

Once again one has to complain that building construction has frustrated the proper siting of the F.O.H. lighting galleries. As a result the lanterns project too far through the ceiling apertures and to focus and service them involves painful contortions and inhuman dexterity. Good access to such lanterns is always important and is doubly so when, as in this case, the number of lanterns installed has been based on the reasonable assumption that they may be easily moved about to suit differing needs of successive productions.

As may be expected for a single tier auditorium with a capacity of about 500 the proscenium width is 36 ft.: the height is 17 ft. 6 in. The stage height is 3 ft. 6 in. The grid at 45 ft. above stage level has 37 sets of counterweighted lines. Stage depth from proscenium opening to rear wall is 30 ft. to which may be added an 8 ft. apron, the central 28 ft. width of which is a lift having the usual three positions. There is access from stage to apron through arches with Juliet balconies above. The wing space of 21 ft. on stage right and 13 ft. on stage left is as near to the usual half-and-half requirement as makes no matter. There is good workshop and storage space and a 44 ft. wide paint frame with travel of 20 ft. above working level.

It is unlikely that the residents of Wythenshawe alone will supply the audiences required for three-weekly rep. but there is a very large population within easy distance, certainly large enough to provide good regular attendances, subject, of course, to effective publicity. And one must assume that this will apply also to the other leisure activities that have been provided for. It is noted that amateur production of plays and musicals has not been provided for. The multi-purpose halls are not suitable. Apart from the flat floors, one hall is much too big for most amateur shows and both are limited in the stage and back-stage facilities, being obviously intended for other purposes. There is, however, a lot of space on the site and one assumes that if a need were demonstrated some form of community theatre for varied use could be added at some future date.

#### Wythenshawe Forum Stage Lighting Circuits

FOH	24
Flys	60
Stage Dips	16
Control Lightset 100	
(Presets 3 Groups 6)	
Dimmers	100 × 2 kW
Patching	24-40

