THE NEW DRURY LANE THEATRE: VIEW IN AUDITORIUM, LOOKING TOWARDS THE ROYAL BOX.
MESSRS. WALKER AND JONES AND ROBERT CROMIE, ARCHITECTS.
Throughout the entire house the carpets are of heavy pile Wilton, in an attractive shade of purple, taken from an antique Chinese rug. The other dominating colours of the house are pale-gold, and the woodwork is painted with Italian pink and Wedgwood blue, in combination with bronze-gilt and all the carved and modelled enrichments.

The work is carried out by Messrs. Finlay & Partners, in addition to the ornamental decorations and furnishings, including re-painting and redecorating the whole of the interior, all the rest of the redecoration and fittings of offices, staircases, exits, entrances, etc., and all the carpentings and hangings throughout the theatre.

The whole of the enriched and ornaments of fibrous plasterwork throughout the auditorium was modelled and manufactured by Messrs. F. De Jong & Co., Ltd. The special feature of this scheme is the elliptical pediment, formed ceiling over the box façade, with its three domes enclosed in a louring of laurel ornament, the spandrels being filled with embossed modelling, and the whole surrounded with an outer border formed of deep octagonal columns.

The large screen under the above and surrounding the proscenium opening comprises a modelled relief panel containing the Royal coat of arms.

The back ceiling, circle fronts, and side wall panelings are also notable for their decorative plasterwork.

The marble floor in the theatre, which was executed by Messrs. Chas. Walker & Co., is as follows:

The two sides of the gallery are in a rare-colour marble recently imported from Spain, designed by Mr. Rosado. At the side of the first circle are pilasters and dado of various marbles, and pilasters and bases to the box façade. The entrance hall floor is in Siolian and black marble, the basement stairs, including the Rotunda, the corridor leading up to the stairs, and the stables saloon.

The walls of the Royal and Grand staircases, Rotunda, corridors, and entrance hall are finished in inlaid stone. The woodwork is carried out by the Carriage Department of the Aerograph Company.

The electric-light fittings, which are designed and manufactured by the General Electric Co., Ltd., conform with the "Empire" character of the decorative scheme. The auditorium is illuminated from the ceiling by a central fitting and five smaller ones of similar type. The main fitting is arranged for thirty lights, is 8 ft. in diameter, and weighs 15 cwt. It consists of a large upper corona surrounded by six three-light flamebeau brackets, a lower corona completes the design and is supplementary to the detail of the ceiling carried out in cast brass finished to a rich dark corned relief with blue enamel enclosure. The panels are glazed with heavy cut plate glass, and the fitting is completed by a lower cut-glass bowl.

The five subsidiary fittings are of similar design, but are without the upper corona and brackets.

Numerous two-light flamebeau brackets in the box and circle fronts give additional illumination to the auditorium, and ornamental enrichment.

In the boxes, bowl pans finished dark ormulu and blue with a cord suspension and "Equillo" glassware, are installed. Ceiling fittings of the same type provide the main illumination for the curtained seats, and are carried by three-light flamebeau brackets applied to the front of decorative pilasters.

The main entrance contains a central column with dark glass panels and bowl and six outside arms carrying pendant lights. On the staircase the newel lights are rich gild with flamebeaux. In addition to the main fittings already described, the corridors and "Exit" signs, ceiling fittings in lobbies, police lights, etc., were provided by the G.E.C., who also supplied all the lamps and cables used in the theatre, Osram gas-filled and vacuum-type lamps being exclusively employed, and the wires and cables being manufactured at the Pirelli-General works at Southampton.

Pneumatic air ventilation are on the "Plenum system," the air being drawn from the outside and, before passing into the theatre, thoroughly washed and warmed to any desired temperature. Subsequently, by large centrifugal fans through underground and rising ducts to all parts of the auditorium.

The theatre has been equipped throughout with the latest suction cleaner plant for sweeping the carpets, upholsteries, hangings, curtains, floors, walls, etc. In addition, the stage, from the floor up to the grills, is cleaned by suction. In the machine room is a clean-up plant, which picks up the daily accumulations of dust, cigar and cigarette ends, matchsticks, and so on, conveying them on a current of air, to a central dustbin under the stage.

The electric light, power, signal bells, and telephone installations, carried out by the staff of the theatre, employed fifteen men, and 100,000 feet of tube. There are 5,000 lamps on the stage, aggregating 50,000 candle power.

The reconstruction of the interior of the theatre has cost approximately £150,000.

Following is a complete list of the sub-contractors for the work:

Morland & Co. (stairwork); F. De Jong & Co., Ltd. (fibrous plaster); J. Jeffreys & Co. (heating and ventilating plant); Hampton and Sons, Ltd. (decorations, carpets, and draperies); M. Stephany (seats and furniture); General Electric Co. Ltd. (electrical fittings); Merryweather and Sons, Ltd. (fire safety curtain and fire hydrants); Mather and Platt Ltd. (automotive sprinklers); Steel and Moore Ltd. (sanitary fittings, drainage, etc.); Sturtivant Engineering Co. Ltd. (vacuum cleaning plant); D. Bianco and Sons (joinery); Chas. Walker & Co. (carvanwork); Bulivant Engineering Co. Ltd. (embroidery gear); Acme Flooring and Fitting Co. Ltd. (stalls and pit flooring); Wainwright and Waring, Ltd. (ornamental railings); The Reliance Telephone and Telegraph Co. Ltd. (telephone exchanges); Excel Asphalte Co. Ltd. (roofing); Self-Sentering Expanded Metal Works (doors and truss for walls); C. J. Hamblin (builder); Mr. Adrian Collins, Assoc.M.Inst.C.E., acted as consulting engineer.

The award with a view to encouraging excellence of design in street architecture. R.I.B.A. has announced that all the buildings erected or completed during the year ending December within a radius of four miles from Charing Cross, London, and to award a premium for the most meritorious external design.

The architect of the premeditated building will receive a bronze medal presented by the R.I.B.A., together with a diploma to the person or a group of assessors. To present the jury propose to hold in reserve the question of affixing devices to modelled buildings.

The conditions are as follows:

(a) The building must be on or front to a street, square, or court, which the public has access within the four-mile radius. The award is intended for a street façade as opposed to churches or public buildings, for which a separate medal may be awarded. (It may be possible to extend the system of awards later on to provincial cities and towns in conjunction with the Allied Societies.)

(b) The architect is the person whose design the building has been executed.

(c) Any Member or Licentiate of the Royal Institute shall be at liberty to submit a building (not excluding his own work) for consideration by the jury. Forms of nomination will be issued with the first two numbers of "Journal" of the R.I.B.A. in each year. These forms must be submitted by an elevation to scale and a graph of the exterior of the building, for the information of the jury. The buildings must be in the hands of the R.I.B.A. by the 1st July of the year in which the award is to be given. These documents will be returned to the sender at the request of the jury.

The award will be made by a jury, appointed by the Council of the Royal Institute, and composed of three architects, the President of the Royal Academy, and one honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute. The terms of appointment will be for three years. Before making their award, the jury will personally inspect all the buildings, and select those that they deem worthy. The award will be made in the following year.

The presentation of the premium to the architect will be made at an annual meeting of the Royal Institute submitting the above conditions. The jury will not yet in a position to select an architect for the design of the medal, but that the hope to make a recommendation in this point later. For the present they think it wise to reserve the question of affixing devices to modelled buildings.

The jury for the award will appoint an architect from the Earl of Claremont at Balmoral, Hon. R.I.B.A., Chairman Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., Past President R.I.B.A.; Mr. Paul Waterhouse, R.I.B.A.; Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Past President R.I.B.A.; Mr. E. G. Dawber, Vice-President R.I.B.A.