

'Theatre upstairs' is in full use

WORKINGTON can now boast a second live theatre. The "Theatre Upstairs" forms part of the new extension to the Theatre Royal on Washington Street.

The new theatre, with a sizeable stage area as well as seating for 50 people, has already put on three public events and its future programme is being worked on.

The extension, developed from former shop premises which front on to Wilson Street at the theatre's rear, represent a total investment of over £40,000 by Workington

Playgoers' Club — most of which has been provided by covenants.

Although the new extension has not yet been officially declared open, it is in full use. On the ground floor there is a new flat bay and workshop, along with dressing rooms. Above are two props rooms, a costume room and toilets, and on the top floor is the theatre upstairs plus a small kitchen.

ference," said Playgoers' Club stalwart Ron Dickens, "especially the new theatre and the workshop.

"All the hard rehearsal work for our current production of Taking Steps was done in the theatre upstairs, the total area of which is almost full stage size."

The new theatre has already put on an evening of music and verse, a book discussion evening and a four-person review.

REHEARSALS

As well as being used for small-scale productions, the new theatre is also being used as rehearsal room for main productions. "The new premises have already made a tremendous dif-