

**No. S 42—THE SANITARY BOARDS ENACTMENT, CAP. 57.**

**THEATRE, CINEMA AND ENTERTAINMENT BY-LAWS.**

The following by-laws, which were, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 5 of the Sanitary Boards Enactment, and all other powers thereunto them enabling, passed by the Municipal Board, Brunei on the 26th day of February 1954 and by the Municipal Board, Belait, on the 25th day of March 1954, have been confirmed by the Resident in exercise of the powers conferred on him by Section 6 of the said Enactment and shall have effect from the 1st day of July 1954:—

- Citation.** 1. These By-laws may be cited as the Theatre, Cinema and Entertainments By-laws, 1954.
- Definition.** 2. The word “Board” shall mean such person or group of persons as shall from time to time have been authorised to implement these By-laws, or any person acting on their authority.
- Application.** 3.—(1) These By-laws apply to all Theatres, Cinemas, Wayangs, Concert Halls or either places of Public Exhibition or Entertainment and to the premises of Clubs, Associations or Societies or similar organisations, where and when public or private entertainments take place thereon. The word “Theatre” shall be taken to mean any of these buildings.
- Power of Waiver.** (2) The Board may waive any or all of the conditions set out in these By-laws at their discretion, on their own motion or on the application of the person or persons concerned.
- Building.** 4.—(1) In the event of inconsistency or conflict between these By-laws and the regulations and by-laws relating to buildings or to building operations, the latter shall prevail.
- (2) Every building intended for use as a theatre shall be enclosed by external walls of brick, concrete or stone of such thickness and construction as may be approved under the By-laws relating to buildings or building operations.
- (3) Every building used for a theatre shall be self contained or if forming part of a building, the part shall be completely separated from the rest of the building, shall have separate doors and shall in no way communicate with any other building or part of a building.
- (4) Every building intended for use as a theatre shall have such adequate means of egress as the Board may consider necessary.
- Exits.** 5.—(1) All doors shall open outwards and the only fastening permitted on exit doors shall be panic bolts
- (2) The word “EXIT” shall be taken to apply equally to “Entrance”.
- (3) All Exits shall be not less than 5 feet wide.
- (4) Two exits shall be provided for each floor. Seating not more than 500 persons and one extra for every additional 250 persons or less.
- (5) All exits shall be plainly marked and illuminated during the whole time that the public are in the Theatre.
- Staircases.** 6.—(1) All staircases for the use of the public shall be not less than 4 feet 6 inches wide for the use of not more than 300 persons; 5 feet wide above this number.

(2) Exit staircase shall open directly to the street or to a compound with clear access to the street.

(3) The treads of the staircases shall be not less than 11 inches wide and the risers not more than 6 inches high.

(4) No windows or diagonal treads shall occur on any staircase.

(5) All staircase, landings and supports shall be constructed of fire-proof material.

7.—(1) The area of the auditorium shall be not less than 3 Auditorium. square feet to each person to be admitted.

(2) All floors and balconies shall be constructed in reinforced concrete or other approved materials.

(3) The height between auditorium floor and ceiling shall be not less than 12 feet between balcony and ceiling not less than 10 feet.

(4) There shall be provided:—

A. A clear passage or gangway not less than 4 feet wide around the auditorium.

B. Gangways not less than 4 feet wide running parallel to the seating in such position as the Board may decide.

(5) No obstruction shall be allowed in any stairway or gangway and no standing or sitting by members of the public shall be permitted in any stairway or alley way.

(6) Should steps occur in any gangway they shall be suitably illuminated during all performances.

8.—(1) Seats shall be ganged together in a row of not less Seating. than five, or each seat shall be securely fastened to the floor.

(2) No seat is to be more than seven seats from a gangway, counted in the line of seating.

(3) No barricades whatever shall be erected round individual seats or blocks of seats.

(4) When all seating space in the body of the hall or in the galleries is occupied, all booking shall cease and a notice shall be exhibited outside the entrance notifying that part or the whole of the theatre is full.

9. No one shall be allowed to dwell, lodge or sleep in a Domestic theatre except only the caretakers of the building and the proper- Accommo- ties, and these only to the number and in the rooms approved and dation. sanctioned by the Board.

10.—(1) All theatres shall be thoroughly cleaned and swept Cleaning and by 9 a.m. each day and all offensive and waste matters removed. Sanitation. Latrines and urinals shall be cleaned daily and no receptacle for urine or nightsoil shall be placed in any part of the theatre except in the latrines and urinals approved by the Board.

(2) There shall be provided:—

A. One foot of urinal space for every 100 seats or one urinal stall for every 200 seats.

B. One male closet for every 200 seats.

C. One female closet for every 100 seats.

(3) The building is to be closed twice a year for such cleansing, disinfecting, lime-washing, painting and repair work as may be considered necessary by the Board.

**Right of Access.** **11.**—(1) Free access is to be given at all times for inspection by the Board or their authorised agent.

(2) No person shall enter the building between performances except on business.

**Lighting.** **12.**—(1) No naked lights or fires are to be used in the building except with the specific approval of the Board in writing.

(2) The building shall be fitted with secondary lighting of a type approved by the Board.

**Projection Room.** **13.**—(1) Cinematograph projection apparatus is to be fixed in an enclosure or room built of fire resisting material of suitable size to allow operators to work freely and the materials, construction and size must be to the approval of the Board.

(2) This enclosure or room must be outside the auditorium if possible and fitted with a self closing fireproof door opening outwards, preferably onto an open space or landing fitted with railings where necessary.

(3) This door must not be locked whilst the projection enclosure is occupied.

(4) All openings in front of the enclosure into the auditorium are to be glazed and these must not be more than two to each projection machine with a total area of not more than  $1\frac{1}{2}$  square feet.

(5) Each opening is to be fitted with a self closing metal shutter so arranged that they can be operated for closure by a release mechanism worked from the position of each projection machine and also from outside the door of the projection room.

(6) Where possible there shall be no other opening, door or connection to the auditorium except the above mentioned projection openings.

(7) Each projection machine shall have fitted above it a metal hood and vent opening into the open air outside the building.

**Rewind Room.** **14.**—(1) The rewinding, pointing and piecing of films shall not be carried out in the projection room but in a separate fire-proof enclosure fitted with a door as for the projection room.

(2) The table in this rewind room is to be surfaced with non-ferrous metal (e.g. lead).

(3) No smoke or fumes are to be allowed to escape from either room into the auditorium.

**Film Storage.** **15.**—(1) No film except such as are necessary for the immediate performance are to be stored in either the projection or rewind rooms.

(2) Films may only be stored in metal cases in a film storage vault, constructed of approved fire-proof material and situated outside and, where possible, distinct from, the main or other building.

(3) This vault is to be fitted with a self closing fire-proof door and must be adequately ventilated.

(4) No naked lights are allowed in this vault.

(5) No unauthorised person shall be allowed in the projection, rewind or film storage rooms or on the stage or in the dressing rooms.

16. There must be no smoking in the projection, rewind, film storage or battery rooms or on the stage, and adequate notices to this effect must be displayed in prominent positions in and outside the rooms. Smoking.

17. Any electrical storage battery or accumulator equipment must be housed in a separate room. Batteries.

18.—(1) All electrical installations are to be to the approval of both the Board and the local electricity company. Electrical Installations.

(2) No loose wires or connections are permitted.

19.—(1) One properly trained fireman is to be provided or obtained from the local fire brigade for every 300 seats with a minimum of two and no performance is to start until such firemen have reported their presence to the manager. Fire Precaution.

(2) The following fire extinguishers must be provided, suitably mounted and kept in good condition:—

Four (or more as may be directed by the Board) Soda-acid type in auditorium.

One Carbon tetra chloride (C.T.C.) type near electric switchboard on the stage.

One C.T.C. quart size in office.

Two 2-gallon foam type in projection room.

One 2-gallon foam type in film storage room.

One 2-gallon foam type in rewind room.

One asbestos blanket correctly suspended for each projection machine.

20. The ventilation system must be of a type approved by the Board and of a capacity of not less than 1,000 cubic feet per person per hour. Ventilation.

21. The following may not be kept on the premises of any theatre except by written permission of the Board and then only in such quantities as they may direct:— Articles not allowed.

(a) Petroleum.

(b) Explosive.

(c) Beer, Spirits and Wines.

22.—(1) No person shall utilize any theatre without first obtaining a licence from the Board. This licence shall be in the form shown in Appendix A hereto. Licence for Performances.

(2) No performances will be allowed which will interfere with traffic, or be likely to cause a nuisance, obstruction or danger to the public or to individuals resident in the locality.

23. The hours of performances shall be decided by the Board who will in general give permission for hours between 9 a.m. to 1.00 a.m. Hours of Performances.

24.—(1) All films before being shown in the theatre shall be inspected by the Board at such time as shall be appointed, and no film shall be exhibited until passed by the Board. Censorship of films.

(2) Any film which has been passed by the the Official Censor of Cinematograph Film for Singapore and the Federation of Malaya may, unless the Board otherwise directs, be exhibited without having been so inspected.

**Permit for Theatre.** 25. No building shall be used as a theatre without a permit to this effect being issued by the Board. This permit shall be prominently displayed within the main entrance to the building, and shall state the time during which it is valid, and shall be in the form shown in Appendix "B" hereto.

**Fees.** 26.—(1) Fees payable for a permit to use a building as a theatre shall be as follows:—

Number of seats.	Fee per day.	Fee per mensem.
Not more than 200	\$ 1.—	\$10.—
Not more than 500	\$ 2.—	\$20.—
Not more than 1000	\$ 5.—	\$25.—
Above 1000	\$10.—	\$50.—

(2) The permit fees may be reduced or waived by the Board where the use as a theatre is for a limited time or where the show is for charitable purposes or where no admission charges are made.

(3) Fees payable for the issue of a licence for performance shall be as follows:—

Cinematograph	...	\$3.—	\$100.—
Combined cinematograph and theatre performance	...	\$3.—	\$ 75.—
All other performances	...	\$3.—	\$ 50.—

(4) The licence fees may be reduced or waived at the discretion of the Board, for shows where no fee is charged for admission or shows for charitable purposes.

**Penalty.** 27.—(1) The holder of a licence or permit who allows any contravention of these By-laws by any member of his staff or other person, shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$500.

(2) Any other person contravening any of these By-laws shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$100.

J. O. GILBERT,  
*British Resident,  
Brunei.*

**APPENDIX "A".**

THE SANITARY BOARDS ENACTMENT, CAP. 57.  
 THEATRE, CINEMA AND ENTERTAINMENT BY-LAWS, 1954.  
 ENTERTAINMENT LICENCE.

Name of Licensee .....  
 Address of Licensee .....  
 Location of Theatre .....  
 Type of Theatre .....  
 Permit number of Theatre .....  
 Name of holder of Permit .....  
 Duration of Permit: From .....To.....  
 Type of Show .....  
 Date of Commencement .....  
 Date of Termination .....  
 Hours of Performance: From .....To.....  
 Fee \$.....

**Note**—This licence is granted subject to full compliance with the By-laws of the Board and also with the under-mentioned special conditions or waivers:—

Issued by

.....  
*on the Authority of the Board.*

**APPENDIX "B".**

THE SANITARY BOARDS ENACTMENT, CAP. 57.  
 THEATRE, CINEMA AND ENTERTAINMENT BY-LAWS, 1954.  
 THEATRE PERMIT.

Name of holder of permit .....  
 Location of Theatre .....  
 Size of Theatre .....  
 Address of holder of permit .....  
 Type of Entertainment .....  
 Date of Commencement of permit .....  
 Date of Termination of permit .....  
 Fee \$.....

Licence granted on the undernoted conditions:—

.....  
*Municipal Officer.*