



Fig. 1. View from stage. Note control room windows at rear. Prompt side is for lighting, other side for future TV video control, etc.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

A Proscenium Stage with a Difference

by Dennis Irving

Most readers of TABS who follow theatrical ventures outside the United Kingdom will be aware of the existence of the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust, whose initial director, Mr. Hugh Hunt, has just returned to England.

Apart from presentation of various forms of theatrical performances throughout Australia, one of the original aims of the Theatre Trust was to foster education in this field, and the most recent manifestation of this is known as the National Institute of Dramatic Art, which name is in these days naturally condensed to its initials NIDA.

NIDA was established early in 1959 at the University of New South Wales, under the joint auspices of the Elizabethan Theatre Trust, the Australian Broadcasting Commission and the University. At that time, the University was only ten years old, and possessed only one small and poorly equipped building which could be called a theatre. However, a considerable amount of construction was in