

# A Village Hall Frinton's Model Theatre

*Kinema or Drama*

THE Imperial Hall, Frinton-on-Sea, which

was erected in 1927, is a good example of a public hall in a small seaside town which is adaptable for several purposes.

The equipment is thoroughly up to date, and in the hall proper there is seating capacity for 400 people. A spacious stage for theatrical performances and concerts, together with two excellent dressing-rooms, lavatories and a kitchen give the artists all the accommodation. There are also two cloak-rooms and lavatories off the main entrance. The space under the stage is utilised for storing chairs when dance, are held.

A sprung maple floor has been laid for dancing and Badminton. In addition it is adapted for kinema requirements, with the necessary operati: room and equipment.

Central heating and electric light are installed throughout, and special attention has

been given to the stage lighting. The hall has an attractive elevation to the street, and the internal decorations, with the domed ceiling and simple plaster enrichments, together with hand-hold curtain hangings to the stage and windows, and a panelled wood stained silver grey, provide a charming interior. Upkeep, such as painting, etc., has been reduced to a minimum. The acoustics of the hall are excellent.

Frinton is greatly indebted to the generosity and enterprise of Ernest Moy, a leading resident, in building such an excellent hall and equipping it so thoroughly. The architects are Messrs. Tomkins, Homer and Ley, of Frinton-on-Sea.

## Big Aperture Lenses

A feature of the December issue of the "Taylor-Hobson Outlook," the interesting house organ of the peat Leicester firm of P. photographic Jena manufacturer, is an illustrated article in which J. E. Saunders

photography, gives his enthusiastic testi-

mony to the value and usefulness of Jena's extreme aperture, such as the well-known f/2.9 anaatgmata or the f/3.6 telephoto anaatgmata lens recently introduced by MeHra. Taylori Taylor and Hobson, Ltd. A particularly interesting article on the camera uera ia a forecast of the future of motion pictures, by J. H. McHabb, president of the Bell and Howell Company, of Chicago.



# NEW BRUM ENTERPRISE

## GEORGE A. PARKER OPENS THE PLAZA A Spacious and Complete Kinema

THE Plaza Kinema, in Marsh Lane, Green, Birmingham, erected by George A. Parker and his associate, occupies a commanding site at the junction of three arterial roads a fact which has been taken full advantage of by A. L. Snow, A.R.I.B.A., of 414, County Chamber Street, Birmingham, who designed the building. A dominating feature is the large arched window, brilliantly lit after dusk. The main structure is carried out in red and brown rustic bricks, with stone cornices, copings, and siring courses.

The aim of the proprietors, which is fully realised, has been to provide a spacious and comfortable house of entertainment, capable of seating 928 persons. There is a lofty crush ball, where 300 patrons can wait in warmth and comfort. An equally spacious foyer serves the balcony.

Decorative scheme depends for its effect mainly upon colour. It is distinguished for the absence of heavily moulded enrichment and an emphasis of the long lines of the ceiling, the centre part of which is formed into panels.

The general colour scheme is in blue and gold with relief moulding picked out in red and black. The lighting harmonises perfectly with the decorative treatment. The 6 ft. high ironwork lanterns along both walls of the auditorium are brilliantly illuminated in red, gold, and blue. The scheme is completed with lights, alternately permanent and interval, let into the two main beams of the ceiling. These have the merit of being easily accessible from the roof, there being, in fact, no suspended fittings anywhere.

The whole presents a very noble but restrained effect, rendered all the more pleasing by the simplicity of the general scheme. The crush hall is embellished on similar lines a striking feature here being the three large painted panels, cleverly executed by Cecil M. Price.

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## Ventilati-

Simplicity characterises the ventilation system, designed by the Keith Blackman Co. Fresh air is admitted at the lowest end of the building through chambers over the entrance lobbies on either side of the proscenium, and extracted at the highest point—the rear of the balcony, where two high-capacity fans are installed. Auxiliary fans for use when required are provided below the balcony.

## Accommodation

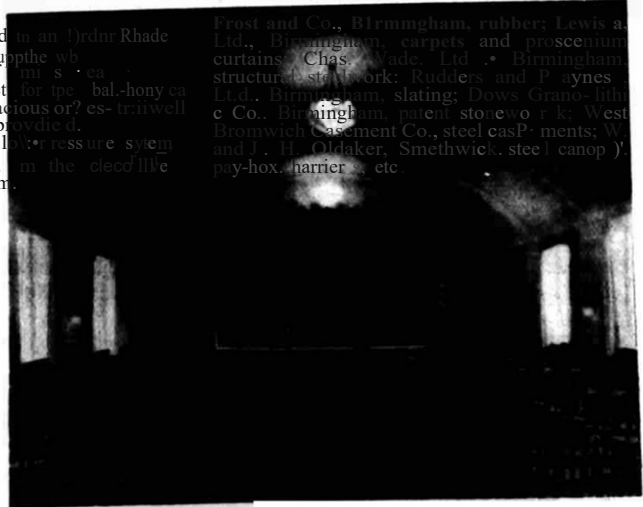
The accommodation of the Plaza includes manager's office, male and female staff rooms, and a band room.

The pay-box screens to the entrance lobby and the barriers to standing space have been carried out in metal, given them a light and elegant appearance; painted in different colours, these have been brought

into the general decorative scheme.

The Plaza is owned by the Stockland Green Playhouse, Ltd. George A. Parker is chairman and managing director, his co-directors being L. W. Smith, C. B. Ketley, E. A. Randall and C. E. Collins. Arthur Kennedy, of 43, Cannon Street, Birmingham, is secretary of the company.

Mr. Snow, the architect, has been assisted by L. Voisey, 101, Temple Row, Birmingham, as quantity surveyor, and A. H. Costain, of Harborne, Birmingham, as consulting engineer. The contractors in chief were A. H. Guest, Ltd. Stourbridge, and the suit-contrators as follows: Bryans Adamanta, Ltd., Birmingham, decorations; Baxter and Impey, Birmingham, electrical installation; Boley and Parker, Birmingham, heating; Smith and Ansell, Birmingham, and General Electric Co., Ltd., electric lamp fittings; J. H. Wright and Co., Birmingham, gas installation and plumbing; Bigwood Brothens, Birmingham, ornamental stair balustrading, etc.; Birmingham and Midland Reinforced Concrete Co., reinforced concrete work; Acme Flooring and Paving Co., London, wood block floors; C. J.



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