

Sprung Sprung

When the great wooden theatre at Wolf Trap, Virginia, burned down last spring, Sprung Instant Structures Inc. of Calgary came to the rescue. In practically no time the U.S. Department of the Interior's magnificent showplace was back in business.

A structure of fabric panels, tensioned between aluminum arches, had replaced the lost building. Inside were 2,000 seats and a stage 65 feet wide and 45 feet deep with a 25-foot proscenium.

The name "Sprung" is not intended to be descriptive. The company was founded by Philip Davis Sprung, a tent, awning and mattress maker, in 1887.

In 1969 it developed its "membrane stress" process and began building instant structures in a great variety of lengths, widths and shapes. Most are shaped like circus tents and gaily striped, and

they have been used all over the world, to house swimming pools, hockey rinks, trade shows, bus depots, storage facilities, portable factories, dry docks, bandstands, greenhouses and a good many other things.

They will hold up under snowfalls weighing as much as sixty pounds to the square foot and withstand winds up to 140 miles an hour. The fabric, P.V.C.-coated polyester scrim, is waterproof, fire-resistant (self-extinguishing) and highly resistant to mildew, insects, inorganic salts and weak acids.

Prices are based on the number of square feet. The smaller structures, sixty feet or less in width, are \$9.90 per square foot. The larger ones, such as the one at Wolf Trap, are \$16.90 per square foot.

For more information write or call Sprung Instant Structures Ltd., 1001 10th Avenue, S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2R 0B7, (403) 245-3371.

