

*The Patt. 243 with Polestar attachment giving in situ adjustment of pan tilt and focus.*



ticularly good example of this usage because it is paired with *Bluebeard's Castle* and the lanterns are entirely reset by means of the pole in the interval between the two operas. It is an extraordinary experience to be on stage during the interval and see the scenery put into position and the lanterns carefully and accurately focussed on the correct areas by means of the pole.

An attempt is being made to provide facilities for dropping the colours in and out, but it would seem that the colour problem is not so serious as the focussing because in a large number of stage sets it is possible to drop the bar in and change the colours and put the barndoors on and so on. It is focussing and setting the lanterns which is impossible to do other than in the raised position. Incidentally, the use of the new Patt. 243 for *Oedipus* also shows the versatility of this lantern. It is used variously as a full flood of 55°, spotted down to a near parallel beam to stimulate a Pageant and even set, in one instance, to give a rectangular beam of light hitherto only expected of a Mirror Spot. The rectangular beam is provided by the barndoor attachment.

The prime reason for a barndoor is not to shape the beam so that the lantern apes a Mirror Spot, though, as can be seen, this can be useful on occasions. It is there to intercept the slight ghost light when this is objectionable. There are four doors and the whole thing pivots so that this task is rendered easy. One effect of using fewer and brighter lanterns of this type is to give cleaner and more decisive lighting and this particularly seems to suit the *Oedipus* production. It may well be that we are due for a change of lighting fashion and that the present West End set with its masses and masses of Baby Mirror Spots will be replaced by much fewer of the new Fresnel Spots. For the truth is that although the Baby Mirror Spot is capable of a very sharp edge beam, it seldom seems to be required to fulfil this purpose in present West End lighting.