

47/1

STAGE DOOR CANTENEN CLOSES

Home from home for 3,000,000 Service men and women, London's Stage Door Canteen closes down. Still popular after 2½ years, the close-down has brought many protests from service people. Alternative accommodation is needed - and should be provided to embrace all the services, with emphasis on the embrace.

Guests and entertainers alike were sorry to leave. Outside, a crowd of 2,000 strong watch chairman Charles Dixon perform his duty with padlock and chain.

Time yet to sing "Auld Lang Syne" as they march down Piccadilly. Memories mingle with the hope that new premises may yet be found and the 'Stage Door' spirit live again.