

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

THE THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION ACT

CHAPTER 158 OF THE LAWS OF ZAMBIA

CHAPTER 158 THE THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION ACT

THE THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION ACT

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CHAPTER 158

THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION

An Act to regulate and control theatres and cinematograph exhibitions; and to provide for matters incidental thereto or connected therewith.

[1st January, 1930]

54 of 1929
1 of 1932
Government Notices
302 of 1964
497 of 1964
Statutory Instrument
70 of 1964
Act No.13 of 1994

1. This Act may be cited as the Theatres and Cinematograph Exhibition Act.

Short title

(As amended by No. 1 of 1932)

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

Interpretation

"cinematograph exhibition" means any exhibition of pictures or other optical effects presented by means of a cinematograph or other similar apparatus;

"Licensing Officer" means the District Secretary of the District in which any theatre is situate or such other person as the Minister shall, by Gazette notice, appoint for the purposes of this Act;

"stage play" includes any tragedy, comedy, farce, opera, burletta, interlude, melodrama, pantomime, dialogue, prologue, epilogue, concert or other dramatic or musical entertainment or any part thereof;

"theatre" means any building, tent or other erection open to the public, gratuitously or otherwise, where a stage play or cinematograph exhibition is performed or presented.

3. No theatre shall be used for the performance of stage plays or the presentation of cinematograph exhibitions without the licence in writing of the Licensing Officer having been previously obtained. If the Licensing Officer shall consider that the safety and convenience of persons attending such performances or presentations at such theatre are adequately provided for, he may grant such licence either generally or in respect of any single performance or presentation or for such period not exceeding twelve months as he may think fit. The Licensing Officer may refuse to grant such licence or may grant it subject to such terms and conditions as he may think desirable for the purpose of ensuring the safety and convenience of the persons attending such performances or presentations at such theatre. Any such licence may be revoked by the Licensing Officer if he shall consider that the safety or convenience of persons attending such performances or presentations is not adequately provided for.

Licensing of theatres and safety of persons attending thereat

4. Where the Licensing Officer grants any licence as aforesaid upon condition that the stage play or cinematograph exhibition be conducted under the superintendence of some officer or person designated in the licence, then it shall be lawful, at any time, for the officer or person so designated to order such stage play or cinematograph exhibition to cease or to give any other direction which he may think necessary for ensuring the safety of the premises at which the stage play or cinematograph exhibition takes place and of the persons attending the stage play or cinematograph exhibition.

Supervision to ensure safety

The Laws of Zambia

5. The occupier or other person who manages or receives the rent of any theatre at which it may be proposed to perform or present any stage play or cinematograph exhibition shall ascertain whether the prescribed licence has been obtained and, if so, the terms of such licence. Such occupier or person shall give notice to the Inspector-General of Police or the officer in charge of the nearest police station, if and so soon as he has reason to believe that there is an intention to proceed with any stage play or cinematograph exhibition either without the prescribed licence or without everything having been done which may be required under such licence or under this Act or under any rules made thereunder to be done previous to such stage play or cinematograph exhibition taking place.

Duty of occupier, etc.,
of theatre

6. A Licensing Officer, a police officer, or any officer authorised for the purpose by the Minister by Gazette notice, may at all reasonable times enter any premises in which he has reason to believe that any stage play or cinematograph exhibition is being or is about to be performed or presented with a view to seeing whether the provisions of this Act or any rules made thereunder and the conditions of any licence granted under this Act have been complied with. Any person preventing or obstructing the entry of a police officer or any officer appointed as aforesaid, shall be guilty of an offence under this Act.

Power of entry

(As amended by G.N. No. 302 of 1964)

7. The Minister may, by Gazette notice, appoint one or more Film Censorship Boards (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") consisting of such number of persons as the Minister may determine.

Establishment of Film
Censorship Boards

(As amended by G.N. No. 302 of 1964 and S.I. No. 70 of 1964)

8. (1) A descriptive title of every picture or series of pictures intended to be presented at any cinematograph exhibition and copies of all posters advertising the same shall be sent to the Board with an account of the theatre where and the time when the exhibition is intended to be presented.

Description of
cinematograph scene
to be submitted

(2) The Board may inspect or cause to be inspected any picture or pictures, and no picture or series of pictures shall be presented at any cinematograph exhibition nor shall any posters advertising such exhibition be displayed without a permit from the Board previously had and obtained.

Power to inspect

9. An appeal shall lie to the President in respect of any act or decision of a Licensing Officer or the Board done or made or omitted to be done or made under the provisions of this Act and the President may confirm, disallow or vary such act or decision of a Licensing Officer or the Board or direct him to act in such manner as to the President shall seem fit, subject to the provisions of this Act and any regulations made thereunder.

Appeal to the
President

10. Every omission or neglect to comply with and every act done or attempted to be done contrary to the provisions of this Act or of any regulations made thereunder, or in breach of the conditions and restrictions subject to or upon which any licence or permit has been issued, shall be deemed to be an offence against this Act and for every such offence the offender shall be liable to a fine not exceeding nine hundred penalty units or to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a term not exceeding three months.

Penalties

The Laws of Zambia

11. This Act shall not apply to a performance of a stage play or cinematograph exhibition to which the public are not admitted either gratuitously or otherwise. Application

(As amended by Act No. 13 of 1994)

12. The President may, by statutory instrument, make regulations- Regulations

- (a) prescribing the form of any licence or permit under this Act and the fees payable therefor;
- (b) prescribing conditions to be observed in reference to the erection, alteration and equipment of any theatre;
- (c) prescribing conditions to be observed in reference to the safety from fire or otherwise of any theatre or for the safety, convenience and control of persons attending any such theatre;
- (d) prescribing the quorum, powers and duties of the Board and the area for which such Board is constituted;
- (e) generally for the better carrying into effect of the provisions of this Act.

(As amended by G.N. No. 302 of 1964)

SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION

THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION

SECTIONS 7 AND 12-THE FILMS CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS

Regulations by the President

Government Notices

13 of 1930
41 of 1932
66 of 1932
137 of 1932
54 of 1936
113 of 1937
33 of 1938
119 of 1938
166 of 1939
171 of 1945
234 of 1960
243 of 1960
39 of 1961
38 of 1962
302 of 1964
497 of 1964

Statutory Instruments

70 of 1964
237 of 1966
21 of 1979
75 of 1979
Act No. 13 of 1994)

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Films Censorship Regulations.

Title

2. (1) The chairman or not less than two members of any Film Censorship Board (hereinafter referred to as "the Board") shall form a quorum. Film Censorship Board

(2) Questions before the Board shall be decided by a majority of votes of those present and voting and, in the case of equality of votes, the chairman shall have a casting vote.

(3) If only two members of the Board are present and voting then, in the case of equality of votes on any question, such question shall be brought up again for decision before not less than three members of the Board.

(4) The Minister may appoint a member of the Board to be chairman of the Board.

(No. 234 of 1960 as amended by No. 243 of 1960, No. 302 of 1964 and S.I. No. 70 of 1964)

3. (1) It shall be the duty of the Board to examine every cinematograph picture duly submitted to it for examination with a view to such cinematograph picture being approved for purposes of exhibition to the public. Duties of Board

(2) On the completion of the examination of any cinematograph picture, the Board may-

(a) approve the same as suitable for exhibition to the public in accordance with the following classifications:

"U" suitable for universal exhibition;

"A" suitable for exhibition to adults, children between the ages of four and sixteen years to be admitted only when accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult;

"X" suitable for exhibition to adults only, children between the ages of four and sixteen years not to be admitted whether accompanied by an adult or not;

(b) refuse to approve the same;

(c) agree to approve the same, subject to such excisions from the cinematograph picture as it thinks proper, and thereafter to classify such cinematograph picture in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) and to mark the same in accordance with the provisions of sub-regulation (3).

(3) If the Board shall approve a cinematograph picture as suitable for exhibition to the public in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) of sub-regulation (2), it shall affix to such cinematograph picture the mark "U", "A" or "X", as the case may be.

(4) No person shall exhibit or cause to be exhibited any cinematograph picture classified and marked in accordance with the provisions of this regulation without the mark affixed thereto.

(5) No person exhibiting or causing to be exhibited a cinematograph picture-

- (a) classified and marked "A" in accordance with the provisions of this regulation shall permit the attendance of children between the ages of four and sixteen years at such exhibition unless accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult;
- (b) classified and marked "X" in accordance with the provisions of this regulation shall permit the attendance at such exhibition of any child between the ages of four and sixteen years whether accompanied by an adult or not.

(6) If the Board approves a cinematograph picture subject to the making of excisions therein and the handing over to the Board of such excised portions, the person submitting the said picture for approval may elect whether not to exhibit the picture at all or to exhibit it after having caused the said excisions to be made and so handed over.

(7) The approval of the Board shall not be given with respect to any cinematograph picture or any part thereof which is made in the Republic of South Africa or by or in association with any company formed in the Republic of South Africa, or which in its opinion depicts any matter that is contrary to public order or decency, or the exhibition of which would for any other reason be undesirable in the public interest. In the case of a cinematograph picture the exhibition of which is intended to be accompanied by a mechanical reproduction of sound (whether or not the device or arrangement for such reproduction is an integral part of the cinematograph picture), the Board may take such reproduction of sound into consideration in determining whether or not the cinematograph picture should be approved, or in determining what excisions, if any, should be made therefrom.

(8) (a) On approval by the Board of any cinematograph picture, a permit shall be issued in the form in the Schedule, on payment of a fee of 125 fee units to the Licensing Officer. Such permit shall accompany all cinematograph pictures which are passed by the Board for exhibition in Zambia.

- (b) Not earlier than the hour appointed for the commencement of each performance there shall be exhibited on the screen, prior to the exhibition of any picture, a certificate in the following form:

This is to certify that all films shown in this theatre at this performance have received the approval of the Film Censorship Board of Zambia for exhibition and the prescribed fee of 125 fee units has been paid in respect of each such film.

The Laws of Zambia

(9) No fee shall be payable for a permit to exhibit a cinematograph picture which is to be exhibited at an entertainment for which no charge is made for admission or an entertainment the proceeds of which, after deducting reasonable expenses, are devoted to philanthropic or charitable purposes.

(As amended by Nos. 41 and 137 of 1932, No. 54 of 1936, No. 119 of 1938, No. 166 of 1939, No. 234 of 1960, No. 38 of 1962, No. 237 of 1966, S.I. Nos. 21 and 25 of 1979, and Act No. 13 of 1994)

4. If any matter other than a certificate of approval or the mark "U", "A" or "X" is added to a cinematograph picture after it has been approved by the Board, the picture shall, before exhibition or further exhibition, be again submitted to the Board for examination, and unless and until it has been again approved by the Board it shall be deemed not to have been approved.

If matter added to cinematograph picture after approval, picture to be again submitted to Board

(As amended by No. 38 of 1962)

5. An appeal shall lie to the Minister in respect of any act or decision of the Board done or made or omitted to be done or made under the provisions of these Regulations, and the Minister may confirm, disallow or vary such act or decision of the Board or direct the Board to act in such manner as to the Minister shall seem fit, subject to the provisions of these Regulations.

Right of appeal from decisions of Board

(As amended by G.N. No. 302 of 1964 and S.I. No. 70 of 1964)

6. The area for which the Board may exercise the powers contained in these Regulations shall be the whole of Zambia.

Area of Board

(As amended by S.I. No. 70 of 1964)

7. For the purpose of censoring films made in Zambia or imported into Zambia otherwise than through Lusaka, the District Executive Secretaries of all Districts are hereby appointed to be additional Boards for the purposes of examining and approving such films for exhibition within their respective Provinces.

Resident Secretaries to be additional Boards for certain purposes

(As amended by No. 39 of 1961)

The Laws of Zambia

SCHEDULE

(Regulation 3)

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

THE THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION ACT

EXHIBITION PERMIT

FILM CENSORSHIP BOARD.

This film.....
.....

has been approved by the Board for exhibition in Zambia and has been classified and marked.....

Date.....19.....

.....
Chairman of the Board

Fee Paid 125 fee units

NOTE.-This permit must accompany the film through Zambia.

(As amended by No. 54 of 1936, No. 166 of 1939, No. 234 of 1960, No. 38 of 1962,
S.I. No. 21, 75 of 1979 and Act No. 13 of 1994)

SECTION 12-THE THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION (FORMS AND FEES)
REGULATIONS

Government Notices
14 of 1930
497 of 1964
20 of 1979
74 of 1979
Act No. 13 of 1994

Regulations by the President

The Laws of Zambia

- | | Title |
|--|------------------|
| 1. These Regulations may be cited as the Theatres and Cinematograph Exhibition (Forms and Fees) Regulations. | |
| 2. The licence to be issued by a Licensing Officer in respect of any theatre shall be in the form in the Schedule. | Theatre licence |
| 3. There shall be payable to the Licensing Officer, upon issue of a theatre licence, the following fees, that is to say: | Prescribed fees |
| (a) In respect of a licence for a period not exceeding twelve calendar months, expiring on the 31st December in any year | 10,000 fee units |
| | |
| (b) In respect of a licence for a period not exceeding one week | 100 fee units |
| | |
| (c) In respect of a licence for a period not exceeding twenty-four hours | 50 fee units |
| | |

(As amended by S.I. No. 20 of 1979 and Act No. 13 of 1994)

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 4. The President may exempt any person from payment of the whole or any part of the fees specified in regulation 3. | Exemption |
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The Laws of Zambia

SCHEDULE

(Regulation 2)

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

THE THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION ACT

THEATRE LICENCE

Licence is hereby granted to of in respect of a theatre situate at.....for the period.....19.... to.....19..... inclusive, for which period.....fee has been paid, subject to the provisions of the above-named Act, the regulations issued thereunder and the conditions hereunder set forth.

[Description of Theatre]

Dated this.....day of.....19.....

[Special Conditions]

.....
Licensing Officer

.....
Licensing Officer

THE THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION REGULATIONS

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

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PRELIMINARY

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2. Application

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GENERAL BUILDING REQUIREMENTS

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5. Where portion only of building used as theatre
6. Floors to be fire-resisting
7. Iron and structural work to be protected against fire
8. Ingress and egress
9. Aisles or passages between seats
10. Staircases
11. Proscenium
12. Dressing-rooms and stairs
13. Space above stage
14. Scene dock, property room, etc.
15. Flies of theatre
16. Ventilation
17. Doors
18. Separate means of egress for different floors, etc.
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22. Entrance hall, etc.

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FIRE APPLIANCES

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24. Wet blankets and sand
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26. Footlights

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PART IV
CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITIONS

Regulation

27. Operating chamber to be separated from combustible material
28. Walls, floor and roof of chamber
29. Size of chamber
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31. Temporary and portable chambers
32. Escape from chamber
33. Projection openings
34. Openings for pipes
35. Lanterns
36. Electric illumination
37. Projections for cables
38. Limelight
39. Film-boxes
40. Ether saturators
41. Rules of running
42. Outside chambers included
43. Alterations prohibited without permission
44. Exhibitions authorised prior to 14th November, 1930
45. Miniature machines
46. Position of miniature machines
47. Position of screen
48. Movable buildings

PART V GENERAL
PART V
GENERAL

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50. Municipality to have similar powers as Inspector of Fire Services

SCHEDULE-Limelight

The Laws of Zambia

SECTION 12-THE THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION REGULATIONS

Government Notices

Regulations by the President

98 of 1930
33 of 1937
143 of 1937
2 of 1949
322 of 1954
129 of 1955
282 of 1958
118 of 1959
170 of 1959
373 of 1961
400 of 1962
497 of 1964

PART I PRELIMINARYPART I

PRELIMINARY

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Theatres and Cinematograph Exhibition Regulations. Title

2. The Minister may, by statutory notice, apply all or any of these Regulations to any city, municipality, township or to any area specified in such notice, and may exempt from the operation thereof any specified area or buildings situated therein. Application

(No. 2 of 1949 as amended by No. 322 of 1954 and No. 118 of 1959)

PART II GENERAL BUILDING REQUIREMENTSPART II

GENERAL BUILDING REQUIREMENTS

3. Except as otherwise provided in these Regulations, no person shall erect or cause or permit the erection of or add to or alter or cause or permit any addition to or alteration in any theatre unless the plans thereof shall have been approved by the Inspector of Fire Services. Erection or alteration of theatre to be approved by Inspector of Fire Services

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958 No. 373 of 1961 and No. 11 of 1971)

4. The walls of every building intended for use as a theatre shall be of brick or stone or other approved fire-resisting material to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Fire Services. Walls

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958 No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)

The Laws of Zambia

- 5.** If a portion only of a building be used as a theatre, such portion shall be separated from the remainder of the building by fire-resisting walls. Where portion only of building used as theatre
- 6.** A theatre shall not be constructed underneath or on top of any part of any building used for any other purpose unless the floors of such building are of fire-resisting material. Floors to be fire-resisting
- 7.** All iron work or other structural metal work used in the construction of a theatre shall be protected against the action of fire in such manner as may be required by the Inspector of Fire Services. Iron and structural work to be protected against fire
- (As amended by No. 282 of 1958 No. 373 of 1961 and No. 11 of 1971)*
- 8.** (1) In every theatre the partitions, porches, vestibules and every means of ingress and egress for the public shall be constructed of fire-resisting materials to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Fire Services. Ingress and egress
- (2) No theatre shall have more than three floors or horizontal divisions, including the gallery, above the level of the pit. Theatre not to have more than three floors above level of pit
- (As amended by No. 282 of 1958 and No. 373 of 1961)*
- 9.** The aisles or passages between the seats shall in no case be less than 1.07 metres in width and shall be increased in width towards the exit in the ratio of 3.8 centimetres to every 1.52 running metres. The floor of the highest part of the pit or stalls shall be accessible from the street at the principal entrance to such pit or stalls by a gradient not exceeding one in fifteen, and the lowest part of the floor of the pit or stalls shall not be lower than the level at which it can be effectually drained into drains in the adjoining street, nor more than 1.82 metres below the level of the street at the principal entrance to the pit or stalls. In any case, the lowest floor shall not be placed at such a level as will render it liable to flooding, and it shall be efficiently and properly drained to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Fire Services. Aisles or passages between seats
- (As amended by No. 282 of 1958, No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)*
- 10.** (1) The treads of each flight of stairs in any staircase in any theatre shall be of uniform width, not less than 27.9 centimetres wide, and with risers not more than 15.24 centimetres high. Staircases
- (2) Every staircase required for public ingress and egress shall be supported and enclosed by walls of approved fire-resisting material to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Fire Services. In special cases, the staircase, instead of being enclosed by such walls, may, in the discretion of the Inspector of Fire Services, have a suitable handrail or balustrade of sufficient strength on either side thereof, but it shall always be supported as in this sub-regulation set forth.

(3) No staircase, corridor or passage required for public access shall be less than 1.40208 metres wide, and every such staircase, corridor or passage which communicates with any portion of a theatre intended for the accommodation of a larger number of persons than 400 shall be increased in width by not less than 15 centimetres for every additional 100 persons to a maximum width of 2.7 metres. The doors of small theatres not exceeding 116 square metres in area may, however, be not less than 1.07 metres in width.

(4) All staircases above 1.82 metres in width shall be properly divided down the centre by one or more strong handrails with proper supports. No flight of stairs shall consist of more than fourteen risers, and each flight shall have a landing and no winder steps shall be allowed. Each flight shall be provided with a suitable handrail to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Fire Services.

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958 No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)

11. (1) In any theatre for the performance of stage plays or where a proscenium is erected, the proscenium shall be of brick or other fire-resisting material to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Fire Services, not less than 35.5 centimetres in thickness, and shall be carried across the entire width of the building, both above and below the stage, to the level of the foundations of the external wall. No openings shall be made in the proscenium wall, with the exception of a doorway into the orchestra and one door on each side of the stage for communication with the auditorium.

Proscenium

(2) The said doorways shall be not less than 1.07 metres wide, and shall be fitted with fire-resisting doors to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Fire Services. The bottom of the said doorways shall not be more than 91.4 centimetres above the stage door and such doors shall have an overlap of at least 7.6 centimetres at each edge.

Doorways

(3) The decorations and mouldings around the proscenium opening shall be constructed of fire-resisting materials, and all woodwork, stage-hangings, curtains and draperies shall be rendered non-inflammable by fire-resisting paint or other suitable means.

Decorations

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958 No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)

12. (1) All dressing-rooms and the stairs affording access thereto shall be constructed of fire-resisting material, and shall be connected with an independent exit leading directly into a thoroughfare. No dressing-room shall be situated more than one storey below street level. No workshop, painting-room or dressing-room shall be formed or constructed over or under the auditorium or stage.

Dressing-rooms and stairs

(2) All dressing-rooms shall be in a separate block, or else separated by a fire-resisting wall with not more than one opening from the building to which they belong.

Dressing-rooms to be in separate block

The Laws of Zambia

- (3) All dressing-rooms shall be provided with windows opening directly to the external air and adequately ventilated. Dressing-rooms to have windows
- 13.** (1) The space above the stage shall be of sufficient height to allow of all scenes and the fire-resisting screen being raised above the top of the proscenium opening in one piece and without rolling. Space above stage
- (2) The roof of the stage shall not be of fire-resisting material or of heavy construction and shall be provided with one or more skylights in the top thereof, equal together to one-tenth of the area of the stage. Such skylights shall be glazed with sheet glass weighing not more than 0.588 litres per metre superficial. Immediately underneath the glass there shall be wire netting, but wire glass shall not be used. Roof
- (3) Such skylight or skylights shall be made to open their full area by lowering the fire-resisting screen or by the cutting or burning of a cord. Skylight
- 14.** A scene dock, property room or store room shall not be permitted in any theatre unless the same be separated from the rest of the building by brick or other fire-resisting material. Scene dock, property room, etc.
- 15.** The flies of theatres shall be constructed of fire-resisting material to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Fire Services. Adequate means of escape shall be provided from the flies and the gridiron to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Fire Services. Flies of theatre
- (As amended by No. 282 of 1958 and No. 373 of 1961)*
- 16.** All openings for the ventilation of theatres shall be shown on the plans and properly described in the specifications, and such openings shall be made in such manner as may be approved by the Inspector of Fire Services. Ventilation
- (As amended by No. 282 of 1958 and No. 373 of 1961)*
- 17.** (1) All outer doors which are used as ordinary and usual means of public access to theatres shall open both inwards and outwards and shall be provided with proper and adequate means of locking or bolting back, to afford the full width of the doorway as a means of ingress and egress, and such outer doors shall be kept open during the time that the theatre is in use. All other outer doors used as emergency exists, whether connected directly with the means provided for leaving such building or not, shall be made so as to open outwards. All doors used by the public in the interior of a theatre shall be made to open both ways. Doors
- (2) Main entrance and exit doors shall be provided with panic bolts. If the door is in one leaf, a drawback lock (without any catch pin to keep the door locked) shall be used, and such lock shall be capable of being opened from inside without a key. If the door is in two leaves, an ordinary lock may be used. Main entrance and exit doors

The Laws of Zambia

(3) Extraordinary exit doors in theatres shall be provided with panic bolts, which may be fitted with a key to open from without, but in no case shall a key be necessary to open from within. Such panic bolts are to be opened by means of pressure on a horizontal bar or panel.

Extraordinary exit doors

(4) The following fastenings are not permitted:

Fastenings

- (a) short bolts on top or bottom;
- (b) locking or swivel bars;
- (c) padlocks, ordinary spring locks and bolts working by chains;
- (d) any lock on a single leaf door except a drawback lock (without a catch pin) which can be opened from inside without a key;
- (e) monkey tail bolts with a shoulder or projection.

(5) No door shall open immediately on to a flight of stairs, but on to a landing, at least 91.4 centimetres in width, which shall be provided between such doors and stairs.

Door to open on to landing

(6) In every theatre outlet doorways (hereinafter called escape doors), either opening directly into or communicating by an unobstructed corridor, passage or staircase, of width hereinbefore specified, with the separate means of egress and additional exit for each floor, tier or level as hereinafter provided, shall be of a number and capacity in each floor, tier or level or part of the theatre that their aggregate opening shall be such as, in the opinion of the Inspector of Fire Services, shall be sufficient to allow the whole number of persons that such floor, tier or level can seat to pass through such opening in a space of time not exceeding three minutes at an ordinary walking pace.

Escape doors

(7) All escape doors, if they are not ordinarily used for exit but are available as additional means of egress in cases of alarm, shall be indicated on the inside by a painted notice in block capitals at least 15 centimetres in height to the satisfaction of the Inspector of Fire Services. Such notice shall consist of the words "ESCAPE DOOR: NOT LOCKED", and such letters shall, during the time that the theatre is open to the public, be kept uncovered and unconcealed by any obstruction whatsoever.

Notice on escape doors

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958, No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971).

18. In any theatre where the public using the same is to be accommodated on different floors, tiers or levels, a separate means of egress, of the width hereinbefore described for staircases, internal corridors or passage-ways, shall communicate directly with the street or an open passage approved by the Inspector of Fire Services

Separate means of egress for different floors, etc.

The Laws of Zambia

Provided that separate tiers of boxes in a theatre shall, for the purposes of these Regulations, be regarded as forming one floor or level with the floor or level on which they are situated.

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958, No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)

19. At least one additional exit communicating with each different floor, level or tier and opening directly into the street or passageway, as above set forth, must also be provided; such additional exit shall open on to the street at least 6.1 metres from the first exit and shall be separated from any other exit by fire-proof walls.

One additional exit to be provided

20. All passages, gangways, corridors, staircases and other means of ingress and egress for the use of the public shall be kept at all times in good order and repair and free from chairs or any other obstruction whatsoever, whether of a temporary or permanent character, or any projection of any description whatsoever other than handrails. All carpets or other stair or floor coverings shall be kept securely fixed and in good order and repair.

Passages, gangways, etc., to be kept in good repair

21. When the seating accommodation for the public consists of chairs, these shall be fastened to one another, row by row, by means of a wooden batten or battens of sufficient strength running beneath the seats, in such a manner that, should a panic arise, there shall be no danger of the chairs being upset so as to cause any hindrance to egress. Such chairs shall be battened together at a distance of not less than 51 centimetres from centre to centre where they have arms, and 46 centimetres where they are without arms, and in lengths of not less than four nor more than twelve in a section. The centre line of any seat in a row shall not be more than 3.7 metres from the aisle nearest to such seat, measured along the line of seating in such row. No platform formed to receive seats shall be more than 53 centimetres in height of riser, nor less than 81 centimetres in width of platform.

Seating accommodation

(As amended by No. 129 of 1955)

22. (1) All entrance halls, passages, staircases, gangways or other means of approach to a public room or rooms in a theatre shall be efficiently lit during the whole time the theatre is being used.

Entrance hall, etc.

(2) When artificial light is used in any theatre, provisions approved by the Licensing Officer shall be made so that the public may not be left in darkness through any breakdown or accident.

When artificial light used

(3) Two complete systems of electric lighting from separate sources of supply shall be deemed to meet the requirements of this regulation; otherwise a sufficient number of oil or candle lamps secured to unflammable bases, and of a pattern to be approved by the Inspector of Fire Services, shall be provided, and such lamps shall be lit during the whole time the public is in the theatre.

Two complete systems of electric lighting

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958 No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)

PART III FIRE APPLIANCESPART III

FIRE APPLIANCES

23. Unless the Inspector of Fire Services is satisfied that an adequate water supply is available for any theatre, there shall be provided on the top of the proscenium wall, or at some other place to be approved by the Inspector of Fire Services, two or more cisterns, together capable of holding at least 909.2 litres of water for every 100 persons to be accommodated in the auditorium.

Water supply

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958 No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)

24. Wet blankets or rugs and buckets or other receptacles, filled some with water and some with sand, shall always be kept in the wings, and shall have placards of legibly printed fire instructions fixed immediately above them.

Wet blankets and sand

25. (1) Fire appliances adequate for the protection of the theatre shall be provided and shall include a sufficient number of hand grenades or other portable fire extinguishers. Chemical fire extinguishers shall be of such a number and so available that there shall be adequate means of dealing promptly with an outbreak of fire.

Fire appliances

(2) All fire appliances shall be of makes approved by the Inspector of Fire Services and shall be inspected at least once a month and kept at all times in fit and proper order by the licensee.

(3) During any performance, all fire appliances shall be in charge of some responsible person specially appointed for that purpose, who shall see that such appliances are kept constantly in a serviceable condition and available for use.

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958, No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)

26. The footlights (if of oil or candles) in front of the stage or the portion of the theatre used as a stage shall be protected by wire guards approved by the Inspector of Fire Services. Hatchets, hooks and other means of taking down hanging scenery in case of fire shall always be kept in readiness in the wings.

Footlights

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958 No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)

PART IV CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITIONSPART IV

CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITIONS

The Laws of Zambia

27. A cinematograph apparatus shall not be fixed, nor shall any display be given in any theatre unless the operating chamber is distant from any external combustible material by at least 3 metres.

Operating chamber to be separated from combustible material

28. The walls, floor and roof of the chamber shall be constructed of brick, reinforced concrete, plate walling or other fire-resisting material of a nature and thickness approved by the Inspector of Fire Services.

Walls, floor and roof of chamber

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958, No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)

29. (1) The operating chamber shall be at least 2.4 metres in height from the floor to the ceiling and 2.1 metres wide parallel to the line of projection, and shall be of minimum length, varying in accordance with the number of machines installed in such chamber, as follows:

Size of chamber

- (a) one picture machine with or without stereopticon attached, 2.1 metres long;
- (b) one picture machine with separate stereopticon or spotlight, 2.7 metres long;
- (c) two picture machines with or without stereopticon attached, 3 metres long;
- (d) two picture machines with separate stereopticon or spotlight, 3.7 metres long.

An additional 1.2 metres length shall be provided for each additional picture machine, stereopticon or spotlight.

(2) The chamber shall be ventilated direct to the external air by means of a flue constructed of incombustible material fixed over the machine. The area of such flue shall be in the proportion of at least 1 square metre for every 9.912 metres of the chamber.

Ventilation of chamber

30. No operating chamber shall be placed so as to interfere with the free use of any exit.

Exits to be clear

31. (1) Where cinematograph exhibitions do not form a regular feature of the entertainment, a temporary operating chamber or a portable chamber may be used. A temporary operating chamber shall be constructed throughout with walls (including door), floor and roof of 3.8 centimetres angle-iron framing and sheet iron of at least No. 16 gauge, securely fixed with 5 centimetres lapped and riveted or bolted joints. A portable operating chamber shall be constructed throughout (including door) with teak or other hardwood framing not less than 5 centimetres thick strengthened by rails or braces, and covered with sheet asbestos not less than 95 millimetres thick on each side. The sides, roof and floor shall be fastened together with angle-iron and thumb-screws at each corner, such thumb-screws to screw into metal sockets, or with bolts and thumb-screws, or bolts and nuts.

Temporary and portable chambers

(2) Portable and temporary operating chambers shall only contain one picture machine, and such chambers shall have a minimum floor area of 2.8 square metres, and the height shall not be less than 1.8 metres. Such chambers shall, when erected and in use, be both dust and smoke proof, and, where practicable, shall be placed outside the auditorium.

(3) Portable or temporary operating chambers shall not be used in any building in which the aggregate number of days on which cinematograph exhibitions are given exceeds thirty in any one year for any one place.

(4) In the event of an operating chamber of any description, including permanent operating chambers, being inside the auditorium, a suitable barrier shall be firmly fixed round the operating chamber at a distance of not less than 61 centimetres from any part thereof.

32. Direct means of escape from the operating chamber to the external air shall be provided by a passage-way at least 91 centimetres in width. In cases where the chamber is fixed above the level of the ground or main floor, the stair or ladder from the operating chamber to the floor shall be constructed of incombustible material at least 68.5 centimetres in width.

Escape from chamber

33. (1) Only openings which are necessary for projection, operation and observation shall be allowed in the front wall of the chamber. There shall not be more than three such openings for each lantern and they shall not exceed 30.5 centimetres by 30.5 centimetres, 30.5 centimetres by 61 centimetres, and 61 centimetres by 61 centimetres respectively. All openings shall be provided with a sheet of 65 millimetres plate glass built in and fixed so as effectively to prevent the escape of smoke into the auditorium. In addition, all openings shall be provided with falling shutters of metal at least 32 millimetres thick which, when closed, shall overlap the opening at least 2.5 centimetres on all sides. The shutters shall be arranged to cover the openings closely and to slide in properly constructed metal grooves, the lower groove being packed with a rubber pad at least 1.3 centimetres thick.

Projection openings

(2) Such screens or shutters shall be so fitted that they will all close without noise at one and the same time by the action of one release. The apparatus for releasing such screens or shutters shall be provided with suitable handles, which shall be fixed in such positions inside the operating chamber that the operator can release the shutters when standing in the usual position for operating each one of the cinematograph projectors and rewinding films, if such rewinding is carried out in the chamber, and shall be provided with a link of fusible metal or section of quick-burning film fixed directly over the film gate. A similar releasing handle shall be fixed outside the operating chamber in a position to be approved by the Licensing Officer.

(As amended by No. 33 of 1937)

34. The necessary pipes, electric cables, etc., shall enter the operating chamber through properly bushed openings.

Openings for pipes

35. (1) The lantern shall be placed on firm supports of fireresisting construction. The lamp or jet shall stand on an iron tray, with an upturned vertical edge at least 2.5 centimetres in depth. The lantern shall be provided with an automatic metal shutter to act between the source of light and the film gate. The action of this shutter shall be such that it shall close automatically immediately the film becomes stationary. A sliding metal shutter shall be provided in addition to the automatic shutter.

Lanterns

(2) The film gate shall be of massive construction and provided with ample heat-radiating surface, and the passage for the film shall be sufficiently narrow to prevent flame travelling upwards or downwards from the light opening. The film spools when in use shall be fixed in incombustible smokeproof boxes.

Precautions for films

36. Where possible, the electric arc light shall be adopted as the illuminant, and all regulations in force for securing safety in an electric installation shall be observed. Circuits in which there is a pressure exceeding 250 volts between the terminals, or from either terminal to earth, shall not be allowed in connection with the apparatus. Where the apparatus is used in a portable box, a permanently installed circuit shall be carried to a convenient point, having regard to the position of the apparatus. Resistances shall be placed in an approved position and, where practicable, outside the operating chamber. A small resistance for regulating purposes may be allowed within the chamber, but such resistance shall be fixed above the level of and behind the lantern.

Electric illumination

37. (1) The main cable must be enclosed in steel tubing, and must be run without joint or tapping from feeding point to apparatus. For temporary performances, the cables may be carried on porcelain cleats or bobbins, if they are placed out of reach and the pair run parallel and are separated by a space of not less than 15 centimetres.

Projections for cables

(2) The porcelain cleat or bobbin insulators carrying the cables must be securely fixed and placed sufficiently close together to prevent the cables touching the walls, woodwork or other surfaces. The whole of the wiring must be carried out in a thoroughly workmanlike manner, and all cables, fuses, switches, resistances and apparatus must be so fixed as to be out of reach of any unauthorized person. The lantern resistances and any other current-carrying devices must be of proper design and well suited for the work required to the satisfaction of the Licensing Officer; each must be self-contained and enclosed in iron cases; all current-carrying metal parts must be well insulated from the iron frames and covers and these in turn must be so supported that while in operation they shall be at least 76 centimetres from any wood or other inflammable material. Pilot lights used within the operating chamber must be provided with two single pole fuses and one single pole switch.

Insulators

38. (1) If limelight be used in the lantern, the gas cylinders shall be tested and filled in conformity with the requirements set out in the Schedule. The tubing shall be of sufficient strength to resist pressure from without and shall be properly connected up.

Limelight

(2) No gas shall be stored or used save in containers constructed in accordance with the requirements contained in the Schedule.

39. (1) All cinematograph projectors shall be fitted with two film-boxes of substantial construction to and from which the films shall travel. Such boxes shall be made to close in a manner which shall prevent the ingress of fire, and shall be fitted with a film-slot capable of preventing the passage of flame to the interior of the film-box, and shall be kept closed except for the insertion or removal of films. Spools shall be chain or gear driven, and films shall be wound upon spools so that the wound films shall not at any time reach or project beyond the edges of the flanges of the spool. Film-boxes

(2) All films, when not in the machine and while still in the operating chamber, shall be contained in closed metal boxes of self-closing pattern. Films shall not be stored nor rewound nor repaired in any other place on the premises than in the operating chamber or in some other approved fire-proof enclosure.

(3) No film shall be removed from the operating chamber or other approved fire-proof chamber except in closed metal boxes.

40. Ether saturators and gas generators must be placed in the open air, and the filling of ether saturators must be carried out in the open air. Ether saturators

41. (1) No smoking shall be permitted within the operating chamber. Rules of running

(2) No storage of any description, nor the use of any naked light, shall be permitted within the operating chamber, nor shall any paper, cardboard or rubbish be kept therein.

(3) Adequate small fire appliances, including a chemical fire extinguisher of 3 gallons capacity, a bucket of sand, two buckets of water and a wet blanket shall be kept within the operating chamber for immediate use.

(4) The general lighting of the entrances or exists to any premises within which a cinematograph exhibition is being held shall not be controlled from within the operating chamber.

(5) A suitable barrier shall be fixed round the operating chamber at a distance of not less than 61 centimetres from any part thereof to prevent the audience coming into contact therewith.

(6) Work of any description other than the operating of and any essential repairs to the machinery and the rewinding and repairing of films shall not be done inside the operating chamber during the time any member of the audience is in the building.

(7) The operators and all persons responsible for or employed in or in connection with a cinematograph exhibition shall take all due precaution for the prevention of accidents, and shall abstain from any act whatever which tends to cause fire or danger or panic and is not reasonably necessary for the purposes of the exhibition.

(8) Except for special essential repairs, no person, other than the operators and the duly appointed assistant, the licensee, the proprietor, his duly authorised representative, the manager, and the duly authorised agents of the Licensing Officer, shall be admitted to the operating chamber during a cinematograph exhibition:

Provided that, with the consent of the licensee and of the Licensing Officer first had and obtained in writing, professional and scientific investigators may be permitted to visit operating chambers during a cinematograph exhibition.

(9) The operator or duly appointed assistant shall always be in the operating chamber during a cinematograph exhibition, and in no circumstances shall there be at any time more than four persons in the operating chamber during the exhibition.

42. These Regulations shall apply to buildings and cine-matograph operating chambers, whether or not the apparatus is fixed inside or outside the hall or structure accommodating the audience.

Outside chambers included

43. After any licence has been granted, it shall not be permissible for the licensee to make any alteration to the building, operating chamber, fixtures or contents without the sanction of the Licensing Officer, under penalty of revocation of the licence.

Alterations prohibited without permission

44. Where existing cinematograph exhibitions have been authorised prior to the commencement of these Regulations, no picture machines or stereopticons shall be installed in any existing operating chamber beyond the number installed at the commencement of these Regulations, unless such chambers comply with the requirements in regard to size and shape for such additional machines or stereopticons, and then only with the permission of the Licensing Officer.

Exhibitions authorised prior to 14th November, 1930

45. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, it shall not be necessary to provide an operating chamber for the projection of motion pictures in the case of-

Miniature machines

- (a) any miniature picture machine in which the maximum electric current used for the light shall be 350 watts. Such miniature machine shall be operated in an approved box or case of fire-resisting material constructed with a fusible link or other approved releasing device to close the projection opening instantaneously and completely in case of combustion within the box or case. The light in such miniature machine shall be completely enclosed in a metal lantern box covered with an irremovable roof;
- (b) the use or operation of any so-called miniature picture apparatus which uses only an enclosed incandescent electric lamp and non-inflammable or slow-burning films, and is of such construction that films of ordinary standard size cannot be used therewith.

46. A miniature picture machine as described in the last preceding regulation shall not be placed or fixed within 1.5 metres of any hangings, curtains or furniture of an inflammable nature or construction, and the rewinding or repair of films used in connection with such miniature machine shall not be effected in the building whilst any member of the audience is present therein.

Position of miniature machines

47. In all places of entertainment where cinematograph exhibitions form, or are intended to form, the whole or any portion of the entertainment, the angle of elevation of the top edge of the screen at any point in the auditorium 1.07 metres above the floor shall not exceed 35 degrees; and the horizontal angle made by the screen and a line connecting the vertical edge of the screen and the seat in the front row furthest therefrom shall not be less than 25 degrees:

Position of screen

Provided that nothing herein contained shall require the alteration of the seating arrangements of any building existing at the commencement of these Regulations and which has been duly licensed for cinematograph exhibitions.

14th November, 1930

48. Where a licence has been granted under the Act in respect of a movable building, a plan and description of the building, certified with the approval of the Licensing Officer, shall be attached to the licence. Such licence may provide that any of the conditions or restrictions contained therein may be modified by the Licensing Officer at any place where a cinematograph exhibition is about to be given. The licence and plan and description, or any of them, shall be produced on demand to any member of the Zambia Police Force of or above the rank of Sub Inspector or to any person authorised by the Licensing Officer.

Movable buildings

(As amended by No. 400 of 1962)

PART V GENERALPART V

GENERAL

49. The licensee shall be responsible for the compliance with these Regulations in every respect, and for the employment of competent, experienced and trustworthy operators, and may be required at any time to supply to the Licensing Officer satisfactory credentials in this respect.

Compliance with Regulations

50. In regard to any theatre situated in any municipality constituted under the provisions of the Local Government Act, the council of such municipality shall exercise all the powers conferred by these Regulations on the Inspector of Fire Services.

Municipality to have similar powers as Inspector of Fire Services.
Cap. 281

(As amended by No. 282 of 1958, No. 373 of 1961 and S.I. No. 11 of 1971)

The Laws of Zambia

SCHEDULE

(Regulation 38)

LIMELIGHT

The gas cylinders shall be tested and filled in conformity with the requirements set out below:

(Cylinders of compressed gas (oxygen, hydrogen or coal-gas))

- (a) Lap-welded wrought iron: greatest working pressure, 120 atmospheres, or 126.55 kg per square centimetre:
- (1) Stress due to working pressure not to exceed 1.024 tonnes per square centimetre.
 - (2) Proof pressure in hydraulic test, after annealing, shall be 224 atmospheres, or 236.24 kg per square centimetre.
 - (3) Permanent stretch in hydraulic test not to exceed 10 per centum of the elastic stretch.
 - (4) One cylinder in fifty to be subjected to a statical bending test, and to stand crushing nearly flat between two rounded knife-edges without cracking.
- (b) Lap-welded or seamless steel: greatest working pressure, 120 atmospheres, or 126.55 kg per square centimetre:
- (1) Stress due to working pressure not to exceed 1.181 tonnes per square centimetre in lap-welded, or 8.16 tonnes per square centimetre in seamless, cylinders.
 - (2) Carbons in steel not to exceed 0.25 per centum or iron to be less than 99 per centum.
 - (3) Tenacity of steel not to be less than 4.095 tonnes or more than 5.197 tonnes per square centimetre. Ultimate elongation not less than 3.1 centimetres in 20 centimetres. Test-bar to be cut from finished annealed cylinder.
 - (4) Proof pressure in hydraulic test, after annealing, shall be 224 atmospheres or 236.24 kg per square centimetre.
 - (5) Permanent stretch shown by water jacket not to exceed 10 per centum of elastic stretch.
 - (6) One cylinder in fifty to be subjected to a statical bending test, and to stand crushing nearly flat between rounded knife-edges without cracking.

Regulations applicable to all cylinders

- (1) Cylinders to be marked with a rotation number, a manufacturer's or owner's mark, an annealing mark with date and a test mark with date. The marks to be permanent and easily visible.
- (2) Testing to be repeated at least every two years, and annealing at least every four years.
- (3) A record to be kept of all tests.
- (4) Cylinders which fail in testing to be destroyed or rendered useless.
- (5) Hydrogen and coal-gas cylinders to have left-handed threads for attaching connections and to be painted red.
- (6) The compressing apparatus to have two pressure gauges, and an automatic arrangement for preventing overcharging. The compressing apparatus for oxygen to be wholly distinct and unconnected with the compressing apparatus for hydrogen and coal-gas.
- (7) Cylinders not to be refilled till they have been emptied.
- (8) If cylinders are sent out unpacked, the valve fittings to be protected by a steel cap.
- (9) A minimum weight to be fixed for each size of cylinder in accordance with the required thickness. Cylinders of less weight to be rejected.

REGULATION 2 OF THE THEATRES AND CINEMATOGRAPH EXHIBITION
REGULATIONS-APPLICATION

Government Notices
245 of 1950
183 of 1956
224 of 1958

Notices by the Minister

The whole of the Regulations are hereby applied to the following municipalities, and townships:

- (a) Municipalities:
 - City of Lusaka
 - City of Kitwe
 - City of Ndola
 - Chingola Municipality
 - Kabwe Municipality
 - Livingstone Municipality
 - Luanshya Municipality
 - Mufulira Municipality

- (b) Townships:
 - Chililabombwe Township
 - Chipata Township
 - Choma Township
 - Kalulushi Township
 - Chililabombwe
 - Kabwe Municipality
 - Mufulira Township
 - Nchanga Township
 - Nkana Township
 - Luanshya Township