

*Draperies of woven damask and curtain of applique*

## Fabrics Used for Unusual Decorative Effects

*Manufacturer Describes New Fabric Known as "Mirror Mosaic"*

By GEORGE GOTTLIEB\*

THE progress of the theatrical industry within the space of a very few years brought forcefully to the minds of theatre owners, operators and managers the importance of the co-operation of the architect, designer and artist with the manufacture of materials planned to be used in the

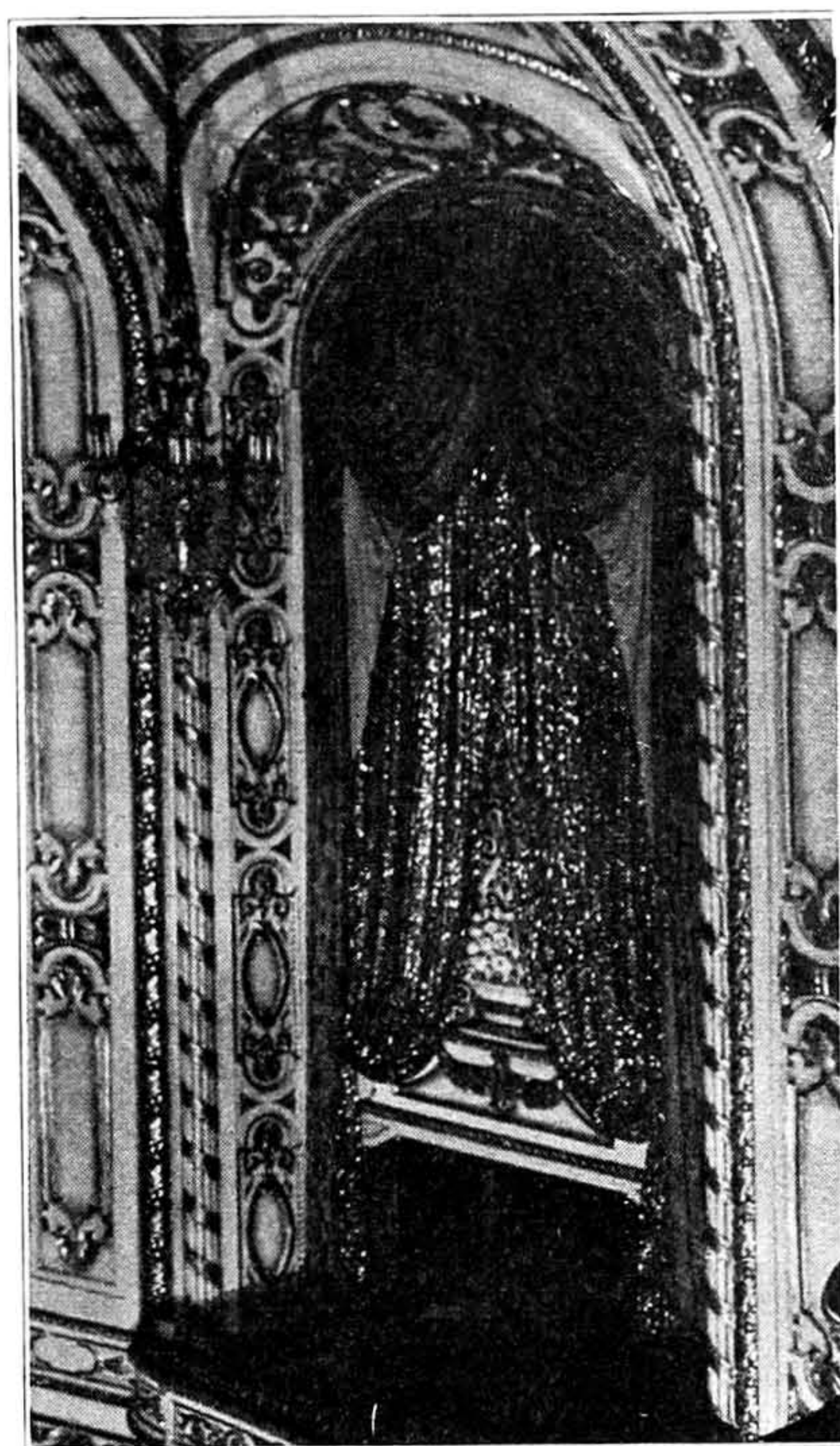
theatre to gain a beautiful harmony in the ensemble. This was a prime factor in the many improvements and elaboration of the auditorium, which was entirely separate from the presentation and performance itself in getting increased results at the box office. The energy and talent of the combined forces connected with the theatre in the past, have been concentrated mainly on the performers individually, with very little thought of the setting and color harmony surrounding the individual or group of performers.

The search for unusual theatrical settings has gone far and wide in recent years in commercializing all forms of art. Various color combinations have been worked out in almost every known medium with great effort in order to interest and amuse the theatre goer. Originality and the seemingly unapproachable desire of many a producer, art director and scenic artist, have been fulfilled by creative and distinctive theatrical supplies.

Unquestionably, fabrics play an important part in the beautifying of the theatre of today, whether it is used as an interior decoration or part of the stage setting behind the footlights.

The romance connected with the fabric manufactured by Dazian's called Mirror Mosaic, is indeed very interesting. This Mirror Mosaic is diamond like in brilliancy, and can be compared in workmanship to the making of handmade lace, since every piece of Mirror is especially cut and put into place by hand. This gives out gorgeous prismatic rays, especially under colored lights. There is still to be found in the old world, many wonderful examples of Mosaics, dating back to about 400 B. C. In the old Moorish temples examples of this art have been preserved that took hundreds of years to complete, and their beauty and luster at present are of great value to lovers of art. Strangely enough, we are

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*Organ drapery of gold spangle cloth*

## Draperies for Unusual Decorations

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making this work in almost the same manner as the ancients did in order to retain the wealth of beauty in combination with modern art features that are suitable for the theatre. A beautiful Mirror Mosaic curtain has been used continually at the marvelously decorated Paramount theatre in New York since the opening. This spectacular fabric has created quite a sensation, and has been adapted by many theatres throughout the country. Various characteristic designs are easily carried out by the application of these flexible Mirror Mosaics.

Every particular fabric has an appropriate use of some kind. An imported Gold Sequin material has been marketed for very practical use in the organ grill of theatres. In search of such fabric, the demand was for a brilliant and lustrous material to be suitable for organ hanging use. This necessitated an open work constructed cloth, inasmuch as the acoustic possibilities were of great importance. The result was the "Spangle Allover" cloth of various individual colors, which is lined with a metal luster gauze cloth known as Metaline. These two items are used very often in a combination of contrasting colors. The scintillating effect of this "Spangle Allover" used as the face material and set off by the combination contrasting color lining, is indeed pleasing.

The Orpheum Circuit of theatres particularly have found such items to great advantage in meeting with their organ drapery requirements. The New Orpheum Palace in Chicago, the most beautiful in the Orpheum Circuit, shows this material used.

To meet with the necessity of supplying a certain fabric to be used in the interior of an oriental character theatre, this concern was called upon by one of the largest drapery contract concerns, namely Albert Pick & Co. of Chicago, to submit such desirable fabric. At once they set to work on a Silk Plush, especially dyed in Batik colorings. Upon entering the lobby of this theatre, one will immediately note the scrupulous matching of the colors in the drapery hangings to the colors woven in the carpet of the main lobby. This material was treated in such a way as to give a splurge of colorings which is characteristic of oriental color schemes. It is interesting to note that no two yards of this fabric runs exactly alike in color combinations. This can be seen in the new Oriental Theatre in Detroit.

An effect resembling small jewels studded in a velvet fabric, known as sparkling velvet, has been recognized by many producers as one of the most lustrous and diamond-like curtain material. This is mainly used as a flash curtain. In the George White's Scandals a curtain of this type has drawn the attention of the audience to such an extent that frequent hand-clapping has occurred at each time this particular curtain appears during the performance. In addition to these sparkles, which are carried out in a beautiful urn design there are twelve oval rhinestone plaques made from french stones and placed along the entire width of curtain in a border effect. The Marbro, Avalon, Granada, Picadilly in Chicago have these sparkling curtains in their stage settings.

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## M-G-M Promotes Wolf

*(Special to the Herald)*

BOSTON, Sept. 27.—Maurice N. Wolf, branch manager of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer exchange at Boston, has been promoted to district manager for New England and will have charge of the Boston and New Haven exchanges.