

Buildings, whether they are to be Theatres or Child Centres or a combination of both, are badly needed and a step towards meeting this need was taken by the British Children's Theatre Association last Easter when it elected a Work Party to study the requirements of such buildings. This study will take some time to complete, but it will take much longer, I am afraid, to find the money necessary to put the plans to a practical use.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL PUGH.

Secretary,

British Children's Theatre Association.

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THE EDITOR,

DEAR SIR,

The very interesting and stimulating article in the last issue of TABS on Children's Theatres, prompted me to wonder if your readers knew of the existence of a Children's Theatre in North Wales.

The Rhyl Children's Theatre Club, formed in 1945, has 200 boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 18; an adult group, the Rhyl Theatre Club; and a newly formed Welsh Theatre Club which presents plays entirely in Welsh.

The present headquarters, the Little Theatre in Abbey Street, seats only 50, but it is a complete theatre in miniature with foyer, canteen and dressing rooms. Plays of all kinds have been presented there, ranging from *Emil and the Detectives* to Shakespeare's *Macbeth*.

After fifteen years' existence, often struggling against overwhelming odds, the local education authority has come forward with the offer of an old school which the Club hopes to convert into an up-to-date theatre, seating 200, with a café and all the usual workshops. Total costs of conversion will be in the region of £12,000 and parents and friends of the Club are loaning sums of money, free of interest for ten years.

The local theatre, the Queen's, where the Club have performed their annual pantomime for the past fifteen years, has been closed and so the need for obtaining larger premises has become a race against time.

Apart from the production of plays, weekend drama schools, tours abroad, and record recitals, numerous other activities are arranged by a members' committee. Each Saturday morning "Saturday Theatre" attracts the youngsters not wishing to swell the ranks of the Odeon Cinema Club members. At Saturday Theatre, plays are composed and lessons in make-up, producing, lighting, etc., take place. The Club is a voluntary organisation with parents, teachers and other adults interested in child welfare forming the committee of management. The local education authority make a grant of £81 per annum, all other funds being raised by bazaars, whist drives, etc. As soon as the new theatre becomes a reality the Club should be self-supporting and able to be even more ambitious in its wide programme of interesting young people in the adventure of the theatre.

J. HOLROYD.

The Little Theatre, Rhyl.