

# Kansas City Theatre Company Collection (SC143)

## *Introduction*

The Kansas City Theatre Company Collection consists of court records detailing the sale of its lease on the Gayety Theatre building. The documents were filed as an injunction against the sale by one of the company's shareholders.

## *Descriptive Summary*

Title: Kansas City Theatre Company Collection  
Date: 1931  
Size: 0.09, 4 folders  
Collection Number: SC143

## *Donor Information*

Found in collection

## *Citation Note*

Kansas City Theatre Company Collection (SC143), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

## *Administrative Information*

Related Collections: Additional materials regarding the Gayety Theatre are available in the Missouri Valley Special Collections local history collections. These include: Vertical File - Theaters; General Photograph Collection (P1); and Mrs. Sam Ray Postcard Collection (SC58).

## *Biographical/Historical Sketch*

The Kansas City Theatre Company operated the Gayety Theatre at 12<sup>th</sup> and Wyandotte Streets in Kansas City, though its headquarters were based in New York City. In 1909, the company acquired two leases for the land and built the theater for burlesque shows. The Gayety Theatre was successful for several years, but grew less popular during the 1920s and eventually closed. By 1930, the company was in debt and the executive board decided to sell its lease on the building to Michael Savage. Shareholder William F. Metz filed an injunction in the New York State Supreme Court against the sale in 1931, but was denied.

## *Scope and Content Note*

This collection contains certified photostatic copies of court orders, summons, affidavits, and motions filed in New York State Supreme Court dated January 8 and

February 17, 1931. Also included is a letter from H. Carl Edwards to John Henry Smith dated March 21, 1931.

### *Collection Inventory*

- f. 1 Orders, summons, complaint, and affidavit, January 1931
- f. 2 Orders, summons, complaint, and affidavit, January 1931 (photocopies)
- f. 3 Affidavits, notice of motion, and order, February 1931
- f. 4 Affidavits, notice of motion, and order, February 1931 (photocopies)

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**Processed by Special Collections Librarian Kate Hill, October 2012.**