5 pm Matinees come to Brisbane

The Brisbane theatre group will introduce a Sydney wartime idea of 5 o'clock matinees to Brisbane this week.

The venture results from unprecedented bookings last week for an amateur performance here.

For the play, "Travellers' Joy," to be staged at the Albert Hall by the Brisbane Repertory Theatre, bookings opened to Repertory members last Tuesday morning.

Members were queuing in Queen Street at 7 am.

By the end of the day the Albert Hall was almost completely booked out for the four nights next Wednesday to Saturday.

Only a few back row seats were left when bookings opened to the public on Thursday.

Now the 5 o'clock matinee will be staged next Saturday.