



THE NEW DRURY LANE THEATRE: VIEW IN AUDITORIUM, LOOKING TOWARDS THE ROYAL BOX.  
 MESSRS. WALKER AND JONES AND ROBERT CROMIE, ARCHITECTS.

$42'0''$  | *Par* 8 75 7''  
 | | *capal* |  
 | | |  $10$   
 | | | 7.5  
 | | | 6  
 | | |  $\hline 45'0$

now in the wainage collection.

Throughout the entire house the carpets are of heavy pile Wilton, in an attractive shade of petunia, taken from an antique Chinese rug. The other dominating colours of the scheme are pearl-grey relieved with Italian pink and Wedgwood blue, in combination with bronze-gilt to all the carved and modelled enrichments.

The works carried out by Messrs. Hamptons, in addition to the internal decorations and furnishings, include repainting and redecorating the whole of the exterior, all the rest of the redecoration, all interior painting of offices, staircases, exits, entrances, etc., and all the carpetings and hangings throughout the theatre.

The whole of the enriched and ornamental 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 panelled coffered ceiling over the box façade, with its three domes enclosed in a lozenge of laurel ornament, the sprandrils being filled with emblematical modelling, and the whole surrounded with an outer border formed of deep octagonal coffers.

The large tympanum under the above and surmounting the proscenium opening comprises a modelled bas relief panel containing the Royal coat of arms.

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

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

The two sides of the gallery are in a new rose-colour marble recently imported from Spain, called Rosado. At the side of the first circle are pilasters and dado of various marbles, and pilasters and bases to the box façades. The entrance hall floor is in Sicilian and black of the usual size squares, but laid in a dignified pattern. There is a considerable amount of skirting in Belgian black in various places, including the Rotunda, the corridor leading up to the stalls, and the stalls saloon.

The walls of the Royal and Grand staircases, Rotunda, corridors, and entrance hall are finished to imitate stone. The work was carried out by the service department of the Aerograph Company.

The electric-light fittings, which were 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 flambeau brackets, a lower corona completing a panelled basket, the whole being carried out in cast brass finished a rich dark ormolu relieved with blue enamel enrichment. 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 flambeau brackets in the box and circle fronts give additional illumination to the auditorium, and

ormolu enrichment.

In the boxes, bowl p...s, finished dark ormolu and blue with a cord suspension and "Equilibrium" glassware, are installed. Ceiling fittings of the same type provide the main illumination for the circles, and are supplemented by three-light flambeau brackets applied to the front of decorative pilasters.

The main entrance contains a central gilt electrolier with cut plate glass panels and bowl and six outside arms carrying pendant lights. On the staircase the newel lights are rich gilt with flambeaux. In addition to the main fittings already described, subsidiary fittings such as "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.

Heating and 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 it is forced by a large centrifugal fan through underground and rising ducts to all parts of the auditorium.

The theatre has been equipped throughout with the very latest suction cleaning plant for sweeping the carpets, upholstery, hangings, curtains, floors, walls, etc. In addition, the stage, from the floor up to the grids, is cleaned by suction. In the machine-room is a cleaning plant which picks up the daily accumulations of dust, cigar and cigarette ends, match sticks, and such, 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 miles of cable of various sizes and 60,000 feet of tube. There are 5,000 lamps on the stage, aggregating 40,000 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:—

Moreland, Hayne & Co. (steelwork); F. De Jong & Co., Ltd. (fibrous plaster); J. Jeffreys & Co., Ltd. (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. (safety fire curtain and fire hydrants); Mather and Platt, Ltd. (automatic sprinklers); Stitson, White & Co. (sanitary fittings, drainage, etc.); Sturtevant Engineering Co., Ltd. (vacuum cleaning plant); D. Bianco and Sons (joinery); Chas. Walker & Co. (marblework); Bullivant Engineering Co. (scenery gear); Acme Flooring and Paving Co., Ltd. (stalls and pit flooring); Wainwright and Waring, Ltd. (ornamental railings); The Reliance Telephone Co., Ltd. (house telephones); Excel Asphalte Co., Ltd. (roofing); Self-Sentering Expanded Metal Works (floors and trussit for walls); C. J. Hyde (builder). Mr. Adrian Collins, Assoc.M.Inst.C.E., acted as consulting engineer.

## ture Award

With a view to encouraging excellence of design in street architecture the R.I.B.A. have decided to examine annually the buildings erected or completed during the year ending December within a radius of four miles from Chancery Cross, London, and to award a premium for the most meritorious external design.

The architect of the premiated building will receive a bronze medal presented by the R.I.B.A., together with a diploma signed by the jury of assessors. For the present the jury propose to hold in reserve the question of affixing devices to premiated buildings.

The conditions are as follows:—

(a) The building must front to a street, road, square, or court to 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 provide for the cities and towns in conjunction with the Allied Societies.)

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

(c) Any Member or Licentiate of the Royal Institute shall be at liberty to nominate any building (not excluding his own work) for consideration by the jury. Forms of nomination will be issued with the first two numbers of the "Journal" of the R.I.B.A. in each season. These forms, which must be accompanied by an elevation to scale and a plan of the exterior of the building, for the information of the jury, must be in the hands of the R.I.B.A. by the end of February. These documents will be returned (freight paid) to the sender after the award has been made. The jury do not themselves to confine their selection to the buildings nominated.

The award will be made by a jury of five, appointed by the Council of the Royal Institute, and composed of three architects, one member of the Royal Academy, and one honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute. The term of appointment will be for three years. Before making their award, the jury will personally inspect such of the buildings as they deem worthy. The award will be final and binding on the Council of the Royal Institute and the architects concerned.

The presentation of the premium to the architect will be made annually at a meeting of the Royal Institute, the architect submitting the above conditions the jury desire to inform the Council that they are not yet in a position to select an architect for the design of the medal, but that they hope to make a recommendation up to this point later. For the present the jury propose to hold in reserve the question of affixing devices to premiated buildings.

The jury for the award for the present year consists of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, Hon. F.R.I.B.A., Chairman; Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., Past President R.I.B.A.; Mr. Paul Waterhouse, P.R.I.B.A.; Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A. Past President R.I.B.A.; and Mr. E. Gunder Dawber, Vice-President R.I.B.A.