

Extracts from College Annual Report 1958/59

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW

At the start of the session Dr. J. W. Leech returned after eighteen months leave of absence at the National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa. Dr. E. R. Dobbs left for a year's leave of absence at Brown University, Rhode Island, U.S.A. In March, Dr. R. O. Davies left for about six months' stay in New Zealand, to lecture and work mainly at Canterbury University, Christchurch. After one year in temporary appointments, Dr. R. E. Turner has been appointed to an I.C.I. Fellowship at Oxford and Dr. K. Luszczynski to a post at the George Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri.

At the end of December a start was made on Stages I and IIA of the new Physics Building and the occasion was marked by an informal ceremony and party attended by past and present members of the Department, many of the architects' and contractors' staff associated with the building and by other well-wishers. The part now under construction is (in floor area) about four-fifths of the whole, and includes all the teaching accommodation.

A second refresher course for physics masters was held during the Christmas vacation. On this occasion the course was organised by Dr. Heastie and covered three days.

A Joint meeting of the British Radio Frequency Spectroscopy Group and the Groupement A.M.P.E.R.E. organised by Dr. Powles was held in the College on April 1, 2 and 3rd, 1959. It was attended by over two hundred scientists, about half of them coming from abroad. This is the first time the A.M.P.E.R.E. Group have held a conference outside France. Invited papers were given by Professor H. Fröhlich (Liverpool), Dr. J. G. Powles (Queen Mary College) and Dr. M. Buyle-Bodin (Grenoble).

Professor Jones was invited to lecture to the Institut des Hauts Etudes Lie Belgique and visited the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

Professor Eisenschitz was invited to lecture to the Conference of the German Rheological Society in Berlin.

Dr. Powles was invited to lecture at the Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris, and visited the French nuclear research laboratory at Saclay.

Dr. Irons spent several months in the summer and autumn lecturing at the new University College of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Salisbury. He also visited the University College of East Africa, Makeré, Uganda, and the University of Khartoum.

Dr. Davies was invited as a main speaker by the National Research Council of the U.S. Academy of Sciences to a conference on Amorphous Solids held at Alfred, New York. He also visited several university and other laboratories in the U.S.A. and Canada.

An extended course of advanced lectures on "Theory of Metals" was given by Dr. Davies, Dr. Farquhar, Dr. Leech and Dr. Turner, with members of the Mathematics Department.

In Finals (1958) four students obtained First Class Honours and five D.S.I.R. Research Studentships were awarded. There were twenty-six full-time research students in the Department.

A grant of £800 was made by Imperial Chemical Industries for the purchase of apparatus by Dr. Powles's research group.

Professor Jones has been appointed to Government Grant Committee B of the Royal Society and to the University Extension Committee. Dr. Irons has been re-elected as representative of the Board of Studies in Physics on the Board of the Faculty of Science of the University.

There were two visits to Cumberland Lodge during the year, the first by First Year Physics students just after the start of the session and the second by the Physical Society. Guests at the Society's Annual Dinner were Professor S. Tolansky, F.R.S. of Royal Holloway College and Mrs. Tolansky, the Principal and Lady Creed, and Mr. and Mrs. Tong. The Department held its second outing for academic and technical staff and research students, this time to Clacton.