

TABS readers who are interested in the earlier history of stage lighting are referred to Miss St. Clare Byrne's article. An equally fascinating history, but of the early application of electricity generally, is given in *The History of Electric Wiring* by John Mellanby (MacDonald, London).

The 52 dimmer ways of 1929 are being replaced by 120 resistances and transformers remotely controlled from a standard Strand C.D. console.

There is only one sorrow and that is that the Console "is made to dwell in a dungeon cell upon a spot that is always barred". From this cell—the old switchboard room—any view of the stage is completely barred and one must hope that the operator deprived of a view of proceedings on stage will not find himself during rehearsals playing like "the billiard sharp whose doom is extremely hard" and who, in the words of the *Mikado*,

... plays extravagant matches
In fitless finger stalls
On a cloth untrue
With a twisted cue
And elliptical billiard balls.

The new Strand C.D. Console Control now being installed at the Savoy Theatre.

