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[1952

Department of Health, Victoria.

COMMISSION OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

Health Acts.

PUBLIC BUILDING REGULATIONS 1952.

*At the Executive Council Chamber, Melbourne, the
seventeenth day of December, 1952.*

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Governor of Victoria.

Mr. McDonald
Mr. Byrnes
Mr. Brose
Mr. Swinburne

Sir Albert Lind
Mr. Inchbold
Mr. Fulton
Mr. White.

UNDER the powers conferred by the Health Acts, and all other powers enabling him in that behalf, His Excellency the Governor of the State of Victoria, with the advice of the Executive Council of the said State, doth hereby make the Regulations following (that is to say):—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the "Public Building Regulations 1952" and shall come into operation upon publication in the *Government Gazette* and shall be divided into Parts and Divisions as follows:—

Part I.—Introductory.

Part II.—Provisions as to Applications, Fees, Responsibility &c.

Division I.—Application for approval of plans and specifications.

Division II.—Fees for examination of plans.

Division III.—Application for permission to open a building.

Division IV.—Responsibility for compliance with and Observation of Regulations.

NOTE.—Schools, pre-school centres, and tents used as public buildings are subject to separate Regulations supplementary to these Regulations.

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Part III.—Provisions applicable to public buildings generally.

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- Division IV.—Exits and Stairs.
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Part V.—*Special provisions applicable to theatres and cinematograph halls only.*

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- Division IV.—Construction.
- Division V.—Exits.
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Part VI.—Employment of Firemen.

Part VII.—General and Supplementary.

Part VIII.—Offences and Penalties.

Part IX.—Closing Orders.

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PART I.

INTRODUCTORY.

2. The Building Regulations 1937, and any subsequent amendments thereof respectively are hereby repealed.

INTERPRETATION.

3. (1) In these Regulations unless inconsistent with the context or subject-matter—

“Aisle” includes gangway.

“Alteration” includes alteration addition or extension; and “to alter” has a corresponding interpretation.

“Approval” means approval in writing by the Commission or by the Council (as the case may be); and

“Approved” has a corresponding interpretation.

“Cinematograph” includes cinematograph biograph bioscope and every picture-projecting appliance of a similar nature.

“Cinematograph hall” includes every public building where cinematograph views are exhibited.

"Continuous entertainment" for the purposes of these Regulations means any entertainment where exhibitions or performances are produced several times during the day, and where the proprietor does not cause the auditorium to be completely vacated by the public for a period of not less than one hour between each performance or exhibition.

"Door" includes gate; and

"Doorway" includes gateway.

"Electric Supply Authority" means any supplier of electricity for private public or governmental use and includes a Council company or corporation.

"Electrical inspector" means an inspector authorized in that behalf by the Commission.

"Fire-resistance rating" means fire-resistance rating as prescribed in the Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria, 1945, or any amendment thereof.

"Junior Projector" means any projector using cellulose acetate or other approved non-inflammable film not more than 16 millimeters wide and having for its source of illumination an incandescent metal filament lamp of not more than 1,000 watts.

"Passage" includes passageway corridor vestibule and lobby.

"Person" includes a corporation.

"Premises" means the premises of any building.

"Projector" includes any appliance or apparatus for the projection of cinematograph pictures.

"Public building" shall have the same meaning as in the Health Acts and includes any building whatever declared by a proclamation made under such Acts to be a Public building.

"Secretary" means secretary of the Commission and includes acting secretary.

"Scenery" includes wings sky-borders cloths curtains and decorations.

"Theatre" includes opera house and cinematograph hall.

(2) Words importing the masculine gender shall be deemed and taken to include females and the singular to include the plural and the plural the singular unless the contrary as to number or gender is expressly provided.

Expressions and terms defined in the Health Acts shall have the same meanings where used in these Regulations unless inconsistent with the context or subject-matter.

APPLICATION.

4. (1) These Regulations, unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter, shall apply to all public buildings.

(2) Division IV., of Part III., of these Regulations shall not apply to vestries, dressing rooms, and other rooms not used by the public, nor to rooms of less floor area than 120 square feet. Regulations 28, 31, 34, shall not apply to Churches, Chapels, or Meeting Houses.

(3) It is hereby expressly provided that the Commission may exempt from all or any of these Regulations any Public Building and may at any time revoke such exemption.

(4) Save as specifically prescribed in the Schools Regulations 1943, or any amendment thereof and the Pre-School Building Regulations 1951, or any amendment thereof these Regulations shall not apply to Schools and Pre-School Centres.

PART II.

APPLICATIONS, FEES, &C.

DIVISION I.—APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.

5. Whenever it is intended to erect or alter any public building or to convert any other building to a public building the proprietor or proprietors (as the case may be) shall for the purpose of the Health Acts and these Regulations make application to the Secretary for approval of plans and specifications thereof in the form of Schedule A to these Regulations and shall lodge such application together with the documents referred to therein with the Secretary at least 14 days before such erection alteration or conversion is intended to be commenced or carried out.

RE-SUBMISSION OF PLANS, ETC., AFTER TWELVE MONTHS.

6. Whenever any building or alteration of a public building or the conversion of any other building to a public building in respect of which the plans and specifications have received the approval of the Commission is not erected or altered or converted within 12 months from the date of such approval or within such period substantial progress has not been made the same plans and specifications shall again be lodged by the proprietor or proprietors (as the case may be) with the Secretary together with a new application in the form of or to the effect of the said Schedule A hereto for the approval or otherwise of such plans and specifications by the Commission in accordance with the Health Acts and these Regulations.

CONVERSION OF BUILDING, ETC., TO OTHER USE.

7. Before any existing public building or compartment is converted to any use other than that approved the proprietor or the proprietors (as the case may be) shall make application in writing for the Commission's approval of such conversion and shall forward with such application such plans as may be necessary to clearly identify the said building or compartment.

DIVISION II.—FEES FOR EXAMINATION OF PLANS, ETC.

8. (1) The fees to be paid to the Commission for the examination of plans or specifications required by section 170 of the *Health Act* 1928 to accompany every application for approval of the intended erection or alteration of a public building shall be as follows:—

- (a) When the plans and specifications relate to the erection of a public building or of an addition to an existing public building or to the alteration in whole or in part of any other existing building for use as a public building the aggregate floor area of which does not exceed 500 square feet—Five shillings.

For each additional 100 square feet or fraction of 100 square feet of floor area Eighteen pence unless the Council of the municipal district in which the building is or is to be situated shall have previously notified the Commission that such Council undertakes to satisfy itself concerning the structural strength and stability of such building or part thereof in which case such fee shall be computed at the rate of One shilling up to a maximum fee of Five pounds.

- (b) When the plans and specifications relate to such modification of a building as does not involve increase of the floor area thereof—Ten shillings: Provided that in every case where such modification involves alteration of the provisions for the situation construction exits ventilation or lighting of such building such fee of Ten shillings shall be increased by Two shillings in respect of each such individual provision so involved up to a maximum fee of One pound.

(2) In any case where plans and specifications have been lodged with the Secretary pursuant to Regulation 6 the fees so payable shall be such amount as the Commission in its discretion determine but in any event shall not exceed the fees hereinbefore prescribed.

DIVISION III.—APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE OPENING OF A PUBLIC BUILDING.

9. Before the use of any building as a public building or the use of any addition or extension of a public building the proprietor or proprietors (as the case may be) shall make application for the approval of the Commission or of the Council (in any case where the Council has been authorized to give such approval) in the form of Schedule B to these Regulations and except in cases where the Commission has already approved of the plans and specifications of the said building addition or extension shall forward with his application the plans and specifications required by paragraphs (a) (b) and (c) of sub-clause (2) and the information required by sub-clauses (3) (4) and (5) of Schedule A of these Regulations.

DIVISION IV.—RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPLIANCE WITH AND OBSERVATION OF REGULATIONS.

- 10 (a) Every owner occupier lessee manager and trustee of any public building.
- (b) every person by whose authority the building has been or is being or intended to be erected or altered;
- (c) every person having the management or control thereof;
- (d) every licensee of a public building;
- (e) every person for the time being in charge thereof;
- (f) every person having the control either permanently or temporarily of a public building; and,
- (g) every agent servant or employee of any of the persons hereinbefore referred to in this Regulation; and who in such capacity is in charge of the public building or has the control or supervision thereof for or on behalf of such persons;
- shall be severally responsible for the compliance with and observation of the matters and things contained in Divisions II. to IX. (both inclusive) of Part III. of these Regulations; and in Parts IV. and V. thereof.

PART III.

PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS GENERALLY.

DIVISION I.—SITES.

11. The Commission shall not consider any site suitable for a public building or any alteration thereto unless such site complies with the following provisions in relation to sites.

12. The site of a public building or alteration thereto shall not be on any land liable to flooding. It shall not be immediately adjacent to a dangerous trade premises or a premises used for the storage of inflammable liquids. It shall be well drained by gravitation into a storm-water drain or channel and shall together with any adjoining land be free from any accumulation of unwholesome or dangerous matter. A damp site shall be drained by means of agricultural drain pipes which shall be properly laid and graded to a suitable outfall. Any depression or hollow and any excavation made and not used for basement or cellar purposes shall be solidly filled in with clean soil or concrete or other approved material.

13. (a) The site of any public building or alteration thereto shall not abut on to a street or thoroughfare of less than 40 feet width. Street width required.

(b) In the case of a site abutting on streets or thoroughfares on two or more sides no such side shall be considered as a frontage unless the street or thoroughfare on which it abuts is at least 20 feet wide.

14. Save as provided in the succeeding regulation the site of every public building or alteration thereto shall abut for its full length or width (as the case may be) on the street or streets to which it has frontage. Frontages to be for full length.

15. The erection of lockup shops or offices on a site when approved by the Commission will be permitted provided such shops or offices are of fireproof construction throughout and are completely cut off from the public building and subject to escapes from all parts of the auditorium being provided in accordance with these Regulations. Lock-up shops and offices.

DIVISION II.—COURTS.

16. The provisions appearing in Divisions II. to IX. (both inclusive) of this Part shall be complied with and observed in relation to every public building.

17. To a site having one frontage only there shall be provided on sides not bordering on the street two courts running the length of the building each not less than 10 feet wide so that exit may be obtained from three sides of the auditorium and in the case of a stage of a theatre from two opposite sides of such stage. Two courts for building having one frontage.

18. Provided that to a site having one frontage only but a depth so much less than the frontage as to necessitate the length of the auditorium being parallel with that frontage two courts shall be provided, viz., one not less than 10 feet wide running parallel with the frontage and connecting with another court not less than 15 feet wide running as nearly as practicable at right angles to that frontage so that exit shall be obtained from three sides of the auditorium and where there is a stage from two opposite sides thereof. Courts for building parallel to street and having one frontage.

19. In case of public buildings erected on adjoining sites having a court in common the width of such court shall be equal to at least seven-tenths of the sum of the widths which would be required if each of the two buildings were treated separately. (See Appendix A for diagrams of courts.) Courts for buildings on adjoining sites.

Courts to sites having two frontages. 20. To a site having two frontages (being either a corner site or one having a street on each of its two narrower dimensions) there shall be provided on one of the sides not bordering on a street a court not less than 10 feet wide extending the length of the building so that exit shall be obtained from three sides of the auditorium and where there is a stage from two sides thereof.

Widths of courts relative to capacity of buildings. 21. (a) The widths of the aforesaid courts are for a public building the capacity of which as estimated by the Commission to exceed 500 but not to exceed 1,500 persons.

Courts for buildings seating over 1,500 persons. (b) For a building of a capacity exceeding 1,500 persons the width of each court shall be increased by 1 ft. 8 in. for each additional 250 persons or fraction of 250 persons in excess of 1,500 persons.

Courts for seating under 500 persons. (c) Subject to the provisions appearing in Regulation 88 for a building the capacity of which does not exceed 500 persons there shall be provided where required by the Commission a court or courts of widths sufficient to serve as approaches from the external exits of the building to a street or other approved thoroughfare and (in the case of a naturally ventilated building) as sources of fresh air for the building; provided that no such court shall be less than 5 feet wide.

Courts to extend length and width of auditorium. 22. (a) Every court required under the provisions of this Division shall extend the full length or width (as the case may be) of the auditorium to the street or thoroughfare and shall be open to the sky except in the case of a passage of fire-proof construction approved by the Commission.

Courts paved and drained. (b) Every court shall be smoothly paved and properly drained.

Doors across courts may be permitted. (c) No door shall be provided across any such court between any exit and the street: Provided that the Commission may permit the installation of doors on condition that they are kept open and locked back during the whole time the public building remains open and provided that any such permission may be withdrawn if the aforesaid condition is not complied with.

Increase of seating capacity. 23. No public building shall be altered to increase its capacity above that for which it is provided with courts as required by Regulations 16 to 22 (both inclusive) hereof except with the special approval of the Commission.

Commission may accept other site with exit facilities. 24. Notwithstanding anything contained in the preceeding regulations any site may be accepted by the Commission which does not wholly comply with the foregoing Regulations as to courts but which in addition to the exits to the frontage to a public street or thoroughfare of the prescribed width has in the Commission's opinion facilities for exit equivalent at least to those afforded by courts required by this Division.

Courts to be kept free from obstruction. 25. In the public building for which the same are provided no court shall be used for storage purposes or for any purpose whatsoever except for entrance to and exit from the public building in respect of which it is provided. Every court shall be kept free and clear of any obstruction during performances entertainments meetings or services.

DIVISION III.—ACCOMMODATION IN A PUBLIC BUILDING.

Computation of Accommodation. 26. Where permanent fixed seating is not provided the number of persons capable of being accommodated shall be ascertained by applying to the space available for occupation the following areas computation of accommodation per person:—

Concert halls churches and other public buildings provided with seating accommodation	5 square feet.
Dance halls cabarets supper-rooms and the like	8 square feet.

SEATING.

Seating accommodation. 27. (a) The seating space assigned for each person in a Public Building other than a grandstand or similar building entirely open at the front shall be not less than 18 inches wide by 32 inches deep, and in the case of grandstands or similar buildings entirely open at the front not less than 18 inches wide by 27 inches deep. In theatres which are in the opinion of the Commission frequently used as such each seat thereof shall be clearly defined by means of fixed and rigid arms spaced at clear horizontal distances apart of at least 18 inches and averaging 9 inches in height above the surface of the seat.

Distance between rows. (b) There shall be a space of at least 12 inches between the extreme front edge or any point of one seat and the extreme back edge or any point of the next seat situated in front thereof as measured between perpendiculars: Provided that in the case of automatic tip-up seats this space may be measured with the seat raised.

(c) Where fixed seating is not provided a greater number of persons than that determined in accordance with Regulation 26 hereof shall not occupy any public building.

28. All seats in the auditorium of every theatre having an aggregate floor area of 1,000 square feet or more shall be firmly fixed to the floor and in the case of other public buildings which are used for different classes of entertainment movable chairs rigidly fastened together in groups of not less than four may with the approval of the Commission be used: Provided that movable chairs may not be used in any stepped or ramped seating space or seating gallery.

Seats to be secured to floor or secured together in rows.

29. The arrangement of seating as approved by the Commission shall not be altered without the approval of the Commission.

Alteration of seating arrangement.

AISLES.

30. Aisles shall be formed near or at each side of the auditorium and between the doors at the front the side or the rear of the seating in every part of the auditorium and so that no seat of a row shall have more than seven seats intervening in such row between it and an aisle: Provided that the Commission may approve of an arrangement of seating with more than seven seats between any one seat and an aisle—

Position of aisles.

- (a) in a grandstand or similar building entirely open at the front; or
- (b) in a building in which the spaces between rows of seats are not less than 20 inches wide measured between perpendiculars; or
- (c) in a building of varying width or with radial aisles.

31. Transverse aisles shall be provided where required by the Commission but in no case shall the horizontal distance between any row of seats and a transverse aisle exceed 30 feet. No transverse aisle need extend through a block of seating which abuts on a side wall unless to give access to an exit.

Transverse aisles.

32. The aggregate width of aisles leading to any exit doorway or group of exit doorways shall be as nearly as practicable equal to the required width of such doorway or doorways: Provided that no aisle having seats on both sides shall be less than 3 ft. 4 in. wide and no aisle having seats on one side only shall be less than 2 ft. 6 in. wide if its length is less than 50 feet nor less than 3 ft. 4 in. wide if its length is 50 feet or more.

Widths of aisles.

33. (a) All aisles throughout every public building and all exit doorways passages stairs and vestibules leading therefrom shall be free from obstruction of any kind during public occupation of the building. No person shall occupy stand in or place any obstruction in any aisle or passage during any performance lecture concert or any public assembly on the premises.

Aisles, &c. to be kept clear.

(b) In the case of any public building used for continuous entertainment no persons shall stand during the progress of an entertainment in any stairway passage vestibule or foyer except in such portions thereof as may be approved for that purpose and (if required by the Commission) defined by railings or otherwise.

Standing in vestibules, &c.

(c) Rope barriers across or at the sides of aisles may be used only if secured with spring clips which shall become unfastened when pressure is exerted on the rope. Ropes shall have centre fastenings only and ropes at the sides of aisles shall be in lengths not exceeding the space between rows of seats so that when any rope is released it shall not trail on the floor.

Rope barriers.

STANDING SPACE.

34. No portion of the floor area of a public building shall be used by the public as standing space unless with the approval of the Commission nor except to the extent and in such parts of the premises as shall have been shown in plans lodged with and approved by the Commission and the area to be allowed for each person in such space shall average not less than 2 square feet. Where the use of standing space has been so permitted the total widths of the exits

Floor area not to be used as standing space without permission.

as required by the Division IV. of this Part of these Regulations shall be increased by 20 lineal inches for every 400 square feet or part thereof of floor area so used or proposed to be so used: Provided that in every case where such space has not been approved by the Commission as seating space the total widths aforesaid in this Regulation shall be increased by 20 lineal inches for every 200 square feet or part thereof of floor area aforesaid.

DIVISION IV.—EXITS AND STAIRS.

35. Exits shall be provided for each compartment of a public building and for the building as a whole and shall be placed as far apart as practicable and shall be subject to the following provisions:—
- (1) An exit 3 ft. 4 in. or more wide shall be at least 6 ft. 10 in. high; an exit of smaller width shall be at least 6 ft. 10 in. high;
 - (2) Every arched exit shall be at least 6 feet in height from sill to springing of arch;
 - (3) No opening narrower than 2 ft. 6 in. shall be allowed as an exit;
 - (4) No opening to which access from the building is obstructed by an altar or communion railing steps platform or stage or other impediment whatsoever and no opening in an interior wall of a vestry retiring-room dressing room or of any other compartment shall be allowed as an exit except with special approval of the Commission;
 - (5) If the public have to pass from the inside of a building to a public thoroughfare through two or more successive openings differing in width such openings shall be in ascending order of width from the interior of the building to the thoroughfare and for the purposes of these Regulations the width of the narrowest opening shall be taken as that available for exit;
 - (6) In determining the total width of the exits required for an art-gallery library museum reading-room or room used for like purposes deductions may with the Commission's approval be allowed from the floor area on account of necessary fixtures;
 - (7) The width of an exit is to be measured at its narrowest part up to a vertical height of 6 feet above the sill; the width of a doorway (not of the door itself) being therefore measured when the door is open to its full extent.

36. (1) The width and numbers of exits to be provided in every public building shall be in accordance with the following tables, viz:—

TABLE 1.

(2) Exits required for a public building or compartment thereof the level of the floor of which at the principal entrance thereto is not more than 6 feet above nor more than 12 feet below the level of the street.

Number of Persons.	Aggregate Width of Exits.	Number and Widths of Exits.
Up to 50 ..	ft. in. 2 6	One 2ft. 6in. wide
51- 75 ..	3 4	One, or two each 2 ft. 6 in. wide
76- 100 ..	5 0	One, or two each 2 ft. 6 in. wide
101- 200 ..	6 8	Two, each 3 ft. 4 in. wide
201- 300 ..	8 4	One 5 ft. and one 3 ft. 4 in. wide
301- 400 ..	10 0	Two each 5 ft. or three each 3 ft. 4 in. wide
401- 500 ..	11 8	One 5 ft. and two each 3 ft. 4 in. wide
501- 600 ..	13 4	Two each 5 ft. and one 3 ft. 4 in. wide
601- 700 ..	15 0	Three, each 5 ft. wide
701- 800 ..	16 8	Two each 5 ft. and two each 3 ft. 4 in. wide
801- 900 ..	18 4	Three each 5 ft. and one 3 ft. 4 in. wide
901-1,000 ..	20 0	Four each 5 ft. wide
1,001-1,400 ..	20 ft., plus 1 ft.	Four or more
1,401-1,800 ..	8 in. for each	Five or more
1,801-2,400 ..	100 or portion	Six or more
2,401-3,000 ..	of 100 persons	Seven or more
	in excess of 1,000.	
	Over 3,000 the number and widths of exits shall be determined specially by the Commission in accordance with the circumstances.	

TABLE 2.

Exits required for a public building or compartment or tier the floor of which at the principal entrance thereto is more than 6 feet above or more than 12 feet below the level of the street.

Number of Persons.	Aggregate Width of Exits.	Number and Widths of Exits.
	ft. in.	
Up to 25 ..	2 6	One 2ft. 6in. wide
26- 50 ..	3 4	One 3ft. 4in. wide
51- 75 ..	5 0	One, or two each 2 ft. 6 in. wide
76-100 ..	6 8	Two, each 3 ft. 4 in. wide
101-200 ..	8 4	One 5 ft. and one 3 ft. 4 in. wide
Over 200 ..	<p>The aggregate widths of exits shall be one-fifth greater than set out in the appropriate line in Table 1, and the numbers and least widths of exits shall be not less than set out in such line. Exits the widths of which are not multiples of 20 inches shall be reckoned as being equivalent to the next lower multiple of 20 inches.</p> <p>Provided that in the case of a basement compartment capable of accommodating more than 50 persons there shall be at least two exits.</p>	

(3) A grandstand or similar public building entirely open at the front shall comply with the provisions of table 2 of paragraph (2) of this regulation. Exits in grandstands.

(4) In a public building floor or tier having four or more exits two of these totalling not more than half the aggregate width of exit space required may open into a main entrance vestibule subject to the provision of aisles leading thereto in accordance with regulation No. 32 hereof.

Wider or more numerous exits than are set out in the foregoing table may be provided but no exit less than 3 ft. 4 in. wide in a public building having accommodation for more than 300 persons shall be accepted as contributing to the required aggregate width of exits.

37. Whenever a platform or stage is more than 3 feet above the floor level of the auditorium or contains 400 or more superficial feet of floor area separate means of exit directly to the courts or public thoroughfare from the said platform or stage shall be provided. The number and widths of exits shall be in accordance with Regulation 36 on a basis of 8 square feet per person. Exits from stage, &c.

38. (1) All exits shall be as conspicuous as possible to persons occupying the public building and the word "EXIT" shall (except in the case of churches) be marked immediately over the inner side of each exit in permanent easily visible block letters at least 5 inches high. The words "NO EXIT" shall be similarly marked in letters as aforesaid immediately over all doorways or other openings in the public building accessible to the public assembled therein but not approved as exits under the provisions of these Regulations. Provided that letters not less than 3 inches high may be accepted in any public building (not being a theatre or cinematograph hall) the auditorium of which does not exceed 60 feet in length nor in width. Exits to be marked.

(2) The use of the words "NO EXIT" or of similar expression or of any means designed or likely to prevent public use of exits required under the provisions of these Regulations to be made available for such use is hereby prohibited.

DOORS.

39. Unless sufficient space is in the opinion of the Commission permanently available for the accommodation of the public between the public building and the boundary fence of the premises the exit doors in such fence shall be hung to open freely outwards at least. Doors in fence to open outwards.

40. Approaches of sufficient width conducting from the external exits of the public building to doors in such fence shall be provided. Approaches from building to fence.

41. All exit doors of a public building shall be opened to their full extent at the conclusion of every performance entertainment or meeting therein. All exits to be available.

Exit doors. 42. Every door of an exit whether internal or external shall open freely outwards towards the nearest passage court or street or both inwards and outwards. Every door more than 4 feet wide shall be hung in two leaves unless otherwise specially approved by the Commission. The hanging of doors leaf-to-leaf will not be permitted except as provided in Regulation 43.

Exit doors to streets. 43. (1) Every exit door adjoining a public street shall be hung to open outwards but shall not be constructed hung or used as to constitute an obstruction to such street.

Accordion or collapsible doors. (2) Provided that the use of accordion or other collapsible doors may be allowed at entrance doorways subject to the following conditions:—

- (a) that they are so constructed and fixed that when in the full open or collapsed position they are recessed so as to be clear of the exit way;
- (b) that when so recessed they become automatically locked in such a way as to necessitate the use of a key to unfasten them; and
- (c) that they are so recessed during public occupation of the building.

Doors not to open on to steps. 44. No exit door shall be hung so as to open immediately on to a flight of steps having more than three risers nor to obstruct when open any exit doorway passage stairway or landing and no door or other barrier shall be placed across any exit stairway or steps nor within 3 feet of the lowest step of any flight in the course of a public exit.

DOOR FASTENINGS.

Approved fastenings. 45. The following fastenings may be used on exit doors (except public exit doors of theatres which shall be fastened in accordance with Regulation 188) and shall be deemed to be approved fastenings within the meaning of these Regulations:—

- (a) Espagnolette or central-handle bolts provided with handles which afford effective means for gripping and releasing them and which are securely attached and placed not less than 2½ feet and not more than 4 feet above the floor level;
- (b) monkey-tail or similar approved bolts provided they have handles which afford easy and effective means for instantly gripping and releasing them; that the handle of the lower bolt is not less than 2 feet nor more than 2½ feet above the floor level; that the handle of the upper bolt is not less than 4 feet nor more than 5 feet above the floor level; and that there is no shoulder or projection or similar locking contrivance on the bolt;
- (c) horizontal bolts placed not less than 2½ feet and not more than 4 feet above the floor each bolt being not less than 6 and not more than 9 inches long and being provided with a securely-attached knob or handle measuring at least 1½ inch by 1½ inch;
- (d) automatic panic bolts or other fastenings that may from time to time be approved by the Commission;
- (e) to a single-leaf door a draw-back lock or a Yale type lock without a catch-pin capable of holding the locking-bolt in the forward or locked position or approved bolts may be fitted;
- (f) to a two-leaf door any type of lock other than a padlock may be fitted.

Prohibited fastenings. 46. The following fastenings shall not be used on doors, viz.:—

- (a) short bolts at top or bottom of a door;
- (b) locking or swivel bars or cross bars;
- (c) padlocks ordinary spring bolts door-chains or bolts connected with chains;
- (d) padbolts and plates or hasps and staples or any other device adapted for padlocking;
- (e) any lock on a single-leaf door except a draw-back lock or Yale-type lock (without a catch-pin) which can be instantly opened from inside the building without a key;
- (f) monkey-tail or other bolts having shoulder or projection or similar locking contrivances thereon or not provided with handles admitting of their being instantly and effectually gripped or released;

(g) any bolt having a handle in the form of a hook unless the width of the hook at right angles to the face of the door is at least two inches;

(h) fastenings of any kind on the outside of porch doors or of similar doors unless they are so fixed on such doors as to allow the latter to be instantly opened from inside without a key or other unapproved appliance.

47. No fastening whatever shall be used on the inner of two doors hung in the same doorway archway or other opening. No fastenings on inner doors.

48. Knobs of drawback and other locks and of bolts shall be securely riveted. Fastenings to be rivetted.

49. No door guard lock or catch or handle or door pull or any similar appliances shall be affixed to the door of any exit so that when such door is opened to its full extent such appliance projects and to any extent obstructs the exit. Prohibition of obstructions on doors.

PASSAGES.

50. No passage or lobby walled in or otherwise enclosed on each side shall be less than 3 ft. 6 in. wide and 7 ft. 6 in. high in the clear. Passage dimensions.

51. Unless otherwise approved by the Commission inclines shall be provided instead of steps in every passage or other compartment used by the public but so that no such incline shall have a steeper gradient than 1 vertical to 8 horizontal or have any perpendicular rises. Inclines in lieu of steps in passages. &c.

52. There shall be no projections in the walls of any passage within a vertical distance of 6 ft. 10 in. of the floor surface. Prohibition of projections in passages. &c.

53. No drapery curtains decorations or other articles or materials shall without the approval of the Commission be placed in any entrance or exit passage and any such approval shall be conditional on such articles being of non-inflammable material or being rendered non-inflammable to the satisfaction of the Commission. Curtains, drapery, &c. in exits.

54. (1) No curtain shall be hung across any exit doorway in which a door is hung nor across any exit corridor or passage or any stairway or landing. Curtains across exits.

(2) The Commission may permit curtains to be hung across a doorway where in the opinion of the Commission it would be undesirable to hang a door.

(3) In every case where such permission is given such curtain or curtains shall be of wool or other approved material and shall be hung clear of the floor and on a rod or rods hinged to open outwards.

55. No passage shall be used as a cloakroom and no peg-rack rail or stand shall be provided therein. Passage, &c. not to be used as cloak-room.

STAIRS.

56. (1) Separate exits shall be provided for each stairway from each and every floor of a public building and shall lead to the requisite thoroughfare or court in the most direct manner possible. Every such exit stairway shall be separated and fire-isolated from every other stairway and shall not communicate with or serve as a means of entrance to or exit from any other premises or any portion of the same premises which is used for any purpose other than as a public building: Provided that a stairway or stairways having a total width not exceeding one-half of the required width of exits from the first tier may open into a main vestibule serving the main floor if the width of such vestibule and of the exits therefrom are each at least equal to the sum of the widths of the doorways and stairways leading to the said vestibule. (For theatre vestibules *vide* Regulation 185. Stairways.

(2) In the case of every grandstand or similar building entirely open at the front not less than one-third of the required total width of exit stairs shall lead from the upper third of the stand to the ground elsewhere than in front of the stand: Provided that this shall not apply to a stand less than 2,000 square feet in area or less than 25 feet from front to back. Distribution of grandstand stairs.

(3) All exit stairs from a grandstand or similar public building entirely open at the front shall discharge to the ground elsewhere than in front of such grandstand or public building and no stair or landing shall project beyond the front or lowest plat of the said grandstand or building. Front stairs to grandstands prohibited.

- Stairways, &c., to exits.** 57. Where stairways or stepped or ramped or otherwise inclined ways form the means of exit from any floor of a public building they shall be 20 per cent. greater in their numbers and aggregate width than the exits required by the table in Regulation 36.
- Handrail not a reduction of width.** 58. Projection of a wall-handrail to the extent of not more than 4 inches shall not be considered a reduction of the effective width of a stairway or passage provided the handrail is fixed in the position prescribed by these Regulations.
- Stairs and landings to be fire resisting.** 59. (a) Stairs from balconies or galleries shall not communicate with any basement or cellar. Every staircase stairway and landing shall be constructed of fire-resisting materials as specified in the Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria, 1945 or any amendment thereof. The lining (if any) of the spandrels and of the underside of stairs and landings shall be also constructed of fire-retardant material as specified in the said Regulations.
- Flights and landings.** (b) All housings morticings and tenoning of external timber stairways shall be treated with an approved preserving liquid before fabrication.
- (c) All external wooden staircases shall have each tread and landing treated and maintained with an approved material so as to present a non-skid surface.
- Handrails to stairs.** 60. (a) All stairs shall be in straight flights and shall have half-space or quarter-space landings at intervals of not more than sixteen and not fewer than three risers and no stairway shall have more than thirty-two successive risers (whether in two or more flights) without a change of direction through at least sixty degrees.
- (b) Every stairway shall have a wall or a well-secured balustrade or guard on each side.
61. (a) Every stairway when less than 3 ft. 4 in. wide shall have a handrail on at least one side and when 3 ft. 4 in. wide or more shall have a handrail on each side and every such handrail shall be continuous.
- (b) Every stairway 6 ft. 8 in. wide or more shall have one or more intermediate rails continuous between landings the number and positions of such handrails being such that there shall be not more than 5 feet between handrails. The newel at the head and in the case of a basement stair at the foot of each intermediate handrail shall be at least 5 feet in height and be securely fixed: Provided that this clause shall not apply when the total rise of the flight is less than 2 feet.
- (c) Handrails shall be fixed at a vertical height of 34 inches above the nosing of the treads and 36 inches above the landings and shall be so constructed that there shall be no obstruction on or above them tending to break a handhold.
- (d) Every external stairway and its landings shall have a handrail and a midrail or balusters on its open sides: Provided that where a landing is more than 8 feet above the ground either the midrails or balusters shall be not more than 6 inches apart or strong wire mesh shall extend from the handrail to the landing.
- Gates to grandstand stairs.** 62. When required by the Commission gates shall be provided at or near the lower ends of stairs from a grandstand or similar public building where these are necessary to prevent overcrowding in the stand or building. Such gates shall be hung and fastened in accordance with these Regulations.
- Internal height of stairways.** 63. Every stairway shall throughout have a clear vertical height internally above every tread of not less than 7 feet.
- Treads and risers.** 64. The steps of every stairway in a public building shall be securely supported and of uniform dimensions throughout and shall have dimensions corresponding with any one combination only of those set out in the following table:—

Width in Inches of Tread, Exclusive of Nosing.								Height in Inches of Rise.
(a)	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	6½
(b)	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
(c)	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	5½
(d)	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

Circular or winding stairs or stairs having winders in any part of their courses shall in no case be provided for the use of the public.

Provided that the Commission may allow the use of geometric stairs Geometric stairs. on condition that—

(a) the centre of curvature is outside the outer string and at a minimum distance therefrom equal to at least two-thirds of the width of the stair; and

(b) the width of treads exclusive of nosing or overhang is 11 inches measured at a distance of 20 inches from the outer string.

65. Hanging steps (steps fixed at one end only) shall not be used. Hanging steps.

66. There shall be no projections in the walls of any staircase within a vertical distance of 6 ft. 10 in. from the nearest step or landing. Prohibition of projections.

67. The space under stairs shall be left entirely open or shall be entirely closed without opening thereto: Provided that this shall not prevent the construction under a stair of a room or compartment with walls and ceiling of 2-hour fire resistance rating. Space under stairs to be open.

STEPS OR INCLINES AT DOORWAYS.

68. The level of any passage at or to the front entrance to a public building shall not be more than 7 inches above the level of the adjacent footway unless provision for ascent from the said footway to the said passage is afforded by means of an incline or steps (as the case may be) as heretofore provided for. Passage levels at front entrance.

69. (1) Steps at least 6 inches longer than the width of the exit and centrally placed with treads and risers as prescribed in these Regulations or inclines complying with Regulation 51 hereof shall be provided outside every exit the sill of which is more than 9 inches above the adjoining ground level. Steps from external doorways.

(2) If the sill is more than 20 inches above the adjoining ground level a landing extending at least 3 inches beyond each side of the exit and at least 3 feet in forward measurement and situated between the exit and the first step or the incline (as the case may be) shall be provided. Such steps (or inclines) and landings shall be provided with handrails as required by Regulations 60 and 61 hereof.

(3) The width of every landing from which steps return along the side of a public building shall be not less than that required for the steps as prescribed in these Regulations and where such landing is common to two flights of stairs going in opposite directions its clear width as also that of each flight shall not be less than two-thirds of the width of the exit doorway leading to such landing. Landings.

STEPS IN AISLES, CONCOURSES, & EMBANKMENTS.

70. (1) Where the difference in level between any two consecutive plats in a stepped tier or floor exceeds 9 inches steps shall be provided in the aisles and shall divide the rise into two equal parts when it does not exceed 16 inches and into three equal parts when it exceeds 16 inches. Steps between plats.

(2) The tread widths shall be such as to give as nearly as practicable equal treads throughout the length of any aisle: Provided that no tread shall be less than 10 inches wide exclusive of the nosing. Width of treads.

(3) The difference in level between any two consecutive plats shall not exceed 24 inches.

Provided that the Commission may modify this Regulation in the case of a grandstand without seats or having seats without backs.

71. (1) In every spectators embankment in a public building where the rear slope exceeds one foot in five feet an approved guard rail shall be provided at the top of such rear slopes with no openings except at the heads of steps or ramps: and where the forward or front slope exceeds one foot in eight feet it shall be stepped with plats not less than 20 inches wide and risers not exceeding 9 inches high. Spectators embankments.

(2) In the case of any arena or of ramped or stepped standing space in any public building the Commission may require guard rails to be placed in such positions as it may direct to prevent the occurrence of dangerous pressure against any fence balustrade or railing. Guard rail.

DIVISION V.—VENTILATION.

SPACE AND VENTILATION UNDER WOOD FLOORS.

72. If so required by the Commission every part of the finished surface of the ground under a public building shall be at least 3 inches above the level of the adjoining ground and the aforesaid ground at the level shall be covered with a layer or layers of properly rendered good Portland cement concrete asphalt or other approved impervious material. Ventilation: formation level under building.

Height of
floor above
ground.

Ventilation
of spaces
under floors.

73. Every public building shall be so constructed that there shall be a clear space of at least 3 inches between every joist and bearer carrying a boarded floor and the surface of the ground or (where such is provided) of the concrete or asphalt covering the ground.

The said space shall be ventilated by suitable air-gratings or by other approved method so that at least $\frac{1}{2}$ square foot of clear net opening shall be provided in sub-floor ventilators for each 20 feet run of external walls and for each 10 feet run of cross walls. Terra-cotta or pressed cement or similar airbricks are not approved for this purpose.

NATURAL VENTILATION.

Compartment
to be
separately
ventilated.

Ventilation
by natural
means.

74. Every compartment of a public building shall be adequately ventilated and where natural ventilation is provided every such compartment shall be separately ventilated.

75. If an approved system of mechanical ventilation is not provided in a public building nor required by the Commission to be provided the following provision shall be made and properly utilized for the ventilation of the public building:—

Inlet ducts.

- (1) Inlet ventilators in the form of ducts shafts or hoppers opening slantingly upwards but otherwise as directly as possible into the compartment through the external walls (either through the walls themselves or through the windows in the walls) shall be provided. They shall as far as practicable be equally distributed along the external walls of each compartment. The upper edges of their external openings shall be below the lower edges of their internal openings for the fully open position of the latter and the lower edges of the internal openings shall be from 6 ft. 6 in. to 7 feet above the level of the adjacent floor of the compartment to be ventilated.

Outlet flues.

- (2) Outlet ventilators save as otherwise provided in this regulation shall be provided in the form of flues shafts or tubes extending vertically without avoidable bends or angles from the ceiling line into through and above the roof space and shall have their lower portions formed as bell mouths gradually tapered upwards and their upper ends so constructed and so protected by cowls as to prevent entry of rain. Each bell mouth shall present an opening of double the area required at the outlet of the shaft or tube or flue.

Proviso.

Alternative
means of
ventilating.

Provided that—

- (a) for a public building consisting only of one floor (the ground floor); and
- (b) for the uppermost story of any public building consisting of more than the ground floor—
one-third of the total requisite area of the outlet opening may be provided by means of openings situated immediately below the wall-plates and extending through the external walls and properly shielded outside (provided the least distance between the inner face of the shield and of the nearest opposite surface is 2 inches); and
- (c) for each floor below the uppermost floor of a public building consisting of more than the ground floor—
the outlets may be entirely provided by means of such openings immediately below the wall-plates; and
- (d) an approved ridge ventilator connected by air-tight flues or shafts to openings in the ceiling shall be deemed to comply with this sub-clause.

Ridge
ventilators.

- (3) In a public building which is unceiled or in which the ceiling or roof-lining is attached to the purlins or rafters and continued up to the apex of the roof approved ridge-ventilators may be substituted for flues tubes or shafts as required by this Regulation.

Unlined
buildings.

- (4) Inlet vents may be omitted in an unlined weatherboard public building.

Dimensions
of inlets and
outlets.

- (5) The clear opening for any one inlet may not exceed 70 nor of any one outlet 170 square inches: Provided that larger inlet vents may be permitted if the distance between them does not exceed 10 feet.

Situation and
construction
of air flues,
&c.

76. All air flues ducts shafts tubes and openings whether for inlet or outlet of air shall be constructed so as to be capable of being readily cleaned out and shall not communicate with any cavity or space in the thickness of the wall nor with the space intervening between the ceiling and any floor or roof covering (as the case may be) over such ceiling.

Sheet metal used in the construction of any flue duct shaft tube or hopper shall not be thinner than No. 24 B.W.G. Whenever required by the Commission the inlets and the outlets shall be fitted with regulating valves and appliances suitable for opening and closing them in varying degrees.

77. The clear opening (i.e. the sectional area of the most contracted part of the ventilators; grating-bars and such obstructions being therefore excluded) shall be for inlets at least 1 square inch and for outlets at least 1 square inch for every 2 square feet of floor area except as regards cloak-rooms dressing-rooms offices and other accessory compartments in which the amounts of inlet and of outlet ventilation may be reduced to not less than half the amounts above required.

Airway in relation to floor area.

78. Perforated zinc or mesh or network finer than corresponds to three meshes per lineal inch shall not be fixed to either inlet or outlet vents.

Gratings for vents.

Provided that where all other openings into the public building are fly-proof the vents may be fitted with faces of woven wire of mesh not finer than 18 meshes per lineal inch if the gross area of such vents is made sufficient to provide the required net area after deducting for the wire and if the woven wire over outlet vents at least is fixed to frames which shall be readily removable for cleaning purposes.

79. No opening into the roof-space nor into the space between the ceiling and the floor above such ceiling nor into any wall cavity and supplying means of aerial communication between such space and the interior of the auditorium shall be allowed.

Openings to roof and ceiling spaces forbidden.

MECHANICAL VENTILATION.

80. (a) In the case of every public building capable of accommodating in any one room more than 750 persons of every existing public building proposed to be altered so as to increase its capacity to more than 750 persons or to be rebuilt of every public building the floor of which is more than 6 feet below the level of the adjoining ground of every continuous show theatre or of any public building where the standard of purity of air prescribed below is not attained or cannot in the opinion of the Commission be attained by natural ventilation mechanical ventilation shall be adopted and properly used. Mechanical ventilation may with the approval of the Commission be provided in addition to natural ventilation or vice versa.

Mechanical ventilation.

(b) The provisions of this clause shall apply to every continuous show theatre.

81. Where mechanical ventilation is adopted such installation shall comply with the following provisions:—

- (1) The temperature of the air shall be maintained at not less than 60° F. during the whole time the public is in occupation of the public building.
- (2) The inlet air shall be introduced into the public building in such a manner that it will be distributed evenly over the floor space at breathing line without causing uncomfortable draughts.
- (3) Outlets shall be provided of such area that the velocity of the air in the outlet shaft shall not exceed 20 feet per second except with the special approval of the Commission.
- (4) All ventilating air introduced into the public building shall whenever required by the Commission be efficiently filtered. The filtering medium shall be kept clean and in good order to the satisfaction of the Commission.
- (5) Every motor operating ventilating machinery shall be provided with an approved device located on the main switch-board or in some other approved position for the purpose of enabling the supply of current to be cut off in the event of fire and such device and motor shall be maintained in good order and condition.
- (6) The ventilating machinery shall be kept working during the whole period of occupation of the public building by the public at sufficient speed to supply the volume of air needed to comply with Regulation 83: Provided that in any case of outbreak of fire in the public building during public occupation of the latter the ventilating machinery shall be stopped if the stoppage thereof be calculated to prevent spread of fire or access of injurious gases or vapours to the public on the premises or otherwise to safeguard such persons.

Temperature.

Distribution of inlet air.

Outlets.

Filtration of inlet air.

Means of stopping machinery in case of fire.

Machinery to be kept working.

Stoppage in case of fire.

Devices to show whether machinery is operating.

(7) (a) For plenum systems there shall be provided and maintained in the auditorium streamers in front of all air-inlet openings or other approved devices readily visible to the audience which shall show clearly whether or not air is being supplied to the auditorium by the ventilating machinery.

(b) For exhaust systems there shall be provided and maintained in the auditorium streamers attached to wires or rods 9 inches away from the wall in front of all exhaust openings or other approved devices readily visible to the audience which shall show clearly whether or not air is being extracted from the auditorium by the ventilating machinery.

Machinery to run quietly.

(8) The ventilating machinery and motors shall be so designed installed and maintained that they will run at full speed without noise or vibration likely to cause annoyance or discomfort to the audience and shall be fitted with means for regulating the volume of air delivered to and/or exhausted from the building.

Construction of ventilating ducts.

82. (a) All ducts and plenum chambers shall be formed of or lined with sheet metal or other smooth fire-resisting or fire-retardant and non-absorbent material and shall be provided with easy access for cleaning purposes and shall at all times be kept clean.

(b) Any ventilating duct which passes through or over a boiler room engine room or the like or a theatre stage shall be separated therefrom by or be formed of material of 2-hour fire resistance rating.

Standard of purity of air.

83. At any time during public occupation of a public building—

(a) the amount of carbon dioxide in the air of the room shall not exceed 0.12 per cent. by volume; and

(b) the moisture contents of the air of the room shall not exceed the moisture content of the external air by more than 0.5 per cent. by weight.

DIVISION VI.—CONSTRUCTION.

Number and slope of tiers.

84. (1) No public building shall be constructed as to have more than three tiers or floors intended for public occupation nor shall any floor room or compartment above the second floor be used as a public building: Provided that if the whole of the walls floors stairs and roof of a public building are constructed of material of 3-hour fire resistance rating such floors rooms or compartments above the second but not above the fourth floor may be used as a public building.

(2) The slope of a tier shall not exceed 30° measured from the horizontal plane except with the special approval of the Commission.

Building to be fire-isolated.

85. Every public building shall be separated from any adjoining building by construction of 3-hour fire resistance rating and no part of such public building shall overlook or overhang any portion of adjoining premises in such a manner as to facilitate communication to it of fire from such premises.

Minimum internal height.

86. Where not otherwise specified in these Regulations the internal heights of the various parts of a public building shall not be less than the following, viz.:—

(a) For the main compartments an average of 12 feet with a minimum of 10 feet at any point;

(b) under or over any dress circle balcony or gallery a minimum of 8 feet;

(c) for supper-rooms lounges and other accessory compartments used by the public an average of 10 feet with a minimum of 8 feet at any point; and

(d) for dressing-rooms and other compartments not used by the public 8 feet.

BRICK VENEER.

Brick veneer buildings.

87. The walls of a single-story public building may be constructed of brick or masonry veneer provided that the width of the auditorium does not exceed 45 feet nor the height of the walls 13 feet measured from the top of the footings and that there be provided at not more than 12 feet between centres solid brick or masonry piers or buttresses bonded to the brick or masonry veneer and measuring not less than 14 inches wide by 18 inches thick at the level of the top of the footing and 9 inches thick at top wall-plate level including the thickness of the veneer.

WOODEN BUILDINGS.

88. Every public building that may under the provisions of any extant by-law or regulation be constructed wholly or in part as to the walls thereof of wood shall be distant from the boundaries of the allotment of land on which it stands at least 10 feet: Provided however this provision shall not apply to a public building the whole of the external walls of which are of brick or masonry veneer. Isolation of wooden building.

89. No building of more than one (the ground floor) story the walls of which are constructed in whole or in part of wood shall be used as a public building and no building so constructed shall be so used if the width of the auditorium (including any annexes at the sides thereof) exceeds 45 feet. Restriction on wooden buildings.

90 (a) The interior lining of all walls of wooden public buildings shall be metal fibro-plaster or other approved non-inflammable material: Provided that the Commission may allow a wood dado 6 feet high in the auditorium. Linings of wooden buildings.

(b) Both faces of any wood-framed proscenial wall shall be so lined and if the stage is unceiled the lining on the stage face shall be carried up to the roof covering. Proscenial walls.

FLOORS, CEILINGS, SOFFITS, AND FIRE-ISOLATION.

91. (a) In every grandstand the floor area of which exceeds 1,000 sq. ft. all columns piers and walls below floor level and all floors shall be constructed entirely of material of 2-hour fire resistance rating: Provided that a stepped floor of hardwood boards on hardwood framing may be constructed over a continuous inclined floor of such rating and that a wood floor surface may be laid without air-space on any such floor. Grandstands.

(b) In every public building where there is or are one or more tiers above the main floor the said tier or tiers shall be of at least 1-hour fire-resistance rating provided that this shall not apply to a tier accommodating less than 100 persons. Upper tiers.

92. The ceilings of all compartments of a public building shall be lined with metal fibro-plaster or other approved non-inflammable materials: Provided that the Commission may allow the undersides of rafters in skillion roofs to be lined with wood. Ceilings.

93. In every public building with accommodation for more than 500 persons every suspended ceiling and soffit shall have all supporting members (except battens to which the ceiling is directly attached) formed of metal or other incombustible material: Provided that the Commission may allow wooden members to be used conditionally on the provision in the space between the ceiling or soffit and the roof or floor above of an automatic sprinkler system or an automatic fire alarm system as specified in Regulation 193. Soffits.

94. No public building shall have a wood shingle roof nor shall the walls or ceilings thereof be draped with scrim hessian canvas or similar material whether the same is treated with chemicals or not and no inflammable curtain hangings or decorations shall be placed in the auditorium. Roof linings, &c.
Decorations to be non-inflammable.

Provided that hangings for acoustic purposes and window curtains may be allowed if of wool or other approved material.

95. (1) No premises shall be used as a public building if situated above or below or immediately adjoining any compartment or premises used as a residence kitchen laundry shop store or for a steam boiler or engine heating plant or internal combustion engine or for the storage of inflammable material unless separated from such compartment or premises by walls or floors of at least 2-hour fire-resistance rating: Provided that this requirement may be modified or dispensed with at the discretion of the Commission in the case of a small kitchen or store used in connexion with and on the same level as the public building. Public buildings not to adjoin certain premises.

(2) In the case of every public building provision satisfactory to the Commission shall be made for preventing the spread of fire to such public building from any structure or material on adjoining premises.

DRESSING ROOMS AND FIRST AID ROOMS.

96. (1) Whenever so required by the Commission adequate dressing-room accommodation properly separated for the sexes shall be provided in approved positions for the use of artists musicians and other performers and for ushers and other members of the staff. Such rooms shall not be placed under a platform or stage nor under the auditorium except with the special approval of the Commission and subject to the Dressing-rooms to be fire-resisting.

walls and ceilings thereof being of 2-hour fire-resistance rating and shall be connected with exits independent of those serving the auditorium. No dressing-room shall have a floor area less than 60 square feet. All decorations in such dressing-rooms shall be rendered non-inflammable. The exit doors from a dressing-room block shall be fitted with approved fastenings only. Wash-basins shall be provided for performers in the dressing-rooms or in other approved positions to the number required by the Commission.

First aid room.

(2) Whenever so required by the Commission a suitable clean room or rooms shall be provided in every arena showground racecourse cricket ground football ground cycling arena coursing ground motor racing arena or similar type of public building for First Aid purposes performed or likely to be performed by the St. John's Ambulance Brigade.

Such room (or rooms) shall be—

- (a) not less than 250 square feet in area;
- (b) at ground level;
- (c) convenient to a public street;
- (d) readily accessible;
- (e) provided with suitable electric light and power;
- (f) provided with a suitable wash basin or sink connected to an adequate water supply; and
- (g) furnished with suitable cupboards seats and a table.

GUARD FENCES.

Guard fences in motor racing arenas.

97. In every arena used for motor vehicle racing there shall be provided on the outer margin of the racing track—

- (a) a continuous guard-fence not less than 3 feet high and formed of reinforced concrete or close boarding to the satisfaction of the Commission; and
- (b) above such guard-fence on all curved sections of the track stout woven wire fencing adequately supported and extending from the top of the guard fence to a height of at least 6 feet above the ground paving or floor on the spectators' side of such fence.

GENERAL STRUCTURAL PROVISIONS.

Structural provisions.

98. (1) Except where otherwise specifically required in these Regulations—

- (a) the materials and methods of construction employed;
- (b) loads and working stresses;
- (c) the methods of calculation and testing; and
- (d) all work done—

in connection with the erection or alteration of any public building shall be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria, 1945, or any amendment thereof.

(2) All wall and ceiling linings wall-boards paints and decorative effects used in the erection alteration conversion or maintenance of any public building shall be of such types as approved of from time to time by the Commission.

DIVISION VII.—CLOSETS AND URINALS.

Sanitary conveniences.

99. (1) Closets and urinals suitably situated properly separated and designated for the sexes and decently screened shall be supplied in numbers at least as follow:—

Total Number of Persons of Both Sexes.	For Theatres and Cinematograph Halls.			For Other Public Buildings.		
	For Males.		For Females.	For Males.		For Females.
	Closets.	Urinals.	Closets.	Closets.	Urinals.	Closets.
Not exceeding 100	1	1	1	1	1	1
Exceeding 100 but not exceeding 200	1	3	2	1	2	1
" 200 " " 400	1	6	2	1	4	2
" 400 " " 600	1	9	3	1	6	2
" 600 " " 800	2	12	3	2	8	3
" 800 " " 1,000	2	15	4	2	10	3
" 1,000 " " 1,200	2	18	4	2	12	3
" 1,200 " " 1,400	3	21	5	3	14	4
" 1,400 " " 1,600	3	24	5	3	16	4
" 1,600 " " 1,800	3	27	6	3	18	4
" 1,800 " " 2,000	4	30	6	3	20	5

(2) For a greater number of persons than 2,000 the requisite numbers of conveniences shall be reckoned to the nearest whole number *pro rata* with those set out above for 2,000 persons. For more than 2,000.

(3) The foregoing table is on the basis that the sexes are approximately equal in number; and in any case where a building is used wholly or predominately by persons of one sex the Commission may vary the numbers of conveniences required for males and females accordingly. Sexes assumed to be equal in number.

(4) In this Part "urinal" means a crock bowl or stall capable of accommodating one individual user at a time: Provided that where conveniences in the form of continuous slabs or troughs are permitted every complete 24 inches of available clear length thereof shall be deemed to be one urinal. "Urinal" defined.

(5) Where in the case of any public building the Commission is satisfied that the provision of sanitary conveniences is insufficient under the actual conditions of use thereof the Commission may require the provision of additional conveniences over and above the numbers set out in the foregoing table. Commission may require additional conveniences.

(6) In the case of a public building used only as a church or Sunday school and having accommodation for more than 200 persons the Commission may accept a less number of conveniences than set out in the foregoing table but not less than one closet for females and one closet and two urinals for males. For church, etc.

(7) In the case of a racecourse arena showground or the like the Commission may vary or reduce the numbers of conveniences at its discretion. For arena, etc.

100. In any public building not being a church or Sunday school and having accommodation for more than 300 persons and served by a water-carried sewerage system the closets and urinals shall be so placed as to be adjacent to and directly accessible under cover from the main entrance foyer or lobby and in any such public building having more than one floor or tier there shall be closet and urinal accommodation on the level of each such floor or tier and proportioned to the number of persons accommodated therein: Provided that the foregoing requirement shall not apply to an upper floor or tier accommodating less than 200 persons. Situation of closets and urinals.

101. In every theatre and in every concert hall or other public building where four or more performers or members of an orchestra are usually or frequently employed there shall be provided in positions readily accessible from the dressing-rooms and the orchestra-room closets and urinals to the number required by the Commission. Closets and urinals for performers.

102. In the case of sewered closets and urinals in the building which they serve or in direct connexion therewith there shall be provided in the airlock or ante-room to each block wash-basins at the rate of at least one basin to 400 or part of 400 persons served by such block. Airlocks.

103. (1) Water closets and sewered urinals shall be constructed lighted and ventilated and provided with airlocks as required by the Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria, 1945, or any amendment thereof or by the By-laws of the Sewerage Authority for the locality. Construction of closets and urinals.

Provided that whether so required by such By-laws or Regulations or not the whole of the floor of every airlock closet and urinal compartment shall be constructed of or covered with durable impervious material.

(2) Pan-closets and septic-closets shall comply with the General Sanitary Regulations 1931 or any Regulations amending the same and when entered from within the public building shall be separated from it by a disconnecting passage of at least 5 feet long and having both of its side walls external and formed to the extent of at least one-fourth of their areas by fixed louvres. Ventilation of closets.

(3) Unsewered urinals shall not be in communication with the interior of the public building and shall comply with the General Sanitary Regulations 1931 or any Regulations amending the same.

(4) Detached closets and urinals shall not (except with the special approval of the Commission) be more than 50 feet from the public building or buildings which they serve and shall be approached by pathways suitable for use in all weather and shall be together with their pathways kept lighted at night during use of the public building or buildings. Closets and urinals to be kept clean.

DIVISION VIII.—DRAINAGE.

- General provisions.** 104. Drains shall be provided for carrying off all rainwater drainage and other liquid and (where not connected to a public sewerage system or to a septic tank system) shall be subject to the following provisions:—
- Foundation and surfaces.** (1) They shall be firmly founded and laid with sufficient fall present smooth impervious surfaces where these are liable to come into contact with liquid and have watertight joints;
- Underground drains.** (2) every underground drain shall be laid in straight lines and have an access or inspection opening fitted with a suitable cover at every change in direction and if more than 20 feet in length and conveying foul water or if discharging into a covered sewer it shall be ventilated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria, 1945, or any amendment thereof.
- Drains under buildings.** (3) no drain shall be constructed or remain under any public building unless absolutely necessary to secure proper drainage. Where the use of such a drain is unavoidable—
- (a) every drain laid on or in the ground shall be of cast-iron pipes with caulked lead joints or of glazed stoneware or cement pipes with cement joints and surrounded on all sides with 4 inches of cement concrete or 3 inches of cement mortar; and
- (b) every drain or wastepipe fixed clear of the ground shall be of cast-iron pipes with caulked lead joints or of wrought-iron pipes with screwed joints.
- Rain-water and waste pipes.** (4) All rainwater pipes and all waste and overflow pipes from baths lavatories sinks water tanks and like fittings shall be air-disconnected from any closed drain receiving foul water or sewage either by being made to discharge over a water-tight channel 12 to 18 inches long leading to a trapped drain inlet or by some other approved method; and with the exception of the aforesaid rainwater pipes they shall also be provided with accessible and self-cleansing traps and if more than 20 feet long be ventilated in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria, 1945, or any amendment thereof.
- Inlets.** (5) inlets to drains such as yard-gullies shall be properly trapped and fitted with iron gratings;
- Inspection chambers.** (6) in every inspection or other chamber the floor shall not be lower than the outlet and the interior angles shall be well rounded-out;
- Prohibition of certain drains.** (7) open foul-water drains near the doorways windows ventilators or other openings in a public building are hereby prohibited.

105. Every drain soil-pipe or waste pipe discharging to a public sewerage system or to a septic tank system shall comply with the relevant provisions of the Sewerage Regulations contained in the Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria, 1945, or any amendment thereof or with the By-laws of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works.

DIVISION IX.—GENERAL.

106. Every public building and all materials fittings appliances and things connected therein or installed therein shall be kept—

- Buildings to be maintained.** (1) in a proper state of repair;
(2) in an efficient condition;
(3) in proper working order; and
(4) clean.

Fittings to be maintained. 107. All buildings structures appliances fittings urinals closets and things required by these regulations to be installed or provided in a public building or the premises thereof for use by or for the convenience of the public or persons employed or working therein shall at all times be maintained or kept—

- (1) in a proper state of repair
(2) in an efficient condition
(3) in proper working order
(4) in a clean or sanitary condition; and
(5) for the purpose for which the same were intended.

108. The exterior and interior of every public building shall be painted when necessary to comply with the two preceding regulations. Buildings to be painted.

109. All buildings appliances fittings urinals closets and things required by the regulations to be installed or provided in a public building or the premises thereof for the use by or for the convenience of the public shall at all times be available to or open to the public for use when any member thereof is in or on such building or premises. Fittings to be available.

110. No part of a public building shall be used for the purpose of a living room or sleeping room without the approval of the Commission. Living and sleeping rooms prohibited.

111. No space or structure of whatever nature in beneath over or adjacent to any public building or any part thereof shall be used for the storing of or the placing of any material of an inflammable nature save as otherwise specifically provided in these Regulations. Inflammable materials.

PART IV.—LIGHTING.

112. The provisions in this part shall be complied with and observed in relation to the lighting of every public building. Application.

DIVISION I.—NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING.

NATURAL LIGHTING.

113. Where a public building or any compartment thereof is used for public purposes in the day-time such building or compartment shall— Area of windows.

- (a) have glazed windows presenting a total area of clear glass equal to at least one-eighth of the floor area of such public building or compartment and distributed so as to effectually light the whole floor of the building or compartment; or
- (b) be effectually lighted by artificial means whenever it is so used.

Provided that in a church which is used for that purpose only the Commission may accept a smaller proportion of glass area to floor area.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING.

114. (1) Every public building which is used at night shall be provided with approved means for artificially lighting every room compartment sanitary convenience passage and stair therein and every exit and passage or other way therefrom to a public thoroughfare. Artificial lighting.

(2) Where electric power is available the lighting of every public building shall be by means of electricity. Electric power to be used where available.

(3) Every part of a public building to which the public is admitted shall be and remain lighted so as to render all aisles passages and stairs in the public building and all exits and passages or other ways from the public building to a public thoroughfare or thoroughfares readily visible during the whole time the premises are open or available to the public. Stairs and passages to be lighted.

(4) The lights or lighting required under the preceding paragraph shall not be extinguished diminished or dimmed so as to render any aisle gangway passage stair or exit or any other way from an exit to a public thoroughfare not readily visible. Certain lights not to be dimmed.

(5) Every boxing or wrestling stadium and every other public building in which the general lighting of the auditorium is extinguished during the occupation of the public building by the public shall be provided with safety lights and auxiliary lights in accordance with regulations 189 and 190. Safety and auxiliary lighting.

DIVISION II.—ELECTRIC LIGHTING AND POWER INSTALLATIONS.

115. (a) The installation of electric light and power in every public building shall comply with and be in accordance with the provisions of Regulations 116 to 157 (both inclusive) hereof so far as the same are applicable. Installations to comply with Regulations.

(b) The extant Wiring Regulations of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria made on the 14th February, 1950, together with any amendment thereof and where not inconsistent with the provisions of this Division are deemed to be incorporated herein. S.E.C. wiring Regulations.

PLANS ETC. OF PROPOSED INSTALLATIONS OR ALTERATIONS TO BE
APPROVED BY COMMISSION.

Plans to be
submitted.

116. Before the installation in any public building of any system of lighting or warming therefor or of power installation therein or of any work or apparatus in connexion therewith and before any alterations to an existing installation are commenced the approval of the Commission for what is proposed to be done shall be obtained.

For this purpose plans and specifications together with full particulars of the work it is proposed to carry out including drawings of proposed switchboards shall be forwarded to the Secretary to whom also record copies of the drawings as approved shall on demand be supplied on completion of the work.

DRAWING OF WIRING SYSTEMS TO BE EXHIBITED.

Plan of
wiring to be
exhibited.

117. A copy of the approved drawings showing the arrangement of all switchboards and a key to the layout of the wiring and the positions of all switchboards shall be posted as soon as practicable after approval in a prominent and approved position on such premises and kept therein in good order and condition.

TEMPORARY LIGHTING.

Temporary
lighting.

118. In all cases in which it is intended to install temporary lighting sufficient notice in writing of such intention shall be given to the Commission and its approval shall be obtained before the work of installation is commenced.

CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL.

Certificate.

119. No electrical installation in any public building shall be used unless and until a properly qualified and competent electrical engineer has certified in writing that the installation is in proper working order nor until the Commission has signified approval of the installation being used.

TESTS.

Tests.

120. Tests of electrical installations or of any parts thereof may be made by the Commission from time to time.

SERVICE MAINS AND FUSES.

Mains and
Fuses.

121. No service main cable or service fuse or consumer's main cables for any public building shall be used for the supply of electricity to any other electrical installation.

INDEPENDENT SERVICE FUSES.

Service fuses.

122. Every such building when lighted by electric light shall when required by the Commission be provided with not less than three separate sets of service fuses:—

A for the stage and power purposes;

B and C for the auditorium passages exits and all parts of the premises open to the public and each of the groups of circuits for A B and C respectively shall be kept separate and distinct throughout the installation.

Where a three-wire or four-wire service is given the groups of circuits A B and C shall be balanced to the satisfaction of the Commission and the Electric Supply Authority.

CONNEXION TO SUPPLY MAINS.

Supply mains.

123. Each group of circuits under regulation 122 hereof shall be supplied from a separate fuse box or boxes and where practicable from a separate set of mains. Such fuse box or boxes shall be provided installed and effectually sealed by the supply authority and such seals shall be broken only by an authorized officer of such authority.

MAIN CIRCUITS B AND C.

Main circuits.

124. The groups of circuits B and C shall be so arranged that approximately half the lights in each division of the auditorium and half those in each passage exit and other place open to the public shall be connected to circuits of group B and the other half to circuits of group C and as far as practicable the lights shall be connected on circuits of group B and group C alternately. In no case shall any portion of one group be combined in one fitting with or enclosed in the same box conduit casing or other enclosure as any portion of another group.

DIVISION III.—SWITCHBOARDS.

MAIN SWITCHBOARDS.

125. Main switchboards shall be placed in approved positions. ^{Main switchboards.} Every theatre switchboard shall be installed in a compartment of fire-resisting construction which shall be properly lighted and ventilated and used solely for that purpose.

CHANGEOVER SWITCHES.

126. Changeover switches shall be used only if approved for the ^{Changeover switches.} purpose.

ALL SWITCHBOARDS.

127. Switchboards shall be fixed in readily accessible positions but ^{Switchboard to be accessible.} so as not to obstruct passage ways or exit ways. Where a switchboard is placed in an exposed position it shall be wholly enclosed in a fire-resisting lock-up case.

Each switch and fuse shall be permanently labelled in an approved manner or identified by figuring or lettering painted in an approved manner on the board to show the circuit controlled thereby.

The switchboard used for the control of signal-light or other circuits shall be kept clear of bells telephones and similar apparatus.

CONTROL OF GROUPS A, B, AND C.

128. The groups A B and C shall be controlled by separate main switches and fuses.

SUB-CIRCUITS.

129. (1) Circuits for power or heating purposes shall be kept distinct and separate from lighting circuits.

(2) External sanitary conveniences exit and entrance lighting ^{Sub-circuits to be kept separate.} circuits shall be controlled solely at the main switchboard.

(3) The general lighting of the auditorium shall under no circumstances be controlled solely from within any cinematograph cabin. Where switches to control the whole of the auditorium lighting are placed in any such cabin the switches controlling a sufficient number of lights to illuminate effectively the whole of each division of the auditorium shall be wired in parallel with switches on the main switchboard or on a switchboard in an approved position near the main entrance door to the stalls.

(4) For the purposes of these Regulations "sub-circuit" means a branch circuit beyond a final distribution board to which lamps and other consuming devices are connected.

DIVISION IV.—WIRING AND FITTINGS.

CONDUCTORS AND INSULATION.

130 (1) The approval of the Commission shall be obtained for ^{Conductors to be insulated.} the use of any means of insulation of conductors other than that permitted under the Wiring Regulations of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria.

(2) Flexible conductors shall comply with the specifications of the State Electricity Commission for flexible conductors and where necessary they shall be protected by means of tough rubber compound or other suitable covering which will resist abrasion or other injury.

(3) No joints shall be made between flexible conductors.

CONDUCTORS—FIXING, SUPPORTING, AND PROTECTION.

131 (1) Where necessary special precautions shall be taken to ^{Fixing conductors.} protect conductors from chemical and other injury.

(2) Conductors and cables covered with lead tough rubber or other soft or easily fused material shall not be used unless protected by external armour of iron or steel or enclosed in substantial iron or steel tubing or other approved covering up to a height of not less than 8 feet from the floor.

(3) Approval shall be obtained from the Commission for the use of any means of fixing or protecting conductors other than that permitted under the Wiring Regulations of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria.

(4) Wood casing shall not be used without the special approval of the Commission. If wood casing or wood troughing be used it shall be constructed of jarrah or other approved hardwood and shall be run in such a manner that it is open to view throughout its entire length. Conductors contained therein shall be always accessible.

In no circumstances shall conductors of opposite polarity be laid in the same groove in wood troughing nor shall the conductors of the same polarity belonging to the different groups of circuits A B and C be laid in the same groove of wood casing or wood troughing.

(5) Except where sanction in writing has been obtained from the Commission to run open conductors on insulators external to buildings all conductors external to buildings (other than underground cables) shall be enclosed in iron piping or steel conduit protected where necessary from mechanical injury and securely fixed and supported. Such conduit shall be run in such a manner that any condensation will automatically drain therefrom.

(6) Underground wiring shall consist of stranded cables and shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Wiring Regulations of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria.

SWITCHES.

Switches. 132. The minimum distance between live metal parts of opposite polarity shall be $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches unless such parts are separated and screened by insulating material to the Commission's satisfaction.

CUT-OUTS OR FUSES.

Cut-outs and fuses. 133. (1) Supplies of spare wedges or containers ready wired shall be kept available for replacement purposes.

(2) Temporary bridging of terminals is hereby prohibited.

FITTINGS.

Fittings. 134. All electric fittings shall be suspended or fixed in an approved manner.

135. Transformers shall be placed only in positions approved by the Commission. All luminous discharge tubes shall be situated at least 8 feet above the floor or be so protected that it shall not be possible for the public to touch any part of the tube or fittings.

DIVISION V.—STAGE LIGHTING.

Stages. 136. Every theatre stage shall where practicable be lighted by electric light only.

SWITCHBOARD.

Stage switchboard. 137. (1) A switchboard fitted with all switches fuses and other fittings necessary for the control and regulation of the stage lighting shall be fixed in an approved position from which the operator can overlook the stage or in some other approved position provided that the controls are so placed that the operator can see all parts of the stage. The switchboard shall be so arranged that a fire occurring on it cannot readily spread therefrom.

(2) The stage lighting final sub-circuits shall be controlled solely by the apparatus on this switchboard.

(3) A metal hood extending the full length of the board shall be fitted at the top of the switchboard to protect it effectively from falling objects.

SWITCHBOARD PLATFORM.

Switchboard platform. 138. Except where remote control is used a platform with suitable means of access to the switchboard shall be provided for the switchboard operator. The platform shall be of fire-resisting material with a hardwood or other non-conductive floor. The handrail of the platform shall be constructed of jarrah or other approved hardwood. During public occupation of the premises the switchboard shall be under the immediate control of a person not under 21 years of age who shall be the holder of an A or B Grade Wireman's Licence or a Cinematograph Operator's Licence or shall be specially authorized by the Commission to perform such duty.

REMOTE CONTROL.

Remote control. 139. Where the stage lighting is controlled from any position other than the stage lighting switchboard the control panel shall be in an approved position and accessible only to authorized persons.

CONTROL OF AUDITORIUM LIGHTING.

140. The circuits for the auditorium lighting shall be so arranged that it is not possible to control the whole of the auditorium lighting solely from the switchboard platform or control panel referred to in regulations 138 and 139. Control of lighting.

FIRE EXTINCTION APPLIANCES.

141. At least one pair of rubber gloves and one bucket kept filled with dry sand and a scoop with an insulated handle and at least one 5 lb. capacity CO₂ extinguisher and as approved by the Fire and Accident Underwriters Association shall be kept on the said platform in readiness for use in extinguishing an electric fire. Fire appliances.

LAMP GUARDS.

142. Lamps on footlights or battens proscenium lights and when required by the Commission other lamps shall be so placed guarded or arranged that no inflammable material can come in contact with any such lamp or light. No readily combustible material shall be placed in such proximity to any lamp as to entail risk of such material becoming ignited. Lamp guards.

HIGH WATTAGE LAMPS.

143. Every lamp consuming more than 200 watts shall when used for stage lighting be properly supported in a suitable non-combustible fitting attached to a properly secured metallic fixture. High wattage lamps.

TEMPORARY STAGE LIGHTING.

144. In the case of any temporary installation used for stage purposes all connexions with the permanent installation shall be removed immediately after each performance unless the Commission's permission for their retention has first been obtained. Temporary lighting.

STAGE SOCKETS OR WELLS.

145. (1) Stage sockets or wells shall be of approved type and shall be substantially constructed of approved material. Stage sockets.

(2) Stage sockets or wells shall be installed in such a manner that dirt and dust cannot accumulate in the socket or well and so that the contact surfaces cannot readily be short-circuited.

PLUGGING BOXES.

146. Plugging boxes shall be constructed of hardwood or other approved material and shall be so used that no live metal is exposed. Plugging boxes.

GUARDING OF CONDUCTORS AT JUNCTIONS WITH BUNCH, ETC., LIGHTS, BATTENS, AND SIMILAR FITTINGS.

147. The conductors to bunch lights portable arc lamps battens movable lengths or portable strips shall be suitably insulated and protected particularly at the points where they adjoin the fittings. Guarding conductors.

Sufficient length shall be allowed to prevent the conductors receiving any injury through movement of the fittings and all conductors shall be protected from mechanical injury by means of leather or stout waterproof canvas hose or other approved covering.

CABLES FOR SUSPENDED BATTENS.

148. Cables connecting suspended battens shall be of one of the following classes of cable namely:— Suspended battens.

- (a) Flexible cables covered with tough rubber compound;
- (b) Vulcanized rubber insulated cables containing not less than seven strands for each conductor and enclosed in canvas hose;
- (c) Insulated flexible cables covered with slow-burning braiding;
- (d) Insulated flexible cables covered with asbestos or fire-resisting braiding;
- (e) Insulated flexible cables covered with hard cord braiding.

SUSPENSION.

149. (a) Cables connecting suspended battens shall be supported in such a manner that no pull can be applied by the conductors to any terminals to which they are connected. Suspension.

(b) Each batten shall be suspended by means of wire ropes attached to insulators on the battens to the satisfaction of the Commission.

LOADING OF CIRCUITS.

Circuit
loading.

150. Incandescent stage lighting including footlights border lights and proscenium side lights shall be so wired that the maximum current on each circuit does not exceed the limits laid down in the Wiring Regulations of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria.

ARRANGEMENT OF FITTINGS.

Fittings not
to foul
curtains.

151. No electric fitting apparatus or appliance of any description shall be so fixed or arranged that it can under any circumstances become damaged by the lowering of the proscenial curtain or of the safety curtain of the proscenium opening of the stage.

ARC LAMPS.

Arc lamps.

152. (1) Arc lamps shall not be used without special permission of the Commission.

Where an arc lamp is used it shall be—

- (a) provided with an approved double-pole switch placed within easy reach of the operator and the conductors for a distance of 2 feet from the lamp shall be covered with a fire-resisting material. In no case shall such a lamp be suspended by the conductors;
 - (b) enclosed in a suitable cover or box which shall be substantially constructed of metal of not less than 20 gauge (0.036 inch) so designed as to provide proper ventilation and prevent sparks or heated particles of carbon being emitted therefrom and so arranged that live parts of the lamp cannot come into contact therewith.
- (2) Every frame for holding a coloured medium and every masking shutter shall be of metal.
- (3) Not more than two arc lamps shall be under the control of any one operator and they shall not be more than 10 feet apart.

RESISTANCES AND CHOKE COILS.

Resistances
and choke
coils.

153. (1) Resistances and choke coils for regulating the pressure for lights or motors or for other purposes shall be mounted on incombustible bases. They shall be so protected and placed at such a distance from any combustible material that no part of the resistance or choke coil if broken can fall on such material or vice versa.

(2) Resistances shall be so designed and arranged that the maximum temperature of any part does not exceed 212° F. (100° C.).

(3) Resistances for arc lamps shall be placed in approved permanent positions and wired with their connecting terminals on the under side.

(4) Liquid resistances shall be placed in a fire-proof room reserved for the purpose. Liquid resistances with side or bottom connexions shall be mounted on frames and shall be provided with effective trays.

(5) In general all dimmer resistances shall be connected in the active conductor of the circuit and a suitable control switch for interrupting the current shall be connected on the supply side of the dimmer. All dimmers shall be suitably insulated and where two or more dimmers are installed in close proximity on different active conductors they shall be of the all-insulated type or shall have all exposed metal parts bonded together and connected to earth.

Where however the previous consent in writing of the Commission has been obtained dimmers may be installed in the neutral conductor of the circuit provided that such dimmers are of a type which will not open the circuit and a double-pole switch is inserted in the conductors of the circuit on the supply side of and in close proximity to the dimmers.

All metal work of dimmer frames shall be effectively connected to earth.

DIVISION VI.—GENERATING PLANT.

ENGINES, DYNAMOS, ETC.

Engines and
dynamos.

154. (1) Where the supply of current is or is intended to be derived from special generating plant on the premises or otherwise under the control of the proprietor use of such plant together with the switchboard and its fittings shall in all cases be subject to the Commission's approval.

(2) Boilers steam-engines gas-engines dynamos motor generators and converters when used for the supply of electricity to such premises shall be placed in such position only as shall be approved by the Commission.

(3) No other premises shall be supplied with electricity from any part of the installation of a public building.

ENGINE-ROOMS.

155. (1) Every engine-room shall be inaccessible to the public and where practicable shall have an external entrance independent of any other entrance or exit of the main building. No engine-room switch-board-room or machine room shall be used for any other purpose unless approved by the Commission. Engine-room.

(2) Gas or petrol engines shall be placed in rooms so adequately and continuously ventilated that no explosive mixture of gas or vapour and air can accumulate in such rooms. Exhaust gases shall be conducted as directly as possible to the outer air through a pipe or duct of approved size arrangement and construction.

(3) All necessary provision shall be made for keeping the temperature of the engine-rooms within proper limits. Cotton and oily waste and similar inflammable material must be kept in suitable metal receptacles which when not required to be open shall be kept closed.

ACCUMULATORS, ETC.

156. (1) Rooms in which accumulators or primary batteries are placed shall be adequately ventilated to the outside air to the satisfaction of the Commission. Accumulators.

(2) Such rooms shall be of approved fire-resisting construction and shall be used for no other purpose whatever.

(3) All batteries shall be well insulated and the floors of such rooms shall be covered with sheet lead or alternatively lead trays shall be placed under the batteries or accumulators.

SUPERVISION.

157. The generating plant and switching gear shall be under the control of a competent person. Supervision of stand-by plant.

DIVISION VII.—FIRE PRECAUTIONS.

OIL AND GAS LIGHTING.

158. Oil lamps shall have metal fonts or receivers supported on metal brackets or suspended by metal chains or metal rods. Gas brackets and oil lamp brackets shall not have movable joints. Any inflammable material if within 4 feet vertically or 2 feet horizontally of any gas or oil lamp must be protected by the intervention in the former case of a hanging and in the latter of a fixed metal shield. Every fixed shield must have an open air-space behind it. Gas oil and electric light fittings shall be at least 6 ft. 8 in. above floor level. All burners within reach of the audience shall be fitted with secret taps and protected by glass or wire globes. Oil and gas lighting.

GAS PIPES AND MAINS.

159. A stop-cock securely placed shall be attached to every gas main so that the gas supply may be instantly shut off. Gas piping.

Gas-pipes shall not be of compo nor of lead and shall be effectively protected against injury where they are within 8 feet of the floor.

MINERAL SPIRIT AND HOLLOW WIRE DISTRIBUTION AND VAPORIZED KEROSENE LIGHTING SYSTEMS.

160. The installation of mineral spirit and hollow-wire distribution systems and of vaporized kerosene or similar lighting systems shall be permitted only on condition that the rules of the Fire and Accident Underwriters' Association of Victoria for the time being are complied with and that such further requirements as the Commission may see fit to impose under the particular circumstances and conditions of each individual case are fulfilled. Non-electric lighting systems.

LIQUID FUEL.

161. Liquid fuel for furnaces or internal combustion engines shall be stored and used in accordance with the rules of the Fire and Accident Underwriters' Association of Victoria. Liquid fuel.

INFLAMMABLE FLUIDS NOT TO BE STORED.

162. No benzine naphtha turpentine or any other fluid whatsoever having a flash point of less than 102 degrees Fahrenheit nor any inflammable paints oils oily waste or any other substance liable to ignition by spontaneous combustion shall be kept stored or placed in any public building except that where an internal combustion engine is used to operate an electric generator the Commission may allow the storage of not more than 44 gallons of petrol in a single container in an approved position. Inflammable fluids.

ACCUMULATION OF INFLAMMABLE MATERIAL, ETC., FORBIDDEN.

Storage of
inflammable
material
forbidden.

163. Articles or materials of an inflammable character shall not be placed stored or accumulated on over or under the stage or platform of a public building or in over or under the auditorium or any room or compartment having at any time direct aerial communication with the auditorium or with any passageway leading directly or indirectly from the auditorium to the street. All scenic properties and decorations shall be kept free from accumulation of dust or rubbish.

INFLAMMABLE DECORATIONS.

Inflammable
decorations.

164. No inflammable decorations shall be attached directly to any conductor pipe chain wire or rod supporting any light fitting nor shall such decorations be placed within two feet of any incandescent electric lamp nor within four feet of any electric radiator or arc-lamp.

INTRODUCTION OF EXPLOSIVES.

Explosives.

165. Explosives within the meaning of the *Explosives Act* 1928 shall not be kept or stored or brought on to the premises of any public building unless contained in a fireproof safe.

PART V.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO THEATRES AND
CINEMATOGRAH HALLS ONLY.Compliance
with Part.

DIVISION I.—GENERAL.

166. The provisions of this Part shall be complied with and observed in relation to every Theatre and Cinematograph Hall.

RESTRICTION OF USE OF PREMISES.

Restriction
of use.

167. No theatre shall be constructed and no building shall be converted for use or used as a theatre if situated underneath or over any part of any other building except with special approval which approval shall not be granted unless the theatre and its entrances and exits are separated from such other building by construction of 3-hour fire-resistance rating with no opening of any kind therein.

LIVING ROOMS.

Living rooms
to be isolated.

168. In no case shall living rooms be allowed in any theatre or in any building in which a theatre is situated unless separated from the theatre by construction of 3-hour fire-resistance rating with no opening of any kind therein.

FLOOR LEVEL.

Floor levels.

169. Unless under exceptional conditions of configuration of site (of which conditions the Commission shall be sole judge) the Commission otherwise directs in every theatre the level of the floor of the stalls at the principal entrance thereto shall not be more than 6 feet above the level of the street at the entrance to the main vestibule and the level of the lowest part of the floor of the stalls shall not be lower than the level at which such floor can be effectually drained by gravitation into an available public sewer nor more than 12 feet below the mean level of the footpath of the street at the front of the theatre.

Provided that the Commission may approve of the erection of a theatre with the level of the floor of the stalls at the principal entrance thereto more than 6 feet but not more than 15 feet above the level of the said street or more than 12 feet but not more than 18 feet below the level of such street conditionally on the provision of exits in accordance with Table 2 of Regulation 36.

STAFF ROOMS.

Staff rooms
to be
provided.

170. (a) Every theatre shall be provided with changing rooms for male and female staff.
(b) such rooms shall be of such size and situation as approved by the Commission.

DIVISION II.—PROSCENIUM WALL.

171. (1) In the case of every theatre other than a cinematograph hall having a stage which is used or is intended or adapted for use for performances involving the use of stage scenery or properties such stage shall be separated from the auditorium by a proscenium wall which shall be a fire wall of 4-hour fire-resistance rating. Such wall shall be carried from a solid foundation below the stage and upwards to a height above the proscenium opening that will allow of the free working of the safety curtain hereinafter required and of all scenes being raised above the top of the proscenium opening in one piece and without rolling. Construction of proscenium wall.

(2) Such wall shall be carried up at its full thickness to a height of at least 3 feet above the roof of the auditorium such height being measured at right angles to the slope of such roof: Provided that in the case of a building which is (in the opinion of the Commission) infrequently used for theatrical purposes or which has seating accommodation for not more than 400 persons the Commission may in its discretion accept a wall of not less than 1-hour fire-resistance rating and not carried above the roof covering subject to the wall having adequate strength and stability.

(3) Not more than four openings (exclusive of the proscenium opening) shall be formed in the proscenium wall and not more than two of such openings shall be at or above the level of the stage and no such opening shall exceed 21 square feet in superficial area. Openings.

Provided that this clause shall not prohibit the use of openings in the proscenium wall which communicate only with ventilating or other ducts or chambers which are separated from the stage and its accessory compartments by construction of 2-hour fire-resistance rating.

(4) Every opening through the proscenium wall other than the proscenium opening shall be fitted with a quietly self-closing door of 2-hour fire-resistance rating and such door shall when closed overlap the opening by at least 3 inches all round the opening on the stage side thereof and shall bear in block letters on the face thereof the words "KEEP THIS DOOR SHUT" and such doors shall not be hindered from closing while the public building is occupied by the public. Doors.

(5) No opening formed in the proscenium wall shall at the lowest part be at a higher level than 3 feet above the floor of the stage.

(6) All decorations around the proscenium opening on the auditorium side of the safety curtain shall be constructed of non-inflammable material.

172. In the case of every theatre having a stage which is not used as described in the last preceding Regulation but which has a proscenium wall such wall shall be constructed as prescribed in the said Regulation except that— Proscenium construction in certain other buildings.

- (a) it may finish at the underside of the roof covering, and
- (b) the fire-resistance rating of the wall and of the doors to any openings therein and of the construction separating any ventilating duct or chamber from the stage may be reduced to one hour.

DIVISION III.—SAFETY CURTAIN AND SMOKE OUTLET.

SAFETY CURTAIN.

173. (1) In the case of every theatre other than a cinematograph hall as described in Regulation 171 the proscenium opening shall be provided with a rigid fire-resisting drop safety curtain or screen which shall be faced with sheet metal on the auditorium face and with approved wire-woven asbestos cloth on the stage face and which shall on the stage side overlap the said opening at least 12 inches at each side and 24 inches at the top and shall run in steel guides at the sides. Construction of safety curtain.

(2) The safety curtain shall be so fitted and adjusted in relation to the proscenium opening as to secure in the event of a fire occurring on the stage an efficient smoke seal at all parts of the proscenium opening when the said curtain is fully lowered. It shall close the proscenium opening without concussion. The curtain shall be designed so that it shall be capable of withstanding a pressure of approximately 10 lb. per square foot over its entire surface without undergoing sufficient flexure to interfere with its proper freedom of movement in the afore-said side guides.

(3) Every safety curtain shall when lowered be at least 1 foot distant from the footlights at the nearest point.

(4) The safety curtain shall be hung with steel cables attached to at least four points thereof and to counterbalance weights and shall be operated by hydraulic electric or other power approved.

Such cables shall be frequently tested and when defective shall be renewed. Splicing or other modes of uniting cables shall not be used without the Commission's express approval.

In addition to the regular controlling mechanism there shall be an emergency device that will permit of lowering the safety curtain from either the "Prompt" or from the "Opposite Prompt" side of the stage.

(5) The counterbalance weights of the safety curtain shall be fitted with approved guides and the spaces vertically below the said weights shall be enclosed in a substantial manner with stout woven wire or other approved material from the stage floor to a height of 8 feet above such floor so that it shall be impossible for any person to stand beneath a descending counterbalance weight.

(6) There shall be provided in accordance with the rules for the time being of the Fire and Accident Underwriters' Association of Victoria means for the application of water to the whole of the surface of the safety curtain next to the stage.

(7) Detail drawings drawn in ink or prints to a scale of not more than 2 feet per inch and setting forth the design construction and operation of the safety curtain shall be submitted for approval.

ADVERTISEMENT OF USE OF SAFETY CURTAIN.

Advertisement to be displayed.

174. (1) At every performance in a theatre other than a cinematograph hall which includes an entertainment of the stage there shall be exhibited on the safety curtain the words "SAFETY CURTAIN" in letters sufficiently large and so placed as to be legible from every part of the auditorium.

(2) Such curtain shall be lowered at the first interval of every performance in the presence of the audience and all programmes and playbills shall contain printed therein intimation that such lowering is done to advertise the fact of the curtain and its equipment being in proper working order for use in instantly cutting off the stage from the auditorium in case of outbreak of fire on the stage.

(3) At the same time as such curtain is lowered as aforesaid all lights in the auditorium not controlled from the stage switchboard shall be lighted and no wires or other fittings or fixtures provided or used in connection with gymnastic or other displays nor other apparatus or thing whatsoever shall be allowed to interfere in any way with either the lowering or the raising of the said curtain.

Time of lowering curtain.

(4) Provided that with the approval of the Commission the curtain may be lowered or raised immediately before the start of the performance instead of the first interval.

SAFETY CURTAIN IN SMALL THEATRES.

175. In any case where a stage in a theatre other than a cinematograph hall is in the opinion of the Commission infrequently used for theatrical purposes or where the building has seating accommodation for not more than 400 persons the Commission may in its discretion allow the safety curtain to be formed of wire-woven asbestos cloth or of approved flame-proofed fabric fitted to a roller of steel or iron tubing or hardwood or of other timber encased in sheet iron and equipped with approved gear for raising and lowering the curtain at will together with a sprinkler system for the automatic spraying of the curtain next to the stage with water in case of outbreak of fire.

Construction of smoke outlet.

176. (1) The stage of a theatre other than a cinematograph hall shall be provided at the back portion of the roof with a smoke outlet opening or openings aggregating at least one-tenth of the floor area of such stage and unless otherwise specially approved in the form of a lantern-light.

(2) Such smoke outlet shall be so arranged as to open automatically and instantly after outbreak of fire with the cutting or burning of a cord or by the use of fusible metal links fitted at high and low levels.

(3) Manual control of such smoke outlet shall also be provided by means of a cord running down to the stage at two points viz. one on each side of the stage.

(4) Independent openings in number and area as prescribed in Part III. Division V. hereof shall be provided for the ordinary ventilation of the stage.

(5) Detail drawings of the roof and smoke outlet in ink or prints to a scale of 4 feet per inch shall be submitted in duplicate for approval one set of such drawings or prints as approved with or without modifications or conditions being retained by the Commission for purposes of record.

(6) In any case where the stage of a theatre other than a cinematograph hall is in the opinion of the Commission infrequently used for theatrical entertainments or where the building has accommodation for not more than 400 persons the smoke outlet opening or openings may be reduced to one-twentieth of the stage floor area.

DIVISION IV.—CONSTRUCTION.

STAGE CONSTRUCTION.

177. The stage floor in a theatre other than a cinematograph hall shall be of hardwood not less than $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick with hardwood or incombustible supports or of reinforced concrete or other fire-proof construction having a wood floor laid thereon without air space. Construction of stage.

WOODWORK, ETC., OF STAGE TO BE RENDERED UNINFLAMMABLE.

178. (1) All woodwork of the stage and accessory compartments and all scenery and properties whether on the stage of or in the aforesaid compartments and consisting of inflammable material shall be painted or saturated with some approved flame-proofing solution so as to be rendered unflammable and shall be maintained in such condition. Woodwork to be unflammable.

(2) This Regulation shall not apply where the compartment concerned is equipped with an automatic wet-pipe sprinkler system complying with the rules for the time being of the Fire and Accident Underwriters Association of Victoria.

PROTECTION OF COUNTERWEIGHTS FOR SCENERY.

179. Counterbalance weights for scenery light-battens and other fittings suspended above the stage of a theatre shall be hung close to the side walls thereof and shall be either— Counter weights to be protected.

- (a) fitted with approved locking devices which will effectually prevent the accidental displacement of any of the individual weights from their frames; or
- (b) protected by guards of stout woven wire or other approved material extending from not more than 5 feet above the stage floor to the upper limit of travel of the weights. Where a fly-gallery is provided the said guards may be omitted from the space extending from the floor of such fly-gallery to not more than 5 feet above such floor.

CONSTRUCTIONAL METALWORK.

180. All constructional metalwork of a theatre which supports any wall or any floor of fire resisting construction shall be encased in concrete brick or terra-cotta of the thicknesses specified in the Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria, 1945, for 2-hour fire-resistance rating or if the said wall or floor is of a higher rating then for the fire-resistance rating of such wall or floor. Constructional metalwork.

FLY GALLERIES, GRIDIRONS, LIGHT PERCHES, ETC.

181. (1) Fly galleries bridges gridirons rigging lofts tie galleries and electric light perches in a theatre shall be of fire resisting construction as specified for stairs and designed to safely bear a live load of not less than 75 lb. per square foot. Fly galleries, &c.

(2) An approved guard-rail and midrail shall be provided along every open side of any such structure and where the floor of the said structure is not close-jointed the space between battens or boards shall not exceed two inches wide.

(3) Exits from fly galleries shall be so placed and arranged that escape can be made from each side of the stage without crossing the latter.

(4) Approved means of escape from the gridiron or rigging loft shall be provided.

FIRE ISOLATION OF WORKSHOPS, STOREROOMS, ETC.

182. (1) All workshops storerooms scene-docks property-rooms wardrobe or painting rooms in connexion with a theatre shall be placed in approved positions and shall be separated from the stage and auditorium and from each other by construction of 3-hour fire-resistance rating. Fire isolation.

(2) All openings in such walls shall be provided with approved self-closing doors of 2-hour fire-resistance rating so arranged and fitted as when closed to prevent the passage of fire or smoke through such openings and such doors shall be kept closed when the doorways are not actually and necessarily in use. The floors and ceilings of such rooms shall be of 3-hour fire-resistance rating.

(3) Scenery or properties shall not be stored in any place whatever other than in an approved storeroom or scene-dock.

(4) Scenery which has been used in an act shall be forthwith removed from the stage to the scene-dock.

SITUATION OF DRESSING-ROOMS FOR ARTISTS AND MUSICIANS.

Dressing
rooms.

183. (1) No dressing-room in a theatre shall be situated under the stage or auditorium except with the approval of the Commission. Every such dressing-room shall be placed only in a block separated from the stage and auditorium by walls of 3-hour fire-resistance rating and have only such means of communication therewith as may be approved. All such dressing-rooms shall be constructed of at least 2-hour fire-resistance rating materials and connected with exits independent of those provided for the auditorium and leading to a thoroughfare. Provided that in the case of a building which is in the opinion of the Commission infrequently used for theatrical purposes or which has accommodation for not more than 400 persons the Commission may accept a wall of not less than 1-hour fire-resistance rating between the dressing rooms and the stage or auditorium and may accept less than 2-hour fire-resistance rating for the construction for the dressing rooms.

(2) All dressing-rooms shall be provided with movable windows placed in the external walls thereof and formed of steel or iron sashes glazed with wired glass in accordance with the specification of the Fire and Accident Underwriters Association of Victoria and operating in steel or iron frames.

(3) Such windows shall not be obstructed by iron or other bars or other hindrance to the use of the window openings as supernumerary means of access for the purpose of escape or rescue.

BALUSTRADES AND HANDRAILS TO BE PROVIDED TO BALCONIES WHEN REQUIRED.

Balustrades
hand rails
when
required.

184. (1) In the case of every theatre where balconies galleries (other than fly and tie galleries) circles or boxes are provided a parapet balustrading and handrail of approved design shall be provided along the open side or sides thereof and the height of such handrail above the level of the adjacent floor of such balcony gallery circle or box shall be in no case less than 2 ft. 3 in. and when the slope of the tier exceeds 20 degrees the said height shall be increased to 3 feet where opposite the lower end of an aisle or gangway.

(2) Balustrading or guard-railing not less than 2 feet high shall be provided along the forward edge of any cross-gangway where the backs of the seats on the next lower plat do not rise more than 18 inches above the level of the said cross-gangway and such balustrading or handrailing shall be returned down each side of each longitudinal gangway as far as the forward extremities of the seats on the next lower plat.

(3) Similar balustrading or guard-railing shall be provided along the forward edge of the seating plat next above every cross-gangway when the rise from gangway to plat exceeds 12 inches.

DIVISION V.—EXITS.

DIMENSIONS OF VESTIBULES.

Vestibule
exits.

185. In the case of every theatre where vestibules or entrance halls are provided the united widths of all the doorways or other exit openings that lead from a vestibule or entrance hall towards a thoroughfare or way shall be at least one-third greater than the aggregate width of all exits leading thereto: Provided that where the total width as so determined is not a multiple of 20 inches the Commission may accept the next lower multiple.

The interior height of every vestibule or entrance hall shall be not less than 10 feet.

EXITS—NUMBERS AND WIDTHS.

Theatre
exits.

186. (1) In every theatre exits for each compartment of the building and for the building as a whole and placed as far apart as practicable shall be provided and be of at least the number and widths set forth in Regulation 36.

(2) In the case of a theatre having one frontage only not less than one-third nor more than one-half of the required width of exits from the main floor and from the first tier shall discharge into the main vestibule.

(3) In the case of a theatre having more than one frontage the proportion of exits discharging to the main vestibule may be varied at the discretion of the Commission.

(4) If any floor be divided into two or more parts exits as set out in Regulation 36 shall be provided for each of such parts.

EXITS FROM STAGE AND DRESSING-ROOMS.

187. Exits from the opposite sides of the stage of a theatre other than a cinematograph hall and two exits from the dressing-room block of a theatre arranged so far as practicable as to afford alternative means of escape from those parts of the theatre shall be provided and arranged so as to communicate directly with courts or thoroughfares. The width of each exit shall not be less than 3 ft. 4 in. unless otherwise specially approved by the Commission.

Exits from
dressing
rooms.

Provided that in the case of a dressing-room block of fire-proof construction throughout and consisting of not more than two floors above the ground floor and having not more than two dressing-rooms on any floor the Commission may accept one central fire-proof stair as sufficient means of exit from the block.

DOOR FASTENINGS.

188. The public exit doors of every theatre shall be fastened only by means of approved automatic panic bolts and all doors so fastened shall have the words "PUSH BAR TO OPEN" or other appropriate notice painted on them in block letters at least 2 inches high.

Door
fastenings in
theatres.

Provided that on the external doors of the main entrance from the street to any floor or tier bolts complying with Regulation 45 (b) hereof may be used instead of automatic panic bolts.

DIVISION VI.—FIRE PRECAUTIONS.

SAFETY LIGHTS.

189. (1) In every portion of the auditorium of a theatre where the floor is stepped or is at an inclination steeper than 1 in 12 the proprietor shall provide aisle lights fitted to the ends of the rows of seats and suitably spaced and hooded or other approved system of lighting which will effectively illuminate the whole length of each aisle and the tread of each step therein; and he shall cause such lights to be illuminated during the whole time that the theatre is occupied by the public and the auditorium lights are dimmed or extinguished.

Safety lights.

Provided that the Commission may require aisle lights in other parts of the auditorium of a theatre if (in the opinion of the Commission) the illumination thereof during public occupation of the auditorium is inadequate.

(2) During the whole time any of the public are on the premises of a theatre auxiliary or safety lamps showing a distinct red light shall be securely fixed and placed over the inner face of every exit and such lamps shall be kept lighted so as to render visible to the audience the word "EXIT" hereinbefore required to be marked in plain block letters not less than 5 inches high over each exit on the interior side thereof.

Safety lights
to be securely
fixed.

(3) Such auxiliary or safety lamps required by the last preceding clause shall be electric lamps equipped with independent self-contained battery current supply.

190. Auxiliary or safety lamps required by paragraph (2) of the preceding Regulation with a white light displayed shall be provided over each stairway in such positions as to render the whole stairway clearly visible in event of failure of the usual lighting system and such lamps shall be kept lighted during the whole time that any of the public are in the building.

Safety lights
to be electric.

HEATING APPARATUS, GAS-GENERATING APPLIANCES, ETC.

191. No heating apparatus gas generator retort producer gas holder oil supply tank or reservoir gas-meter steam-boiler steam-pipe or steam or other engine shall be located within any theatre nor elsewhere upon the premises except in an approved position.

Heating
apparatus.

Fireplaces. No fireplaces or stoves shall be allowed within the main walls of the auditorium or stage of any theatre and all fireplaces in other portions of the premises shall be fitted with approved fenders and wire guards of mesh not exceeding $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch fixed in position except where necessary openings to afford access to the fireplace are required.

USE OF FIREWORKS.

Fireworks. 192. (1) No fireworks or pistol or other shots shall be ignited or discharged on the premises of any theatre unless and until regulations numbered 193 to 196 (both inclusive) hereof have been observed.

(2) The plugging of cartridges or other containers of the explosive used for causing such shots shall consist only of wads of cowhair or other approved material.

(3) No preparation of fireworks shall take place on the premises of a theatre.

FIRE ALARM.

Fire alarm. 193. Every theatre shall be connected directly with the nearest fire brigade station by direct telephone fire alarm or other approved system where such station is constantly manned and is (in the opinion of the Commission) not unreasonably distant from the theatre. The position and number of such alarms shall be determined by the Chief Officer of such brigade or by some officer authorized by him or by an officer authorized by the Commission in that behalf. Such installation shall be inspected and approved by such officer.

FIRE APPLIANCES.

Fire appliances on stage. 194. Every theatre which is used for entertainments of the stage shall be provided with continuously on each side of the stage and in the flies in conspicuous positions and for use for the purpose of taking down hanging scenery in case of fire a sharp-edged fire hatchet and a sharp-edged steel fire hook affixed to a pole long enough to admit of the uppermost portions of scenery being reached by such hook such hatchet and hook being when not in use suspended at a convenient height above the stage door and in the flies respectively.

FIRE-EXTINGUISHING APPLIANCES.

Fire service. 195. (1) Every theatre shall wherever practicable be provided with such number of hydrants of approved pattern each of a diameter of not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches as the Commission shall require and connected by a pipe of at least $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter with a street or other public water-main at least 4 inches in diameter and where placed in corridors passageways or on stairways such hydrants shall be recessed into the walls and the recesses shall be fitted with doors hinged to open completely.

A stop-valve shall be provided on every fire-service pipe of a type and in a position approved by the Chief Officer of the Fire Brigade in charge of the district or by an officer authorized by him.

Water pressure required. A water pressure of at least 30 lb. per square inch shall be maintained in the hydrants in the flies and in the upper tiers of such buildings.

Each such hydrant shall be provided with at least a 30-ft. length of sound hose in good order attached thereto and provided with fittings of pattern approved by the duly constituted Fire Brigade Board in charge of the District for the time being and properly supported in metal swinging brackets or in the form of a figure 8 on bollards.

Chemical extinguishers. (2) One approved chemical hand fire extinguisher of two Imperial gallons capacity and of a type approved by the Fire and Accident Underwriters' Association of Victoria shall be provided and placed on a strong bracket or suspended from a hook near each fire hydrant and in such other positions as the Commission may require.

Such hydrants and chemical fire-extinguishers shall be in approved positions.

Water tanks required where no water service. (3) In all theatre premises other than a cinematograph where there is no constant supply of water or where the water-main available has not sufficient discharging capacity or does not contain water at sufficient pressure there shall be provided in approved positions tanks or cisterns kept filled with water supplied by means of an approved service pipe and fitted with a ballcock and conducting water from the street main or by some other method approved.

Such tanks or cisterns shall be capable of containing at least 250 gallons of water for every 100 persons the theatre is capable of accommodating and shall be properly protected and maintained in good order and condition.

Water-pipes not less than 3 inches diameter shall be connected with such tanks or cisterns and have attached to them hydrants in such positions and in such manner as shall be approved.

(4) Woollen blankets or woollen rugs and chemical fire-extinguishers ^{Stage appliances.} as previously herein described in such numbers and positions as shall be approved shall be kept on the stage in the flies scene-stores property-rooms and in the passageways of immediate approach to the dressing-rooms of such premises and attention shall be directed to them by placards legibly printed or painted and kept fixed immediately above them.

AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM.

196. Every theatre other than a cinematograph hall shall be provided with an automatic sprinkler system complying with the rules for the time being of the Fire and Accident Underwriters' Association of Victoria. Such sprinkler system shall serve the whole or any specified portion or portions of the theatre as the Commission may direct. ^{Sprinkler system.}

Provided that the Commission may accept an approved automatic fire alarm system in lieu of a sprinkler system except for the stage and its accessory compartments.

DIVISION VII.—CINEMATOGRAPHS.

CONSTRUCTION, ETC., OF PROJECTOR.

197. Every projector and every appliance or thing connected therewith installed or used in a public building shall comply with the following provisions and requirements:—

- (1) The projector shall be so constructed and designed as to eliminate as far as possible danger of fire or explosion. ^{Construction of projector.}
- (2) The lantern the body of which shall be constructed of metal shall be enclosed in such a manner as to prevent the escape of pieces of incandescent carbon.
- (3) Every projector shall be placed on firm supports of fire-resisting construction and shall be fitted with a hand-operated shutter and an approved device which shall operate instantly and automatically to protect the film from ignition by heat rays from the illuminant in the event of breakage or stoppage or bunching or looping of the film: Provided that no such device shall be required with respect to any projector in which the source of illumination is an incandescent metal filament lamp of not more than 1,000 watts.
- (4) The film gate shall be of substantial fire-resisting construction and provided with ample heat radiation surface and the passageway for the film shall be sufficiently narrow to prevent flame travelling upwards or downwards from the light opening. The said gate shall be so protected as to prevent the heat from the illuminant from being concentrated upon any other portion of the film than that exposed in the aperture. ^{Film gate.}
- (5) Film passing through the projector shall be wound as fast as it emerges from the projector leaving only the shortest possible portion of film exposed to the light.
- (6) The frame discs of spools containing film shall be formed of incombustible material and shall together with the whole length of film other than the portions necessarily exposed be entirely enclosed in boxes or cases made of incombustible material without the use of solder and of substantial construction with an internal diameter not exceeding that necessary for accommodation of 2,000 lineal feet of film and fitted with a fire-trap or other apparatus which shall effectually prevent ignition of the film contained therein.

SPOOLS.

198. (1) No split spool or overloaded spool shall be run in any theatre during any time such theatre is occupied by the public and during such time no film shall be run on to the floor of the cabin. ^{Overloaded and split spools prohibited.}

(2) No film which is perished or damaged or has torn sprocket holes or defective joints shall be exhibited in a theatre during any time such theatre is occupied by the public. ^{Damaged film.}

PROJECTOR TO BE IN A FIRE-FROOF CABIN.

199. Every projector when in use in a theatre shall stand in a compartment cabin room booth or box (hereinafter called a cabin) of fire-resisting construction and such cabin shall be of a permanent character and fixed in position.

CONSTRUCTION OF CABIN.

Construction of cabin.

200. Every cabin in a theatre shall be of the dimensions and to be constructed ventilated and equipped as follows, viz:—

Dimensions of cabin.

- (1) Such cabin shall be so located and constructed as to allow the operator at all times safe and convenient means of ingress and egress and to permit of the safe and expeditious use of the fire-extinguishing apparatus either from inside or outside the cabin in case of fire or accident involving risk of fire.
- (2) Such cabin shall have an internal height of not less than 7 feet 6 inches and a floor space and horizontal sectional area according to the number of picture-projecting appliances accommodated therein as follows, viz:—

Cabin No.	Number of Projectors Accommodated in the Cabin.	Minimum Horizontal Internal Dimensions of such Cabin.
1	1	6 feet wide by 9 feet deep
2	2	9 " 9 "
3	2 and 1 stereopticon ..	12 " 9 "

Provided that when any re-winding bench battery gramophone or other appliance is installed or to be installed in a cabin the size of the cabin shall be increased to the satisfaction of the Commission and that there shall be provided and maintained in every cabin from the operator's working position at each projector to the cabin doorways a passageway with a clear width of at least 2 feet at all points.

Provided also that the depth of an existing cabin not less than 8 feet deep shall not be required to be increased if the 2-feet wide passageway is maintained.

Walls and ceilings of cabins.

- (3) The walls and ceiling of such cabin shall be constructed of or lined with approved fire-resisting material and the floor shall be of tongued and grooved boards of jarrah or red-gum not less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch thick or of approved hardwood not less than $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch thick or of concrete with insulating mats alongside each projector and in front of the switchboard.

If approved wallboards are used for lining the walls of the cabin they must be fixed on a continuous backing of hardwood boarding at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick up to a height of at least 5 feet above the floor.

Doors in cabin.

- (4) Every such cabin shall be provided with two doorways affording means of exit from the cabin. Each such doorway shall be fitted with a door which shall open outwards and be fire-resisting self-closing and smokeproof and which shall except during its actual use in entering or leaving the cabin be kept closed while the building is in public occupation: Provided that where the Commission is satisfied that it is not practicable to provide a second doorway it may accept some other provision for the safety of the operator.

No such doorway shall be less than 2 feet wide and 6 feet high or more than 2 feet 9 inches wide and 7 feet high.

Provided that a cabin capable of accommodating only one projector may have only one doorway.

Doors to smoke locks.

- (5) Every door of the cabin which opens into the auditorium of a theatre shall have between such door and the auditorium a smoke-lock compartment not less than 10 square feet in area lined and ceiled with fire-resisting material and having a bell-mouthed upcast outlet ventilator at least 6 inches in diameter and otherwise complying with clause (9) of this Regulation. The door from every smoke-lock to the auditorium shall open outwards and be self-closing and smoke-proof.

- (6) Every exit door from a cabin and every door between the smoke-lock and the auditorium of a theatre shall be secured only with a fastening capable of being operated from both sides thereof without the use of a key during such times as the cabin is in use for the projection of cinematograph pictures. ^{Door fastenings.}

- (7) When the sill of an exit doorway of any cabin is more than 20 inches above the floor or ground outside it a landing at least 3 feet square and having a guard rail on all its unprotected sides and a stair or a fixed ladder from the said landing to the floor or ground beneath shall be provided: ^{Provision of landing.}

Provided that the Commission may approve of the use of a movable ladder on being satisfied that the cabin is used infrequently.

- (8) Every such cabin shall have at least one external wall the outer surface of which shall be in complete contact with the outer atmosphere. Either in the floor or in one of the external walls at a level not more than 6 inches above the cabin floor a fresh air opening or openings aggregating the following areas shall be formed, viz.:— ^{Cabin ventilation.}

	Square inches.
No. 1 cabin (see table in clause 2 hereof) . . .	150
" 2 " " " " " " . . .	180
" 3 " " " " " " . . .	210

Such opening or openings shall be fitted with flues formed of galvanized iron or other approved incombustible material leading to the outer air. The external entrance to each such flue shall be guarded with a shield or wind baffle and the inner entrance thereto shall be protected with wire mesh of No. 19 B.W.G. galvanized wire having a mesh of 9 per linear inch and shall be fitted with an adjustable damper.

Provided that the Commission may approve of the construction of a cabin without an external wall on condition that the cabin is fitted with an independent system of mechanical ventilation to the satisfaction of the Commission. No ventilating duct serving a cabin or re-winding room shall communicate with a duct serving any other portion of the theatre.

- (9) In the ceiling of every such cabin there shall be one or more circular openings each connected by a metal bell-mouth to an upcast outlet ventilation flue of appropriate size and constructed of galvanized iron or other approved incombustible material and extended upwards without bends or angles to the outer atmosphere and fitted at its upper end with a cowl. ^{Outlet ventilation.}

Where one such opening is provided it shall be at or near the centre of the ceiling and where two or more are provided one shall be above each projector.

For No. 1 cabin the diameter of the opening in the ceiling shall be at least $13\frac{1}{2}$ inches and that of the flue at least 9 inches and for Nos. 2 and 3 cabins the diameters of the openings shall be at least 12 inches and those of the flues at least 8 inches.

To assist the ventilation of the cabin the lantern of each projector shall (except when an incandescent filament lamp machine is used) be fitted with a metal flue of not less than 3 inches diameter leading into the bell-mouth of an outlet ventilation flue.

Whenever required by the Commission the said outlet ventilation flues shall be fitted with electric exhaust fans.

- (10) Openings in the front wall of the cabin shall not be larger nor more numerous than necessary and shall not in ordinary circumstances exceed 70 square inches each in area for observation openings and 180 square inches each for projection openings. ^{Port openings.}

Provided that the Commission (if convinced of the necessity thereof) may allow openings in excess of the latter size to be formed on condition that they are fitted with approved fire-shutters.

- (11) Every such opening (when not fitted with an approved fire-shutter) shall be fitted with a shutter of sheet iron of not less than No. 16 B.W.G. thickness sliding vertically in metal guides extending to a height at least equal to that of the shutter above the top of the opening and closely and securely attached to the inner face of the wall and with a solid sill or stop between the guides and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch or more below the lower edge of the opening.

All such shutters in any cabin shall be linked up to an approved tripping device capable of being actuated from the right hand side of each projector and from each cabin doorway and which when operated shall instantly and simultaneously release the whole of the shutters so that the same will fall and completely close and overlap the said openings and prevent the escape thereby from the cabin of fire or smoke.

- (12) There shall be no exposed wooden rafters ceiling joists or cover strips in any cabin and all necessary stands benches tables shelves or cabinets shall be constructed of or covered with fire-resisting material.

REWINDING AND STORAGE OF FILM.

Rewinding
film.

201. No film shall be rewound or stored in a public building during public occupation thereof except under the following conditions, viz:—

- (1) Film shall not be rewound in the cabin unless the rewinding bench is screened from the projectors by a fire-resisting partition extending from floor to ceiling and of sufficient length to prevent effectively the ignition of film on the bench from burning film on the projector and vice versa and unless the dimensions of the cabin exclusive of the portion thus screened off are at least as great as set out in Regulation 200 (2) hereof and unless inlet and outlet ventilators as set out in the next succeeding clause are provided for the portion of the cabin so screened off.
- (2) If rewinding of film is done elsewhere on the premises than in the cabin it shall be done in a room of fire-resisting construction which shall comply with Regulation 200 (4), (6), (7), (8), and (9) hereof except that only one doorway shall be required and that the minimum area for the inlet ventilator shall be 100 square inches and the minima diameters of the opening in the ceiling and of the outlet ventilation flue shall be 12 inches and 8 inches respectively.
- (3) All film on the premises of a public building (including all pieces and cuttings of film not actually in use and not stored in a cabinet or vault as described in the next following clause shall be kept in a fireproof container having a self-closing fire-proof lid or door.
- (4) If a greater quantity of film than is required for two complete programmes is kept in any public building it shall be stored in cabinets or vaults complying with the rules of the Fire and Accident Underwriters' Association of Victoria for the time being.

Film to be in
containers.

PRECAUTIONS IN CABIN.

Projector to
have licensed
operator.

202. During the projection of cinematograph pictures in a theatre—

- (1) Every projector during the exhibition of film shall be constantly attended by a licensed operator or the holder of a permit under the provisions of the Cinematograph Operators Regulations and during such exhibition there shall also be within the cabin a second licensed operator or an approved trainee within the meaning of the said Regulations. Provided that this clause shall not apply to a Junior projector when film is being exhibited for purposes other than gain or reward.
- (2) No person other than the operator approved trainee manager fireman or an authorized officer of the Commission or the Council shall be within the cabin whilst the theatre is occupied by the public; and no person except the operator and approved trainee shall remain therein longer than necessary to carry out his business or duty.

Authorized
persons only
in cabin.

- (3) A conspicuous notice comprising the words "SMOKING PROHIBITED" shall be posted and kept posted in every such cabin rewinding room and battery room. No smoking sign required.
- (4) During the whole time a public building is in public occupation there shall be kept inside the said cabin and hanging on a wall thereof in a position conveniently accessible from the projectors for use only in case of fire two pieces of blanket manufactured wholly from asbestos measuring at least 2 feet 6 inches by 3 feet apiece and also for every projector accommodated in such cabin at least one 5 lb. capacity CO₂ extinguisher approved by the Fire and Accident Underwriters' Association of Victoria hanging as aforesaid; and in the said cabin there shall also be provided and kept for use in case of fire a 2-gallon bucket full of clean dry sand furnished with a scoop (having a wooden or insulated handle) for the throwing of such sand; and a similar fire-extinguisher and a bucket of sand and a scoop shall be kept in every rewinding room except where such rewinding room is a portion of the cabin screened off for the rewinding of film as required in regulation 201 (1). Fire appliances required in cabin and rewind room.

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER.

203. (1) Except with the special approval of the Commission and subject to such conditions as the Commission may impose no illuminant other than electric light may be used for the projector or for the cabin rewinding room or battery room and every lighting bulb therein shall be protected from damage to the satisfaction of the Commission.

(2) Except with the approval of the Commission an electrical resistance shall not be placed within any cabin but in an approved position outside the same.

Resistances shall be so designed and arranged that the maximum temperature of any part does not exceed 212° F. (100° C.).

They shall be so arranged that the heat radiated shall not injuriously or inconveniently affect the operator.

(3) The general lighting of the auditorium shall not under any circumstances be controlled solely from a cinematograph cabin.

Switches controlling auditorium lighting may be placed in the cinematograph cabin provided that where the whole of the auditorium lighting is controlled by switches in such cabin the switches controlling a sufficient number of lights to illuminate effectively the whole of each division of the auditorium shall be wired in parallel with switches on the main switchboard or on a switchboard in an approved position near the main entrance door to the stalls. Electric light and power to projectors, &c.

No switches or cutouts except those required by the operator during a performance shall be installed within a cinematograph cabin.

(4) Every switchboard control circuit-breaker motor generator and rotary converter installed in a cinematograph cabin shall be so safeguarded as to protect effectively the projector and the film from the effects of short circuits electrical earths and other electrical faults.

(5) Every electric fan used exclusively for ventilating a cinematograph cabin shall be controlled by a switch placed within the cinematograph cabin and near the entrance door thereof.

(6) All cables in a cinematograph cabin shall be enclosed in steel conduit. Such conduit shall not be laid across the floor of the cabin.

(7) The main conductors supplying electricity for cinematograph projectors and accessories shall be taken as a separate circuit from the motor generator rotary converter or transformer terminals or from some other suitable source of supply. Switches and cutouts suitable for controlling and protecting such circuit shall be inserted at a point from which the supply is taken and in addition a double pole switch shall be fitted in the circuit within the cinematograph cabin.

(8) Each final sub-circuit supplying a motor driving any portion of the cinematograph apparatus shall be protected by the cutouts or other apparatus required under the Wiring Regulations of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria for the protection of similar circuits.

(9) Portable lamps on flexible cords shall not be used in any cinematograph cabin.

(10) Lampholders on pendant flexible conductors shall be of the all-insulated pattern.

(11) A metal receptacle for carbon ends which are removed from the lamps shall be provided and shall be so constructed as to prevent heated carbon from coming into contact with any inflammable material.

"JUNIOR" PROJECTORS.

Conditions
for use.

204. The provisions of this Division except the provisions set out in regulation 202 (1) hereof shall not apply to the use in public buildings other than theatres of "Junior" projectors: But the following measures shall be effected where such a projector is used, viz:—

- (1) A carbon tetrachloride fire-extinguisher of one quart capacity shall be kept close to the apparatus when in use for fire-extinction purposes.
- (2) No unauthorized person shall be allowed within 5 feet of the projector.
- (3) The projector shall be so placed that it shall not obstruct any aisle gangway exit doorway passage or vestibule.
- (4) The lamp used to illuminate the film shall be of the incandescent metal filament type of not more than 1,000 watts.

ADVERTISEMENT OF POSITIONS OF EXITS.

Position of
exits to be
shown on
curtain or
screen.

205. Upon the safety curtain prescribed for use in a theatre there shall be depicted or projected for a period of fully one-half minute immediately before the curtain is raised at the beginning of every performance and in any theatre where such a curtain is not so required there shall be projected on the picture screen for a period of fully one-half minute immediately before the first picture is shown and during the interval a diagram showing in bold outline the relative positions of the stage and the stalls floor and circle and gallery and numbered in progressive serial order the positions of the various exits leading from the building at each such floor level with a brief note of the names of the public thoroughfares to which such exits respectively lead and with a prominent intimation that "RED LIGHTS INDICATE EXITS" over the words of advice "OBSERVE NOW THE EXIT NEAREST TO YOUR SEAT."

PART VI.—EMPLOYMENT OF FIREMEN.

Interpreta-
tion.

206. (1) In this part, notwithstanding the interpretation in regulation 3:—

"Theatre" means a theatre in which there is an entertainment of the stage involving the use of movable or inflammable scenery or properties; and

"Cinematograph Hall" includes all other theatres.

Firemen to
be provided.

(2) The proprietor or person in charge or in control of a theatre or cinematograph hall shall during the time such theatre or cinematograph hall is occupied by the public cause a fireman or firemen as the case may require in accordance with the following scale to be in attendance on the premises; viz:—

Seating Capacity.	Number of Firemen.	
	Theatre.	Cinematograph Hall.
501 to 1,000 persons	1	1
1,001 to 2,000 persons	2	1
2,001 to 3,000 persons	3	2
Over 3,000 persons	As shall be specially determined by the Commission in each case.	

Schedule.

(3) In every theatre wherever situated and in every cinematograph hall within that portion of the City of Melbourne bounded by Latrobe Spring Flinders and Spencer streets a fireman or firemen as required by the foregoing table shall be employed at every session.

(4) In every cinematograph hall not within that portion of the City of Melbourne described in the preceding clause a fireman or firemen as required by the foregoing table shall be employed at every evening session and at every day session on Saturdays and public holidays.

(5) In every case where in the opinion of the Commission the circumstances so require the number of firemen in attendance and the number of sessions during which a fireman or firemen shall be in attendance shall be increased or decreased by the proprietor accordingly.

(6) The number of persons referred to in paragraph (2) under the heading of "Seating Capacity" shall be ascertained in the following manner:—

Method of
computing
seating
capacity.

- (a) In the case of a public building having permanent fixed seating: the actual number of persons for whom seats are provided and as shown on a seating plan approved by the Commission; and
- (b) in the case of a public building not having permanent fixed seating: the number of persons shall be determined in accordance with regulation 26.

QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES OF FIREMEN.

207. (1) Every such fireman shall be a skilled fireman and a member of a "Brigade" within the meaning of the *Fire Brigades Act* 1928 or (in the case of a cinematograph hall) a person thereto authorized whether generally or specifically by a "Chief Officer" within the meaning of that Act and registered with the Commission and hereinafter referred to as a fire guard.

(2) Every such fireman or fire guard shall commence duty at least fifteen minutes before the public building is opened to the public and shall remain on duty until the building is vacated by the public or until he is relieved by another fireman or fire guard and no fire guard shall carry out during a performance any work (except as required herein) which necessitates his absence from the auditorium or foyer or any work which may prevent him from carrying out his duties as a fire guard under these Regulations.

(3) Every fireman shall wear the uniform of the Fire Brigade whilst on duty and every fire guard shall wear a red brassard and a red lapel button not less than 4 inches in diameter each bearing the words "Fire Guard" in white block letters.

Standing
orders for
firemen.

(4) Every such fireman shall—

- (a) inspect the building before the commencement of the performance or meeting to ascertain that all fire extinguishing appliances are in position and ready for use; that there is no accumulation of inflammable material contrary to Regulations 163 and 221 (2); that all exit doors and their fastenings are in good order and unobstructed internally or externally; and that all required auxiliary and external lamps are lighted;
- (b) bring under the notice of the manager or person in charge any faults found during such inspection and if such faults are not remedied promptly report the facts in writing to his superior officer for transmission to the Commission;
- (c) report to the manager or person in charge any breach of the Regulations regarding overcrowding or obstruction of aisles gangways or exits and if such breach is not rectified immediately report the matter forthwith to an authorized officer or a member of the Police Force;
- (d) prevent smoking (except where such smoking forms part of the play or performance) in the auditorium or gallery or on over or under the stage and in the dressing-rooms or store-rooms;
- (e) patrol the theatre or cinematograph hall during the performance as may be necessary and when not so patrolling take up a position such that he can readily observe and approach any outbreak of fire: Provided that in the case of an entertainment on the stage where there is only one fireman he shall take up his position on the stage when not patrolling the theatre and where there are two or more firemen one shall give his whole attention to the stage and its accessory compartments;
- (f) generally as far as practicable prevent the outbreak of fire and in the case of such outbreak take prompt steps to control it; and
- (g) report to his superior officer for transmission to the Commission the occurrence on the premises of any fire or any alarm of fire with all particulars which afford information as to the cause of the fire or alarm and of the means used for extinguishing the fire.

Standing
orders for
fire guards.

(5) Every such fire guard shall—

- (a) inspect the public building before the commencement of the performance or meeting to ascertain that all fire extinguishing appliances are in position and ready for use; that there is no accumulation of inflammable material contrary to Regulations 163 and 221 (2); that all exit doors and their fastenings are in good order and unobstructed internally and externally; and that all required auxiliary and external lamps are lighted;
- (b) bring under the notice of the manager or person in charge or in control any faults found during such inspection and if such faults are not remedied promptly report the facts in writing to the Secretary of the Commission;
- (c) report to the manager or person in charge or in control any breach of the Regulations regarding overcrowding or obstruction of aisles gangways or exits and if such breach is not rectified immediately report the matter forthwith to an authorized officer or a member of the Police Force;
- (d) prevent smoking in the auditorium and in any other part of the public building where smoking is prohibited by any Regulations;
- (e) patrol the theatre or cinematograph hall during the performance as may be necessary and when not so patrolling be in a position such that he can readily observe any outbreak of fire and reach a telephonic or other fire alarm;
- (f) in the event of any outbreak of fire summon the Fire Brigade and notify the manager or person in charge or in control and thereafter take suitable action to control the fire or to direct the public to the exits;
- (g) enter in a log-book the fact that he was on duty, the time at which he began and ended such duty that he made the inspections required by paragraph (a) of this sub-regulation that all appliances door fastenings and exit doors were in order or if not in what manner they were defective or failed to comply with these Regulations and the nature of any other duties required of him during his period of duty as a fire guard;

Log book.

- (h) such log-book shall be in the form of Schedule "D" to these Regulations.

Log book to
be produced
on demand.

(6) The proprietor or the person in charge or in control of a theatre or cinematograph hall at which a fireguard is required to be employed by these Regulations shall provide a log-book as prescribed in the Schedule; and such proprietor or person shall keep such log-book at such theatre or cinematograph hall and produce it on demand to an authorized officer.

EMPLOYMENT OF FIREMEN ON OTHER THAN THEATRE PREMISES.

Firemen in
buildings
other than
theatres.

208. Notwithstanding any provision contained in the Regulations the Commission may if in its opinion the circumstances of the case shall warrant such action require the persons referred to in paragraph (2) of Regulation 206 to cause a skilled fireman or firemen to be in attendance and fulfil the duties hereinbefore described and the foregoing Regulations concerning such attendance and duties shall *mutatis mutandis* be held to apply in such case.

PART VII.—GENERAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY.

Police to
prevent over-
crowding.

209. Every member of the Police Force and every authorized officer is hereby empowered and required to prevent persons entering any public building when there is at the time of such prevention within such building the number of persons permitted by these Regulations to occupy the aggregate area thereof.

Conditions
regarding
re-winding
and storage
of film.

210. No person shall rewind or store any cinematograph film in a public building during the time any member of the public is in or on such premises unless such person complies with or observes the conditions contained in Regulation 201; except as otherwise specifically provided in these Regulations.

Operator to
submit a
report when
required.

211. Every person operating or using a projector in a public building shall when required so to do by the Commission furnish to the Commission a written report concerning such projectors.

212. No operator of a cinematograph projector installed or used in a public building shall while such building is occupied by the public run any split spool or overloaded spool or run film on to the floor of the cabin in which such projector is installed or used.

Split and overloaded spools prohibited.

213. No such operator shall exhibit or attempt to exhibit in a public building any film which is perished or damaged or has torn sprocket holes or defective joints while the building is occupied by the public.

Use of damaged film prohibited.

214. The operator of a projector installed or used in any public building shall keep the same clean and in good working order and condition and shall take charge of a film after it has passed through such projector.

Projector to be maintained.

215. No person when the public building concerned is open to the public shall smoke in any re-winding room or battery room or in a cabin required by these Regulations nor introduce into such rooms or cabin any matches or any naked flame.

Smoking in cabins, &c., prohibited.

216. The proprietor the person in charge or in control of a public building shall not allow an operator of a cinematograph projector installed or used in such public building to do any of the matters prohibited by the preceding Regulations.

Proprietor to enforce observation of Regulations.

217. The proprietor or person in charge or in control of a public building shall arrange with the Chief Officer of the brigade in charge of the district concerned for the periodical inspection and testing of all fire-extinguishing appliances and in the event of any such appliance being found by the inspecting officer of the Fire Brigade to be defective shall on receipt of a report to that effect forthwith cause the defect to be remedied.

Fire appliances to be tested periodically.

218. The proprietor the person in charge or in control of a theatre other than a cinematograph hall shall report to the Commission any failure in the raising lowering or use of the safety curtain provided in such theatre.

Failure of safety curtain to be reported.

219. The proprietor the person in charge or in control of a theatre shall print on all programmes distributed or used in such theatre a diagram of the description set forth in Regulation 205.

Exits to be shown on programmes.

220. The proprietor the person in charge or in control of a theatre shall keep a copy of these Regulations upon such premises. Such copy of Regulations shall be always available for inspection on demand by an authorized officer.

Copy of Regulations to be kept.

221. (1) The proprietor the person in charge or in control of a public building shall maintain discipline upon the premises and shall at all times cause the premises to be maintained in a proper state of cleanliness.

Discipline and cleanliness to be maintained.

(2) He shall cause, all hay straw or other combustible properties required for a performance to be when not in actual use for the purposes of such performance either removed from the premises or placed in a closed fire-resisting receptacle. He shall not cause permit or allow shavings waste paper or other rubbish to accumulate but shall cause the same to be removed from the premises daily and at least one hour before the public begins to assemble in the auditorium of the public building.

Refuse not allowed to accumulate.

PART VIII.—OFFENCES AND PENALTIES.

222. If any of the persons mentioned in Regulation 10 fails to comply with or observe the provisions of Divisions II. to IX. (both inclusive) of Part III. and the provisions of Parts IV. and V. of these Regulations such person shall be guilty of a breach thereof and liable to a penalty of not more than One hundred pounds; and in the case of a continuing offence a further daily penalty of not more than Ten pounds.

Responsibility and penalties.

223. Every person who does not do anything directed to be done or does anything forbidden to be done by these Regulations shall be guilty of a breach thereof and liable to a penalty of not more than One hundred pounds; and in the case of a continuing offence a further daily penalty of not more than Ten pounds.

Penalty for breach of Regulations.

224. Every fire guard who makes any false or misleading entry in a log-book required by these Regulations shall be guilty of a breach thereof and liable to a penalty of not more than Twenty pounds.

False entry by fireguard.

225. Any person who without the written authority of the Commission—

Penalty regarding closing orders.

- (a) removes or defaces or causes or permits to be removed or defaced any notice which has been affixed by the direction of the Commission to the door of a building pursuant to Regulation 226; or

- (b) breaks or removes or causes or permits to be broken or removed any seal affixed by the direction of the Commission to the main entrance door or any other door of a building pursuant to such Regulation; or
- (c) uses or causes or permits to be used a public building within the meaning of the Health Acts any building to which an order pursuant to such Regulation is in force shall be guilty of an offence against these Regulations and liable to a penalty of not more than Twenty pounds.

PART IX.—CLOSING ORDERS.

Closing
orders.

226. In the case of any public building which the Commission has determined to close by virtue of the powers contained in Part IX. of the *Health Act 1928* as amended it may on or after the service of the prescribed order—

- (a) cause to be affixed to the main entrance door of the building ordered to be closed a notice in accordance with Schedule C of these Regulations; and
- (b) cause the main entrance door of the building and such other doors as the Commission directs to be sealed; and
- (c) require any authorized officer or any member of the Police Force to affix such notice and to seal such door or doors.

PART X.—SCHEDULES AND APPENDIX.

Health Acts.

PUBLIC BUILDING REGULATIONS 1952.

Regulation 5.

SCHEDULE A.

Application for the Approval of the Commission of Plans and Specifications for the Erection or Alteration† of a Public Building.*

To the Commission of Public Health,

295 Queen-street, Melbourne.

(a) Here describe the building which it is intended to erect or alter.

(b) Applicant must be the person or body responsible under the Health Acts for the erection or alteration of the building.

(c) Strike out the word not applicable.

I/WE the undersigned, hereby apply for the Commission's approval of the attached plans and specifications of (a) as described in the said plans and specifications.

Full name of applicant/s(b)

I/WE are the proprietor or proprietors of the proposed building or buildings(c)

Situation thereof

I/WE also lodge herewith the title plan, block plan, plans and sections, and specifications referred to on the back hereof and I/WE hereby undertake to forthwith notify the Municipal Council that I/WE have made this application.

The full name and address of the person or party responsible for the supervision of the (c) erection of such buildings are:—
alteration

Signature of Proprietor or Proprietors

Postal Address of Proprietor or Proprietors

Date

* "Erection" includes erection, building, re-building, re-erection, and removal and re-erection on another site.

† "Alteration" includes alteration, addition, or extension.

The following persons are proprietors of a public building under the Health Acts "the owner the occupier the manager the trustees the persons by whose authority the public building has been or is intended to be erected or altered or any person having the management or control thereof."

Back of Form.

(2) With this application shall be lodged two sets of drawings and specifications to include—

- (a) A certified copy of the Title to the land on which the building is to be erected showing dimensions and easements (if any);
- (b) A block plan showing the position of such building in relation to the boundaries of the site to any existing buildings on or adjacent thereto and to the thoroughfares upon which the site of such building abuts, the general character of the premises adjacent thereto, and the names and widths of such thoroughfares, such plan being drawn in ink to a scale not smaller than 1 inch to 40 feet and having such scale and the cardinal points marked thereon;
- (c) duplicate copies of plans and sections of each floor of the building (drawn in ink to a scale of 1 inch to 8 feet) and such detail drawings drawn in ink to a scale of 1 inch to 2 feet as the Commission may from time to time require;
- (d) a paged specification written in ink or typewritten giving details of the materials and mode of construction including the sizes and spacings of all members of framed or reinforced structures.

Block plan.

Plans and sections.

Specifications.

- (3) On the said plans and sections (as the case may be) shall be shown the— What plans and section to show.
- (a) Internal dimensions in figures (that is to say the length width and height to wall-plate and ceiling respectively) of each story and of each compartment of each story;
 - (b) proposed use of the several compartments of the building and the uses to which any other building or rooms which are or are proposed to be placed above or below or laterally communicating with or adjacent to such public building will be put;
 - (c) position of each internal and external exit;
 - (d) width and height in figures of each exit and the height of each exit sill above the level of the ground beneath and adjoining the building;
 - (e) position and width and height of each passage;
 - (f) position length and depth of platform or stage and its height above the floor of the auditorium;
 - (g) where permanent fixed seating is provided or required under the provisions of these Regulations to be provided the intended or actual position and number in figures in serial order of all seats;
 - (h) position and minimum width of each aisle;
 - (i) minimum width and headway of each stairway or flight of steps and the width of treads and height of risers;
 - (j) structural connexion (if any) with any other building;
 - (k) ground-line;
 - (l) depth of foundation below the ground surface and heights of walls of proscenium and staircases above the auditorium and other adjacent roofs;
 - (m) thickness of each wall;
 - (n) positions of floor-bearers beams girders bresssummers trusses or cantilevers; and
 - (o) form and pitch of roof.
- (4) With the aforesaid plans and specifications there shall also in the case of every design of a reinforced concrete or metal frame building be submitted the data and calculations upon which such design is based and in any other case as may be specially required by the Commission. Concrete or metal frame buildings.
- (5) The name and address of the architect or engineer shall be endorsed on every such block plan plan section detail drawing and specification and in case an architect or engineer is not to superintend the erection of the building the name and address of the person responsible for the supervision of its erection shall be furnished with the said plans sections and specifications. Name of architect or engineer &c., to be endorsed.

Health Acts.

PUBLIC BUILDING REGULATIONS 1952.

Regulation 9.

SCHEDULE B.

Application for the Commission's Approval of the Opening of a Building or of the Opening of an Extension of a Public Building.

To the Commission of Public Health,

295 Queen-street, Melbourne.

I/WE the undersigned, hereby apply for the Commission's approval of the opening of the building (or of an extension of the building) hereunder described, the

(a) erection of which has been duly completed.

Name of building

Full name of applicant (b)

I/WE are the proprietor(s) of the said building

Situation of premises

After having made due inquiry of the person or party responsible for the supervision of the (a) erection of the aforesaid building, and being aware that any person making any false or misleading statement in any application under the Health Acts shall be held guilty of an offence against those Acts, I hereby declare that in the work of effecting the aforesaid (a) erection the requirements of the Commission and of the Council have been duly fulfilled.

Signature of applicant(s) (b)

Date

Postal address(es)

NOTE.—Except in a case where the Commission has already approved of the plans and specifications of the erection or alteration of the building, there shall be attached to this application the plans, particulars, and information required by Schedule A of the Public Building Regulations 1952.

The following persons are proprietors of a public building within the meaning of the Health Acts—

“The owner the occupier the manager the trustees the persons by whose authority the public building has been or is being or is intended to be erected or altered or any person having the management or control thereof.

PUBLIC BUILDING REGULATIONS 1952.

Regulation 226.

SCHEDULE C.

NOTICE.

THIS BUILDING has been CLOSED by order of the Commission of Public Health.

Any person who without the written authority of the Commission—

- (a) removes or defaces this NOTICE or causes or permits it to be removed or defaced; or
- (b) breaks or removes or causes or permits to be broken or removed any seal of the Commission affixed to any door of this building; or
- (c) uses this building or causes or permits it to be used as a public building within the meaning of the Health Acts—

shall be guilty of an offence against the Public Building Regulations 1952 and liable to a fine of £100.

By order of the Commission of Public Health,

Secretary.

Date—

PUBLIC BUILDING REGULATIONS 1952.

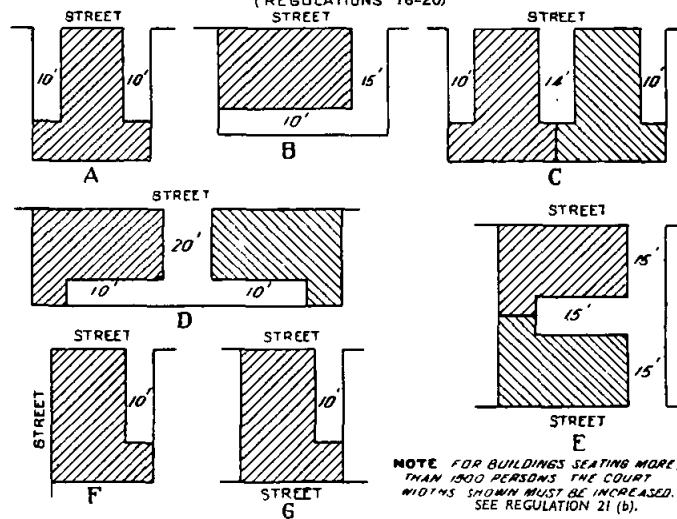
Regulation 207.

SCHEDULE D.

Log-Book for use of Fire Guards in Public Buildings.

Date	Name of Fire Guard.	Time of—		Information Required Under Regulation 207.	Any Other Duties Carried Out During Tour of Duty.
		Commencing Duty.	Completion of Duty.		

APPENDIX A
DIAGRAM ILLUSTRATING ARRANGEMENT OF COURTS
(REGULATIONS 16-20)



And the Honorable William Oliver Fulton, Her Majesty's Minister of Health for the State of Victoria, shall give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

A. MAHLSTEDT,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

By Authority: J. J. GOURLEY, Government Printer, Melbourne.