen. Although waiting in brute force, they were capable of a more rapid and more sustained motion than their reptile foes. And they had brain cells nourished by fast flowing warm blood instead of the sluggish and chilly fluid which fed the reptilian brain. Thus they became quicker of perception and more fertile in schemes for attack and defense. They were Tom Thumbs who bested their giant adversaries by quickness and cunning. One of the great dividing of the ways had come when it became the rule, and not the exception, for the little mammals to be born alive. Since the young warm bloods were born in a helpless state they had to be suckled and cared for during long periods. Education came into play, a great upward step. For the first time in the world's history, experience gathered during the lifetime of one generation was put at the disposal of the next.

Hence a capacity for brain growth and a power of learning on the part of the young became more and more important if they were to profit by the experience of their elders. The first mammals are supposed to have been opossumlike creatures, which were arboreal in their habits. Now most creatures that leave the solid ground and take to the trees do so to avoid their enemies, and considering the swarms of various reptiles, the presumption is that the first weak mammals were no exception to the rule. At all events the trees soon had a big struggling population. Up in the trees they evolved two distinct methods of getting a hold. By far the greater number developed claws and seasons of clinging to the bark. A smaller number developed long digits, which can secure a good grip on the branches.

The choice between the two was vitally critical as regards the future. A foot merely armed with sharp claws remains almost entirely a means of climbing, and can do little else. But when the flexible digits are lengthened and are regulated by groups of strong and complex muscles all the wonderful powers of the human hand at once become possible. The Stone Age. Throughout the immeasurable stone age man was continually peril of death by hunger. These successful in exercising their reasoning faculties in the chase survived. In the matter of clothes, dwellings and weapons the long life in the trees probably is responsible for the physical helplessness which obliged man to resort to art in his manufacture. When at least part of what man owes to the trees is considered, Dr. Robinson thinks it no longer a surprise that tree worship has become a cult among many different branches of the human family. And yet how slight a difference in conditions on the earth would have prevented the development of trees. It is all due to the activity of the vegetable world for carbonic acid. For what is a tree? It is a long-lived plant that has acquired woody fiber and grown upward. Why does it grow upward? Everybody on a plantation knows that the young trees at first are set close together. They draw them up. It is this competition of plant with plant for light and for carbonic acid which makes each of them seek to tower above its fellow. The plant or tree which can best overcome its rivals and expose the greatest surface of chlorophyll charged leaves to the air and sunlight extracts the most carbonic acid from the atmosphere to use in building up its own tissues. Given slightly different conditions as to atmosphere, moisture and soil and this kind of vegetable competition with its fruitful and far-reaching influence could not occur. It is not every part of the world that bears forest trees without human help. Vast regions like the steppes of Russia and the prairies of the United States are thickly covered with grasses and small herbage which get their light and carbonic acid without ever aspiring to be trees. Suppose the creeping grasses had been evolved earlier, and suppose the whole planet had been covered with prairie land during the critical tertiary epoch. How different the fate of genus homo. Anyone who understands physics, astronomy and geology probably can bring forward numerous other instances where conditions peculiar to the earth have directed the upward march of that slender procession of living creatures which has culminated in man.—Chicago Tribune.

BUILDS FINE OPERA HOUSE FOR BOSTON.



E. D. Jordan.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—(Special)—Boston is fortunate in having two such public-spirited citizens as Eben D. Jordan and Henry Higginson. Mr. Higginson contributed a small fortune to the maintenance of the Boston Symphony Orchestra in the interest of good music; Mr. Jordan has just supplied the capital necessary to assure to Boston a fine opera house. It is intended to have an opera company in Boston independent of those in New York, and yet strengthened by an exchange of artists with the Metropolitan Company. The cornerstone of the opera house was laid this week.

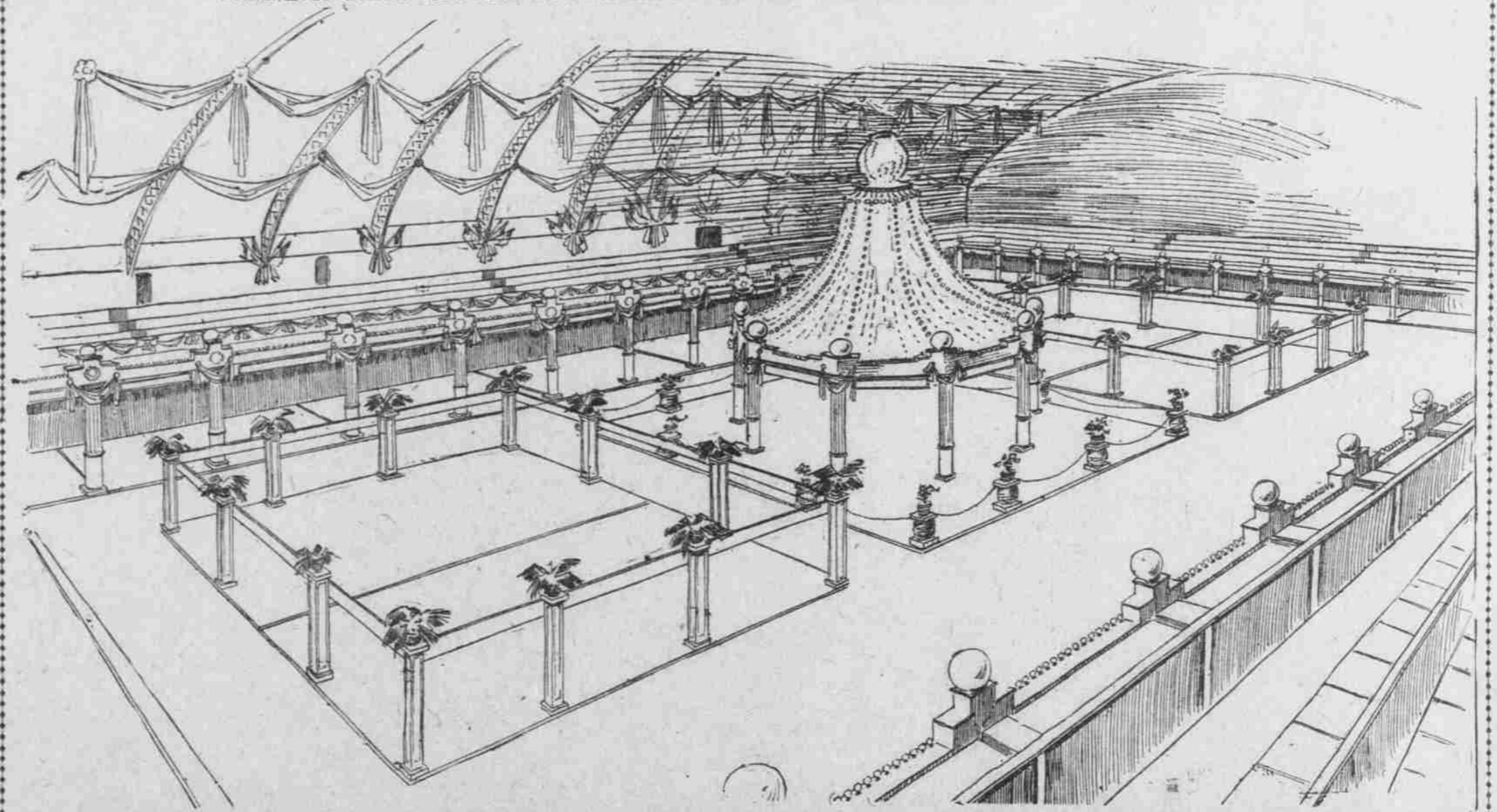
WINNER OF NOBEL PRIZE FOR CHEMISTRY.



Professor Ernest Rutherford.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—(Special)—It has been stated unofficially that Professor Ernest Rutherford will receive the Nobel prize for chemistry. Professor Rutherford was formerly of McGill University, Montreal. He is now of Manchester University. He was well known when he advanced the theory of radioactivity. This was based on his research work into the properties of thorium. Two years later, when he published the complete results of his researches, he received the Rumford medal. He was born in New Zealand, of Scottish parents.

PERSPECTIVE VIEW SHOWING HOW INTERIOR OF ARMORY WILL BE ARRANGED FOR THE MOTOR SHOW.



Space has been allotted in the Oriental building for the exhibits of automobiles and sporting goods that will be shown at Portland's first automobile show next March. Ninety-eight per cent of the space has been spoken for, and contracts have been closed for three-fourths of the show room. Motor cars and sundries to the value of over half a million dollars will be shown, illustrating the extent to which the industry has reached in Portland. All the prominent makes of cars manufactured in America will be on display.