

The highest individual total was 1,900 hours credited to a cabinet maker working as a joiner. The values of those totals were £3,200 and £380 respectively. There were many other craftsmen and labourers who each contributed 1,000 to 1,500 hours of voluntary labour.

A critical examination of the building reveals considerable skill, and also gives unmistakable evidence of pride of craftsmanship. Holme has obtained a much finer building than could have been obtained on a strictly commercial basis, even at the full estimated cost. The actual cost in hard cash was £7,877 plus £2,575 subscribed by the Holme Players for the stage and its equipment.

The stage is one that gives excellent facilities for play production. There is a proscenium opening of 22 ft. wide and 10ft. 3 in. high. The stage depth is 22 ft. and width of 38 ft.

When not in use for production, the stage floor width is reduced on actor's left by the removal of a 5-ft. wide section, which allows passage from the main hall to a minor hall at the rear that is used for many purposes. During a show it serves as dressing room accommodation. Doors in the proscenium wall were inevitable. The height above stage floor to the beams to which suspension pulleys are attached is about 17 ft. There are two fly-galleries, the one on actor's left being 5 ft. wide, and is used mainly for storage; it is 10 ft. above stage level. The one on actor's right is the actual fly gallery and unavoidably it is only 7 ft. above stage level. As the scenery to be used is only 8 ft. 9 in. high it can be packed easily underneath the gallery on stage left. Provision is made for suspension of deep side-curtains running up and down stage, so that the "cut-down" scenery may stand in front of a drapery surround, with the borders adjusted and taken up as high as possible to give a minimum of obstruction to the lighting. The rear wall is, of course, plastered to act as a cyclorama.

The Holme Players had acquired some lighting equipment that, of necessity, had to be included in the new scheme, but the dimmer control was arranged to provide for the probable replacement of magazine battens by spotlights when further money becomes available. The switchboard is a 32-way Junior Sunset type with 29 dimmers rated at 500/1,000 watts and three, to control the cyclorama batten, at 1,500 watts each. The board is situated at the rear of the hall in the projection room, giving the operator a clear view of the stage.

The Holme Players have a stage and equipment that many amateur theatres will envy. It is certain that visiting companies, professional and amateur, will be delighted to play in this new hall. The villagers are to be congratulated on a wonderful communal achievement; they are fortunate in having had leaders of vision and courage when they were most needed.