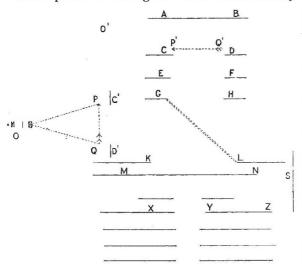
on the theatre wall at S. As only the figures themselves were seen, the rest of the screen must have been dark, and therefore the background of each picture must have been painted out on the film with black (unless the film was unusually opaque). This painting out would account for the absence of the "rain" effect of the usual animatograph

reproduction.

It is obvious from the foregoing that there is no stereoscopic effect in the strict sense, *i.e.* that there is no difference between the picture seen by the right eye and that seen by the left eye, at least so far as the figures are concerned. But as the picture is a long way back on the stage (some 40 ft. or more), so that the difference between the pictures that should be seen by the two eyes would be quite small, and as the temple itself is of course in relief, there is no difficulty in imagining the figures to be in relief also; indeed, as they step backwards and forwards the illusion is very complete.

Some parts of the glass were unfortunately



badly out of parallelism, and when the reflection occurred at these places a doubling of the image was produced, which made the figures very indistinct; this, of course, cannot be avoided in such a large sheet of glass. Some other defects that we noticed could have been avoided. For instance, the image of the edge of the screen PQ did not quite coincide with the pillars CD; so that when the figures walked off the stage they disappeared before they reached the pillars. Apparently the image P'Q' is a little behind the plane CD (for this defect was more evident at X than Z); if so, a pair of pillars C'D' should be so placed in front of PQ as to form an image exactly coincident with CD. Then, wherever the image was viewed from, this parallax would disappear. We also noticed that the barrel in one item, which was placed on the stage, was not quite the shape or size of the one in the picture. The upper part of a pillar at B was rather brighter than the rest of the background, and could occasionally be seen through the figures. It should be painted a little darker. ERADICATION OF PLANT DISEASES.

THE general assembly of the International Institute of Agriculture in session at Rome has wisely refrained from extending the Phylloxera Convention to all cases of plant diseases. Signor Cuboni's report on the diseases of plants and the best method to prevent their propagation gave rise to a lively discussion, but it was felt that rough-and-ready measures would do more harm than good. Ultimately a memorandum was adopted conveying the following recommendations:—

(1) The establishment of a Government service of phytopathology by all Governments of countries adhering to the International Institute of Agriculture.

(2) The convening at an early date of an international conference of specialists with the view of arriving at an international agreement upon the means of preventing plant diseases. The wish was expressed that the French Government would follow up the initiative it has already taken by calling such a meeting.

(3) At each general assembly of the institute the specialists of the various Governments should meet in a separate commission to discuss the results of their researches and studies on the diseases of plants.

(4) Countries adhering to the International Institute should at once begin to study the various questions which the International Commission of Phytopathology will have before it, basing their study upon the materials which the International Institute of Agriculture will be able to furnish.

The subject is one for concerted action. The study of plant diseases is not a simple one. It concerns the entomologist and protozoologist as well as the botanist, and among botanists not merely the students of fungi or bacteria, but the physiologist and the investigator on Mendelian lines; for the production of disease-resisting forms is one of the surest ways of eliminating the disease-factor. Furthermore, periodical meetings of the workers in these various fields of investigation will tend to encourage the worker, and will ensure that the results of the work are put to the best advantage. Comparison of results obtained in the same line of research under the various conditions offered by different countries will be specially helpful; and if international legislation is to follow, these various conditions must be carefully considered.

It should be obvious also that an organised service of phytopathology is an essential, and an ad hoc training of experts is a prime necessity. The study of plant diseases offers ample scope for investigation, and a Government service would find work for a supply of experts at home and abroad. One example will suffice. The Jamaica banana industry has been recently threatened with disaster because the Department of Agriculture had no expert in plant diseases to recognise on its outbreak a well-known disease which had already caused serious loss to the same industry in Central America