

Extracts from College Annual Report 1957/1958

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW

Dr. I. E. Farquhar has been appointed to an Assistant Lectureship in the Department. He is a graduate of the University of Aberdeen.

The task of designing the new Physics Building has occupied a good deal of time during the year, and members of the Department have now agreed with the architect about the detailed design of all rooms.

Professor Jones was invited to the International Conference on Low-Temperature Physics held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, U.S.A. Professor Jones and Professor Eisenschitz were invited to a small specialised conference at Varenna, Italy, on the Condensed State of Simple Systems. Dr. Powles was an invited speaker at the annual Colloque A.M.P.E.R.E. held in Paris, and lectured at the University of Geneva and C.E.R.N. A party from the Department attended the Physical Society's two-day conference on Spectroscopy of Solids at R.R.E., Malvern. A large party visited the Kamerlingh Onnes Conference on Low-Temperature Physics at Leiden Holland, in June 1958, contributions being made by Dr. Dobbs, Dr. Doidge, Dr. Figgins, Dr. Heastie, Professor Jones, Dr. Martin and Miss Scott. Dr. Burfoot was a vacation consultant at R.A.E., Farnborough, during the summer of 1957.

A course of advanced lectures on Applied Symmetry was given by Dr. Powles.

The British Oxygen Company has generously arranged to provide funds sufficient to support three research students in the Department for seven years. There are no conditions attached to this large grant, except that the work should be in the broad field of low-temperature physics, and it is regarded as an ideal example of the way in which industry can support research in the universities.

Professor Jones has been appointed to a special sub-committee in solid-state physics of the D.S.I.R. Grants Committee. He is Executive Vice-President of the Atomic Scientists' Association and broadcast on the question of detecting nuclear test explosions.

In November a group consisting of most of the First Year Physics students visited Cumberland Lodge with a corresponding group from the History Department. This event proved very successful and will probably become a regular feature. The Physical Society has been active during the year. The guests at the Society's Annual Dinner were Mr. and Mrs. Tong, Professor J. E. Smith, Dean of the Faculty of Science, and Dr. and Mrs. Irons. The entertainment following the Dinner was generally thought to be the best yet and included some Scottish ballads by Dr. Farquhar and a mock students' lecture by Dr. Powles.