

## Pop Singers out of Hotel

Morning Telegraph Reporter

Pop singers Gene Pitney and Clodagh Rogers were among nearly 250 people evacuated from the Grand Hotel, Sheffield, in the early hours of yesterday morning after a fire had started in the hotel's basement.

The fire which is believed, to have been started in the dustbins by a cigarette end was discovered by a member of the staff.

More than 190 people attending a dinner dance, residents and 35 members of staff were ordered from the building when the blaze looked like spreading.

They included the two pop-stars who had earlier 'appeared at a concert at the City Hall.

The manager, Mr. Philip Shepherd, said later: "There was a considerable amount of smoke in the foyer and upper area, but no serious damage. There was a great deal of damage done to electrical wiring in the basement, but maintenance engineers worked throughout the night and it was business as usual by breakfast time"