

FIRE ADVICE SHOCK

THE number of people who will be allowed to attend functions at Cowbridge Town Hall, if fire service recommendations are adopted, startled members of Cowbridge Borough Council at their monthly meeting.

Members pointed out that if they adopted the low number suggested for dancing, there would never be another profitable dance in the building, while the number suggested for closely seated audience was so high, that they would be packed in like sardines in a tin.

Mr. Hubert Thomas reported that he had checked the figures, which were based on a Home Office recommendation and found that they were correct.

The figures showed that only 140 persons would be allowed into the hall for dancing, but that 234 could be seated in the same space.

Members of the council, who had close connections, with the dramatic and operatic societies, pointed out that the maximum number they had ever been able to seat was about 180 and at the current performance of the operatic society, the number had been reduced to 165.

Other members who had experience of running dances in the hall, commented that in order to break even, there had to be 200 dancers and to make a slight profit 220 people at a dance.

The problem of functions were not dances, and did not have closely seated audiences, such as cheese and wine parties, was raised. "What numbers were allowed at these functions?" members asked and Mr. Thomas stated that there were no regulations covering such functions.

...made by council-
lors, was the fact that they
felt it would be easier to
evacuate a building in
panic conditions, when a
dance was being held, than
when the people were
jammed in together sitting
in closely spaced rows.
It was decided that Mr.
Thomas should discuss the
problem with the fire ser-
vice's fire prevention de-
partment.