

good variable load performance. This is hard to achieve in an economical manner with saturable reactors, even when using pilot reactors, and in this case the problem was solved by fitting all the dimmers over 1kW with tapping switches.* A multi-pole changeover switch enables the house lights to be controlled from the stage dimmer system.

The control desk, patch panel and dimmer rack are all situated in a single room at the rear of the balcony, which, joy of joys, has a *huge* viewing window (Fig. 5). A catwalk in the roof runs from above the control room, past the two auditorium light bridges to the No. 1 stage bridge.

It would be no use giving a list of what equipment is used where, as all is changed around from show to show—indeed, during the opening play the bottom cyclorama lighting was provided by Patt. 76 Acting Areas on their sides!

For students of statistics, here is an inventory of all equipment supplied:

Lanterns

- 16 Strand Patt. 93 Mirror Spots.
- 17 Strand Patt. 58 Pageant Lanterns.
- 14 Strand Patt. 76 Acting Area Lanterns.
- 28 Strand Patt. 23 Baby Mirror Spots.
- 6 Strand Patt. 60M Medium Angle Floods.
- 12 Strand Patt. 60 Wide Angle Floods.
- 4 Reiche & Vogel Horizon Lanterns.
- 6 Strand Patt. 123 Fresnel Spots.

Control

72 channel Strand System SR Preset,* with fifty 1,000-watt untapped reactors, fourteen 2,000-watt reactors with tapping switches and eight 3,000-watt reactors with tapping switches.

There are 100 outlets or groups of paralleled outlets, fed from the dimmer rack by means of a cord and jack patch panel, which incorporates an ammeter for load checks, and changeover switching for house-light dimming facility.

The building opened in May this year with a performance of *Green Pastures*, which gave ample opportunity to use the cyclorama to good effect. A single Patt. 23 with a cloud slide proved to be extremely effective in one particular scene.

In case anyone should doubt the necessity for 72 control ways, our Sydney agent assures us that every one was in use for this play, and adds that the cues were such that only an SR preset board or a console could have handled them reliably.

The lighting and production for *Green Pastures* were carried out by Professor Robert Quentin of NIDA, and our thanks go to him for the background information used in this article.

* *Note:* The Strand transistorised saturable reactor system known as L.C. had not then been introduced.