

which much of the success depends; but they will at least suffice with a brief description to familiarize the reader with the general character of both houses.

The entrance of the new Pantages is located on Yonge Street, between Shuter and Dundas, in the heart of the shopping district, where an open vestibule leads to a spacious lobby elaborately decorated in the Adam style, with Ionic columns forming the divisions of the mirrored walls and rich draperies giving to the whole an intimate touch. The lobby itself is 22 ft. wide by 120 ft. long. Immediately at the rear a flight of marble steps give access to the mezzanine promenade which is likewise tastily carried out and forms the focal centre of the service of the theatre. Retiring rooms are provided off this promenade for both sexes, and from it access is obtained to both the balcony and the marble staircase leading to the main floor of the auditorium. This stairway descends in an elliptical well which gives the effect of extreme height to the rear of the house.

The auditorium proper also borrows from the Adam period and is decorated in general tones of blue and gold. Considerable study was given to the color scheme to eliminate the possibility of a cold feeling in the house due to the blue in the draperies and silk wall covering. An effect of warmth was obtained by the addition of gold to the blue, and by the use of warm colors in the decorative painting. This auditorium has the distinction of being the largest of any in the Dominion, containing 22,500 square feet, and seating thirty-five hundred people. One feature of the scheme is the organ, located behind plaster screens in the side wall of the auditorium near the stage, with an additional echo organ in the space above the main ceiling near the rear of the house. There is also a broad promenade at the rear of the main floor with additional retiring rooms for both men and women, while a separate entrance from Victoria Street



LADIES RETIRING ROOM: NEW PANTAGES THEATRE, TORONTO.

direct to the auditorium has been provided primarily for the accommodation of motorists.

The successful designing of a theatre, however, implies more than plan and decoration. Patrons must be able to see and to hear what is going on from all parts of the house. In both the Pantages and the new Loew's this important necessity has been most carefully considered and the acoustics and sight lines are so worked out as to leave little to be desired. Likewise especial care has been given to the design of the ventilating apparatus, the fresh air being brought it from the outside, washed and tempered, and forced through ducts into the auditorium and then expelled through vents in the ceiling.

The latter house is the pioneer of large theatres in uptown Toronto. The entrance is on the west side of Yonge Street, a few doors south of Bloor. The character of this theatre is similar to the other Loew houses in Canada. An open vestibule leads to the outer lobby which