Phœnix Theatre



A new staging devised by
Peter Benedict & Peter Collins



LONG LIVE THE MOUSETRAP

-SUNDAY PEOPLE

"A snowed in guesthouse, murder, clues, red-herrings and a bunch of suspects. Miss Christie mixes her brew lovingly and skilfully"

-SUNDAY PICTORIAL

"The cleverest murder mystery of the British theatre"

-DAILY TELEGRAPH

"What a wily mistress of criminal ceremonies Agatha Christie is. She is like a perfect hostess serving hemlock at a cocktail party" __EVENING STAI -EVENING STANDARD

"DESERVEDLY A CLASSIC AMONG MURDER

-ORSERVER

"There is none of this hiding of vital facts in Mrs. Christie. It is this honesty of procedure that puts her so high in the ranks of police novel writers" "I found it a delightful and absorbing entertainment" —SUNDAY TIMES

"A tasty who-dunnit, Never have so many been suspected

"This was first-rate fun, as well as being good theatre" -SUNDAY EXPRESS

"Let me assure you that the play's mystery is superbly maintained until the very end" -DAILY MAIL

'Even more thrilling than the plot is the atmosphere of shuddering suspense. No one brews it better than Agatha Christie' -DAILY EXPRESS

THRILLING SUSPENSEFUL THEATRE"

-SUNDAY CHRONICLE

ST. MARTIN'S THEATR

PROGRAMME by



Editor Martin Tickner

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Published models by Theorypers List
Editional and advertisement affect
Hale Hours, Lengthy Steret, Lendon W.L.; (or-def-7-187)
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This Month

Simon Jenkins has compiled an excellent new guide book in the Collins Companion Guide series. This is called *The Companion Guide to* Outer London and covers lesser known areas as well as popular tourist spots. Television and radio star Cyril Fletcher has written an excellent gardening book called Planning The Small Garden and this is also published by Collins. Two excellent new thrillers — The Night Fishers of Antibea is published by Hamish Hamilton. This is written by Christopher Leopold whose other books include Casablack. The other is James Leigh's The Ladd Victor published by The Bodley Head. The Carcanet New Press have recently published a fascinating book on the work of the Russian director and theatre pioneer Vsevolod Meyerhold. This is called Meyerhold at Work and is edited by Paul Outer London and covers lesser known areas as the work of the Russian director and theatrepioneer Vsevolod Meyerhold. This is called
Meyenhold at Work and is edited by Paul
Schmidt. It draws on Meyerhold's journals
and letters together with contributions from
those associated with him like Sergei
Eisenstein. The New English Library have
published a third collection of short pieces by
comedian and film-maker Woody Allen.
Called Side Effects, a wide range of topics is
covered including Mr Allen's three favourite
subjects –sex, death and religion. The Debrett
Senson is described as 'a light-hearted romp
through the social and sporting year' and
covers 'the season'. Among the events
included are Royal Ascot, Glyndebourne and
The Chekea Flower Show. The book is compiled and edited by Adam Helliker and
published by Debrett's Peerage.

EVENT

This year's Theatrical Garden Party to aid The Combined Theatrical Charities Council and The Actors' Church Union will take place on Sunday goth August 1981. As for the past two years this will be held in the grounds of St Paul's Church, Bedford Street, Covent Garden. On the subject of St Paul's Church. An appeal is soon to be launched to raise funds to refurbish this, The Actors' Church. Those wishing to make donations should send them to: The Actors' Church Union Appeal Fund, St Paul's Church, Bedford Street, London, WC2.

EXHIBITIONS

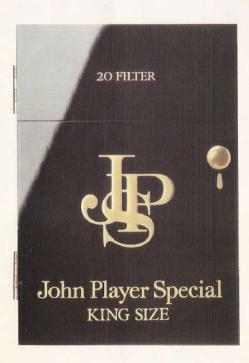
To mark the bicentenary of the birth of Sir Francis Chantrey an exhibition is being mounted at the Royal Academy. This is called



Some Chantry Favourites and runs at the Academy until 24th May. This year's Royal Academy Summer Exhibition will open on 16th May and runs through until 16th August. The Royal Academy is at Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1.

The Broadway cast recording of the Drury Lane musical The Best Little Whordway in Texas has been released by MCA Records. The two London leads – Henderson Forsythe and Carlin Glynn – also starred in the Broadway production originally and therefore feature on the album.

Black Door



John Player Special King Size

The tar yield of this brand MIDDLE TAR Manufacturer's estimate, January 1980, of group is designed to be MIDDLE TAR as defined in H.M. Government Tables

DANGER: H.M. Government Health Departments' WARNING: CIGARETTES CAN SERIOUSLY DAMAGE YOUR HEALTH

The Phoenix Theatre

The Phoenix Theatre

The Phoenix Theatre

The Phoenix Theatre, built for Lord Bernstein in 1930, was designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, Bertie Crewe and Cecil Massey, with Theodore Komisarjevsky as interior designer. It opened on September 24th (see picture) to C. B. Cochran's production of Noël Coward's Private Lives, the cast comprising the author, Gertrude Lawrence, Adrienne Allen and Laurence Olivier. In 1932 Victor Luxemburg took over control of the theatre, and in 1936 Noël Coward returned with his programme of one act plays entitled Tonight at 8.30, these plays running for one hundred and fifty seven performances. In 1938 appeared a series of plays sponsored by Michel St. Denis and Sir Bronson Albery in connection with the London Theatre Studio. Jack Bartholomew took over the theatre in 1939 when Elmer Rice's Judgement Day was revived.

Outstanding productions during the war, when the theatre was acquired by the present owner's father, included John Gielgud's revival of Congreve's Love for Love, Tolstoy's War and Peace and Ivor Novello's Are de Triomphe. In May 1945 The Skin of Our Teeth opened, followed by Under the Counter with Cicely Courtneidge, running for six hundred and sixty five performances. In 1948 Sir John Vanburgh's The Relapse, or Virtue in Danger and for the Marlequinade). Subsequent productions included Death of a Salesman, Dear Miss Phoebe, John Gielgud's production of The Winter's Tale and Much Ado About Nothing, Noël Coward's Quadrille with the Lunts, The Slesping Prince with the Oliviers, and Bell, Book and Candle. From December 1955 to July 1956 the Paul Scofield and Peter Brook season included Hamlet, The Power and the Glory and a revival of T. S. Eliot's Family Reunion. The Diary of Anne Frank was presented at the end of 1956, and Lesley Storm's Roar Like a Dove ran from September 1957 for two and a half years. Further productions included Luther with Albert Finney, Ivanow with John Gielgud, Incident at Vichy with Alec Guinness and Anthony Guayle, and Lady Windermer's Family Reun

Pan with Coral browne and whirth ryby White. In April 1967 Veronica, wife of Gerald Flint-Shipman the owner, took over the running of the theatre. She trained at Legat's Russian Ballet School, followed by eight years as a dancer with the International Ballet Company, and appeared in several commercial productions before marrying and having two sons. Canterbing Tales opened on March 21st 1968 and had a record-breaking five year run. In the following December, Veronica Flint-Shipman staged her first production of Winnie-the-Pooh. Two Gentlemen of Verona followed Canterbury Tales in 1973 and then Noël Coward's Design for Living was revived with



Vanessa Redgrave, Jeremy Brett and John Stride. More recent productions include Bloomsbury, and Neil Simon's Gingerbread Lady with Elaine Stritch.

1976 saw the highly successful 'Phoenix Theatre Season' with four productions—I Do, I Do with Rock Hudson and Julier Prowse; 13 Rue de l'Amour with Glynis Johns and Louis Jourdan; Bus Stop with Lee Remick and Keir Dullea, and The Pleasure of His Company with Douglas Fairbanks Ir, Wilfrid Hyde White, Dinah Sheridan and David Langton. In 1977 Julie Harris appeared in The Belle of Amberst and in the same year Penelope Keith and Keith Michell starred in Bernard Shaw's The Apple Cart. Royce Ryton's The Unvarnished Truth with Tim Brooke-Taylor, Graeme Garden and the author opened in April 1978. Late 1978 saw the opening of Tom Stoppard's bugely successful Night and Day starring Diana Rigg followed by Maggie Smith and Susan Hampshire. Royce Ryton's highly praised The Other Side of The Swamp which was produced by Verenica Flint-Shipman was also seen, followed by the musical The Biograph Cirl and a season of variety That's Showbiz!

THE NOËL COWARD BAR

THE NOËL COWARD BAR

It was always Veronica Flint-Shipman's idea to establish a Coward Bar, with the Master's co-operation. He opened it on 8 November 1969, prior to his 70th Birthday celebrations, and it was at this theatre on 16 December, that Noël, surrounded by his friends on stage and in the audience, celebrated his three score years and ten with a midnight matinee A Talent to Amuse. The decoration of the Bar, with portraits of Noël, and pictures of productions associated with this theatre, has been realised by Colin Mabberley on behalf of the Mander and Mitchenson Theatre Collection, with the co-operation of the National Portrait Gallery. Graham Payn and Cole Lesley reopened the bar on 15 March 1979, in the company of many of Noël's intimate and distinguished friends.

C.M.

Well before... ...long after.

Theatre-goer, balletomane, opera lover. Whichever one you are, you'll be pleased to know there's a new place in London designed specially for you. Lanes at the Inn on the Park. Because its open when you most want it to be.

The sumptuous new Lanes bar opens at 5.30 p.m., so you can meet there for a drink, or an appetizing bar snack before going out. Then, at 6 p.m., the

new, Lanes restaurant starts serving dinner. Here a superb 3-course meal can cost you as a little as £12.50, including gratuities and VAT.

And, if you prefer to eat after the show, you can do so at your leisure because we take orders until midnight.

Whatever your plans for the evening, we can fit in with them.
For reservations telephone 01-499 0888.

Inn on the Park

Hamilton Place, Park Lane, London WIA IAZ. Ample car parking available.

LUNCH * DINNER * THEATRE SUPPERS

Sheekey's

The Theatre Restaurant
Between the Albery & Wyndhams Theatres.
A few minutes walk from this theatre in
St Martin's Court. Interval drinks available.
Most suitable for dinner before or after
this show. For reservations please

phone: 240 2565

This way you only have to park once!

28-32 St Martin's Court, St Martin's Lane.

PHOENIX THEATRE

Charing Cross Road, WC2
Theatre under the direction of VERONICA FLINT-SHIPMAN

ORACLE PRODUCTIONS PRESENT



with

Peter Benedict • Edward Bryant • Jamie Cresswell Simon Green • Nick Hirst • Gary Martin David Napier • Nicholas Orchard • William Parker Peter Stenson • Robbie Swales

Written by – Peter Collins and Peter Benedict
Directed by – Peter Benedict
Assistant Director – Glory Annen
Executive Producer – Tom Ward
Lighting by – Haydn Davies
Fights directed by – Paul Yarnold
Voice Coach – Ian Adam

A new staging devised by Peter Benedict & Peter Collins

First performance at this theatre, Tuesday May 5th 1981

The Satyricon is thought to have been written in the first century A.D. by Petronius, a courtier of the Emperor Nero.

The author rejoiced in the unofficial title of *Arbiter of Elegance* and much of the work is pre-occupied with matters of taste, both social and literary.

Only fragments of the Satyricon survive, but even so, there is more than enough for us to vividly imagine the society Petronius set out to satirize; a Rome obsessed with sex and money; pampered, bored, and bloated. The Satyricon represents, for many, the epitome of decadence, but it is much more than an expose of a civilization sinking under the weight of its own excesses. Petronius was a keen observer of the minutae of urban life and, above all, much of the Satyricon remains extremely witty and funny, nearly two thousand years after it was written.

Satyricon was first presented at Theatrespace, Covent Garden in the summer of 1980. It was subsequently seen at Pentameters, Hampstead, the Crypt of St. Martin in the Fields, and then again at Theatrespace for a full run.

In October 1980 a Sunday showcase performance was held at



PETER BENEDICT

Has worked extensively in Repertory Theatres for the past three years including Windsor, Derby, Exeter, Swansea, and Bristol Old Vic. On the London "Fringe" he has appeared with the Ensemble Theatre Co. and at the Little Theatre, St Martin's Lane. He was director of the East London Young People's Theatre, and has also directed plays by Samuel Beckett and David Campton at the Little Theatre and at Stage One, E.15 (not to mention pantomime at Walthamstow!). Television appearances include I Claudius, Play Of The Week, and The Basil Brush Show. His one-man show about Baron Corvo: Desire And Pursuit, has been successfully presented at three London fringe theatres, and several regional Universities.



TOM WARD

An entrepreneur by nature, Tom immediately recognised the commercial viability of Satyricon and formed Oracle Productions with Peter Benedict and Peter Collins. Since then Tom has provided the necessary financial and managerial expertise to bring Satyricon to the Phoenix Theatre.

PETER COLLINS

Has emerged from the chrysalid of education and has decided that instead of flying off to sample life's dubious delights, he will sit tight and let life come to him, either to pay him homage or to let him starve.

A disciple of the "trash aesthetic" he founded the vaguely satirical magazine *The Oracle*. This production of *Satyricon* is the first fruit of his working partnership with Peter Benedict.

Peter's influences range from Walter Pater to Andy Warhol. His ambitions include having his own TV chat show, appearing at the Old Bailey and having his memoirs serialized in the News of the World. Can a fated lifespan embrace so much?





The Company

Ascyltus Peter Benedic	t
Tryphaena Edward Bryan	t
Encolpius James Cresswe	11
Narrator	
Onus Nick Hirs	
Scintilla	
OratorDavid Napie	r
Giton	d
Eumolpus	r
Trimalchio	n
Lichas Robbie Swale	
Various Other Romans	y

Act One

Starting at the shrine of Priapus and ending on the docks.

Act Two

Starting in the arena and ending at a funeral.

There will be one interval of 15 minutes.



EDWARD BRYANT

Began his acting career by joining the Cockpit Youth Theatre in London, appearing in three of their productions, Epsom Downs, Cult and Roots, Rules and Tribulations. He then joined the Manchester Royal Exchange Theatre Company playing in The Cherry Orchard, The Lower Depths and Christmas Fun and A Fairy Tale. On Television Edward has been seen in Shelley, The Squad and Rumpoles Return. He has recently returned from the Liverpool Playhouse where he played the leading role in the award winning new play Wednesday. He also appeared there in The Fantasticks.

JAMIE CRESSWELL

Jamie trained at the Drama Centre, London and has worked in rep at the Liverpool Playhouse, Marlowe, Canterbury and Byre St. Andrews, playing parts such as Michael in The Golden Pathway Annual and the clown in George and the Dragon. He has recently completed a national tour of Cartoon with Interim Theatre Company.



SIMON GREEN

Simon Green was trained at L.A.M.D.A., where he received the Matthew Forsythe Memorial Award on leaving. He began his career playing Jerry Jerningham in The Good Companions, a nine part serialisation of J. B. Priestley's novel for Yorkshire Television. Recently he has finished a season at Salisbury Playhouse where amongst other roles he played Robin in Parting Day, a new play by Alfred Shaunessy



NICK HIRST

Nick started work as a musician but subsequently moved into theatre as a puppeteer. His first television appearance was in a child-rens series for BBC Wales and he has since worked for both the BBC and ITV. Nick recently played Zeus on tour in an adaptation of the Greek Myths. Nick still writes songs and has lately been incorporating them into his cabaret act. His unfulfilled ambition is to play for West Ham United.



GARY MARTIN

Was born in Chiswick and went to the Phildene Stage School. West End roles include Caiaphas in Jesus Christ Superstar, Pharoah in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and Rocky in The Rocky Horror Picture Show. He has toured both Britain and Germany with Rocky. Television appearances include Bonkers (U.S.), The Gong Show and the London Marethon! Gary has recently had his first single release, Computer and is soon to have a follow up and L.P. on "A" side records.



DAVID NAPIER

David was trained at the Birmingham Theatre School. Since leaving his credits include playing Bassania in The Merchant of Venice and Brick in Cat on a Hot Tin Roof. He has toured with Clown Cavalcade, the Bubble Theatre Company and the Pan Theatre Company

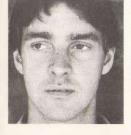


NICK ORCHARD

Born in Bristol and trained at the Birmingham school of speech and drama, Nick has worked in many areas of entertainment, including stage, television and radio. He has appeared in several past productions with the Bristol Old Vic Company and was in the world premiere of the Arrest by Jean Anouilh. Most recently Nick has been seen playing Noah Claypole in the West End revival of Oliver at the Albery Theatre.



WILLIAM PARKER Satyricon is William's 5th West End appearance - others include Hair, Toad of Toad Hall, and Equus for the National Theatre - Jumpers at the Lyttleton. Rep. work at 'Queens' Hornchurch, Theatre Royal York, a Christmas show at Citizen's, Glasgow, Thorndike, Leatherhead, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, Northcott, Exeter. TV includes Gentle Touch and films Give Us The Day.





PETER STENSON

Peter Stenson was born in India and educated at Bedford School, Durham University and at De Pauw University, Indiana, U.S.A. He completed his education in the Royal Navy - as a frogman. He recently spent three months at the Gate Theatre, Notting Hill, in the John Antrobus Season of Plays and also played in Reverend Mistress at the Almost Free. Television credits include Bucaneer and he made a guest appearance in Terry and June. Also for the BBC: 1990, Dr. Who and The Sad Decline of Arthur Maybury. He played Hemsley in Good at Games by Hugh Whitemore and also had a great success as Sparger in Kennedy's Children. His latest film The Haunting of M played the last festivals in Edinburgh and Chicago. Reps include Nottingham and Oxford Playhouse, Hull, York and The Old Vic. Two years ago he toured Canada in an Aqua Show with the British Olympic Diving Team. He has worked most recently at the Mayfair Theatre in The Unspeakable Crime of Maud Allen.

ROBERT SWALES

Robert trained at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, and was also in the National Youth Theatre. He acted in many rep theatres before joining the Prospect Theatre Company. With them he toured to the Middle East, Scandinavia, Russia and Hong Kong in productions of Twelfth Night, Royal Hunt of the Sun and Pericles. More recently he toured the Continent in a Shakespeare anthology with Sir Michael Redgrave and played a season in Toronto in Half Life with Sir John Gielguid. Last autumn he toured England in a production of Stephen Sondheim's A Little Night Music. Television over the years has included parts in Within These Walls, Space 1999, Man About the House, Jackanory, and a BBC2 Playhouse Production The Brylcreem Boys. Last year he made a comedy series called Girl Talk for ATV.



HAYDN DAVIES (Company Stage Manager)

Haydn Davies was originally a music student but he became more interested in acting and directing. Since then he has been associated with every kind of entertainment in Britain and abroad. His last television appearance was in the BBC production of Suez 1956 and he last appeared in London at the Queen's Theatre in *The Dresser.* He is a founder member and director of The Poetry People. Their associated recording company PP Records has released three cassettes so far - Speeches of Queen Elizabeth, The Metaphysical Poets and On Ludgate Hill. A fourth, Waltz With Anarchy, is in the pipeline.

GLORY ANNEN (Assistant Director)

Glory gets seasick so she joined the acting profession to see the world. An American with an English father and Canadian mother she can make herself welcome at most borders and has worked as an actress in Hong Kong, Australia, France and Germany and in leading roles for films, theatre and television.

The Combined Theatrical Charities Council

President
The Lord Olivier

Chairman Sir Richard Attenborough CBE

Deputy Chairman Jack Allen

Hon Treasurer

Hon Auditors

Hon Solicitor

Hon Secretary

Messrs Arthur Andersen & Co.

B. M. Fournier LLB

The Council exists to co-ordinate appeals

The Council exists to co-ordinate appeals in order to provide additional funds when the regular income of any of its member charities proves insufficient.

Each Charity remains individual and autonomous, but co-operates with the others in providing the best possible service to those members of the Theatrical Profession who are in need of aid,

The Actors' Benevolent Fund (lounded 1882) which helps by making allowances, grants and loans to aged and distressed actors and actresses.

The Theatrical Ladies' Guild of Charity (founded 1892) which makes grants of money and gifts of clothing, fuel and other necessities, not only to actors and actresses, but also to stage hands dressers and those employed in front of the

The Actors' Charitable Trust (formerly The Actors' Orphanage Fund—founded 1895) which is primarily concerned with the welfare of children but which has now extended its Charter to enable assistance to be given to the aged as well through its responsibility for the running of Denville Hall,

King George's Pension Fund for Actors and Actresses (founded 1911) which provides pensions for those actors and actresses who have rendered such distinguished service to the profession as to merit recognition and who, through altered circumstances, are in a position to require such assistance. Denville Hall which is a guiet and restful home where aged actors and actresses in need of extra care are able to spend their years of retirement.

The various organisations may be addressed as follows:

The Actors' Benevolent Fund 6 Adam Street London WC2 Telephone: 836 6378

The Theatrical Ladies' Guild Bedford Chambers Covent Garden London WC2 Telephone: 836 6076

The Actors' Charitable Trust and Denville Hall Bedford Chambers

Covent Garden London WC2 Telephone: 836 6051

King George's Pension Fund 14/16 Regent Street London SW1 Telephone: 839 4311

The Combined Theatrical Charities

Council
Hyde House
Langley Street
London WC2
Telephone: 836 7187

For SATYRICON COMPANY

Company Stage Manager Deputy Stage Manager Assistant Stage Manager Production Photographs Attwork and Display Casting assisted by

Haydn Davies Ingrid Haskal Philip Poole Roger Kean and Andy Webber Oliver Frey Script Breakdown Services (01-459 2781)

Acknowledgements

The Burlington Health Club. Sports Locker for clothing. Twyfords Showers. Walker Crossweller. Skate Song. Rainbow Products. Towels supplied by Vossen U.K. Ltd. Sports equipment by Lilywhites. Additional sportswear by Piccadilly Sports. We would also like to express our thanks to Gym and Tonic. Ann Fenn of Theatrespace, Covent Garden and Geoffrey Cush.

Jimmy Wollheim Paul Riley Richard Trigg (01-836 2294) M. Ashour Roy Prosho

There are four bars in the Theatre all of which open for half an hour before performances commence and also during the interval. These are situated as

There are four bear and also during the interval. These are stream performances commence and also during the interval. These are stream follows:

1. The Noël Coward Bar and Buffet in the Theatre's Phoenix Street entrance at the rear of the stalls on the left. It can also be reached from the back of the Dress Circle. In Addition to drinks, coffee is available.

The bar is named after the late Sir Noël Coward who opened the Theatre in 1930 in Provate Lives, and for further details, see Theatre History page.

2. Stalls Bar at the rear of the stalls on the left. A feature here is the collection of drawings specially commissioned from Panach artist.

3. Dress Circle Bar is at the ear of the Dress Circle on the left.

The feature here is the display of designs by Tim Goodchild for Winnie The Pools.

Pool.
4. The Chaucer Bar where pictures of The Canterbury Tales are on display, is at the rear of the Upper Circle and also on the left.

Programmes, chocolates and ice creams are available from the attendants.

Cloakrooms

Cloakroom and toilet facilities are available in all parts of the Theatre as

follows:
Stalls: Ladies' and Gentlemen's cloakroom and toilet at the rear of the stalls on the left. Additional Gentlemen's toilet at the rear of the stalls on the right.

Dress Circle: Ladies' and Gentlemen's toilets at the rear of the Dress Circle.

Office Ladies and Gentlemen's toilet at the rear of the Upper Circle on the left.

Restaurant

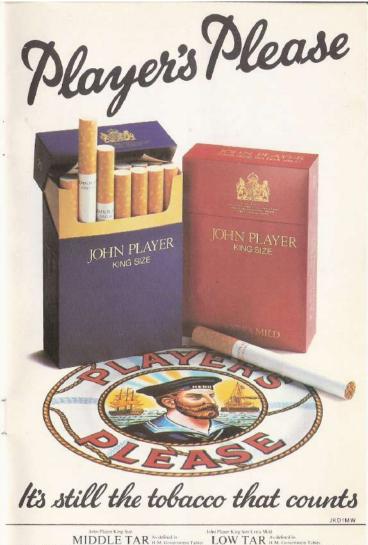
Fino's Restaurant adjoins the theatre.

Car Park

IT IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS OR USE ANY FORM OF SOUND RECORDING
First aid services at this theatre are kindly provided by members of the St John Ambulance Brigade.
Megger electrical equipment used in this theatre supplied by Evershed & Vignoles Liu.

In accordance with the requirements of the Greater London Council:

1. The public may leave at the end of the performance by all exit doors and such doors must at that time be open. 2. All gangways, passages and staircases must be kept entirely free from chairs or any other obstructions. 3. Persons shall not in any circumstances be permitted to stand or sit in any of the gangways intersecting the seating, or to sit in any of the other gangways. If standing be permitted in the gangways at the sides and reer of the seating, it shall be strictly limited to the number indicated in those positions. A The safety curtain must be lowered and raised in the presence of each audience.



DANGER: H.M. Government Health Departments' WARNING CIGARETTES CAN SERIOUSLY DAMAGE YOUR HEALTH

