

## U.V. FLOODLIGHTS

Mainly restricted to revue and pantomime, ultra violet light is useful only in the fact that paints, materials and make-up treated with a special base will fluoresce under this type of illumination. The effectiveness is dependent upon the degree of blackout available. To ensure wide coverage and high efficiency, the Furze range of standard floodlights are adapted for this purpose, using a 125 watt Mercury Vapour Discharge Lamp with a black glass filter.

Cat. No.	Description	Price each £
M-FL-UV	Medium UV Floodlight .. .. .	23-86

## PYROTECHNICS FOR STAGE, SCREEN AND TELEVISION PRODUCTIONS

Use of pyrotechnic devices to produce a few well known special effects has been long established, however the range of these devices and the effects it is possible to achieve has recently been extended and the following brief outline will indicate to producers and others the very wide scope available.

### BRILLIANT FLASHES OF WHITE LIGHT

These are produced by igniting a special powder in a suitably prepared box. The powder is supplied under the heading 'Flash Powder' in small cartons and is ignited electrically.

Professionally, a Flash-box is used which consists of a metal container lined with asbestos and containing two contacts wired for plugging into a mains supply. In use, the contacts are bridged by means of thin fuse wire which overheats and ignites the powder. As an alternative to the mains supply a car battery can be used. The fuse wire should be of a low rating to ensure there is no danger of the short-circuit spreading to the mains. When used in conjunction with a mains supply, it is always preferable to feed the flash-box via a separate switch and fuse to give adequate protection.

Care should always be taken in operation, to ensure that performers or scenery are not too close to the equipment.

### TRANSFORMATION FIRES

These are used by igniting a small heap of the special powder in the middle of a metal tray by means of a taper and are available in the following colours:- White, yellow, orange, red, green, blue.

### MAROONS

These are available in three sizes and can be used to simulate the

effect of shots, cannon or explosions. For normal indoor use, sizes 1 and 2 should prove adequate.

In use the maroon is suspended in the centre of a metal tank or dustbin fitted with a **wire-mesh** top or lid. The fuse leads of the maroon are connected to a 4½ volt dry battery, bell transformer, car battery etc. via a **suitable isolating switch**. The operator of this firing switch should be positioned so that he can ensure no one is dangerously near the maroon when it is fired.

## SMOKE

The type of smoke-producing device used will be largely dependent on the nature of the effect required.

**Naked Ignition Smoke Powder** is used in a similar manner to flash-powder and produces a flare for several seconds accompanied by clouds of white smoke.

**Slow Burning Smoke Powder** can be used to produce smoke continually over periods of up to five minutes. In use the powder is spread over the surface of a hot-plate or smoke-box (consisting of a mica tray suspended over a 1 kilowatt heater element). One heaped teaspoonful of powder will produce smoke for three minutes. The hot-plate or smoke-box should be switched on to allow it to heat up before use or alternatively allow about 15 seconds for the warming-up period.

**Smoke Pellets** are used in a similar manner to the Slow Burning Smoke Powder.

**Smoke Generators** are available which will produce a steady output of smoke for periods ranging from two minutes to one hour. The larger versions are only suitable for use in open-air theatres or 'on location' and note must be taken of the wind strength and direction.

**Coloured Smokes**, as distinct from white smoke appearing coloured by reason of the lighting, are available in yellow, orange, red, green and blue. Since the smoke has a tendency to stain fabrics and materials in close proximity these are normally used out-of-doors.

## SPECIAL EFFECTS

Special effect can readily be manufactured to suit any particular production. For example, repetitive bangs at regular or irregular intervals to simulate rifle or gunfire, with or without accompanying flashes of light.

Giant 'Sparklers' have been made and proved very effective as 'Fairy Wands' or similar.

Firework displays from miniature to large scale can be arranged for 'Feast' or 'Fiesta' type scenes.