

RITZ ARCHITECT A RECOGNIZED MASTER

John Eberson, architect and designer of the Ritz theater, who originated the idea of an "atmospheric" playhouse, has been at the head of

an organization specializing in theater designing for more than a quarter of a century.

Mr. Eberson received his early training in the old world art schools at Dresden, Saxony and Vienna, Austria, where he was thoroughly schooled in the fundamental principles of classic design.

Among his satisfied clients, Eberson counts the names of America's largest theatrical syndicates as well as a legion of individual owners.

Eberson built the old Grand theater of this city in 1907. This theater stood on Second street, between Boston and Cincinnati. It was destroyed by fire several years ago. As a matter of comparison Eberson remarked that the total cost of the

Grand theater did not equal half of the cost for plastering alone in the new Ritz.

Building 16 Theaters

At the present time Eberson is building theaters in the following cities; four in Chicago, two in New York, and one each in Omaha, Nebraska, Flint, Mich., Tampa, Fla., Kalamazoo, Mich., Detroit, Canton, Ohio, Saginaw, Mich., and Grand Island, Mich. Besides these, he is building a 32-story office building in Houston, Texas, which will, upon completion, be one of the finest and most elaborate structures in the world. Another of his big projects under way is the Midway Athletic club, of Miami, Fla. The cost of this building will exceed \$4,000,000.

When asked how he found it possible to carry on his work personally on such a tremendous scale he replied that it was simply a matter of organization.