

Plans for new Cavendish

Plans are being made to rebuild the Cavendish Laboratory of Cambridge University. According to Sir Nevill Mott, holder of the Cavendish Chair of experimental physics, the department presently occupies 160 000 sq ft but could need up to 350 000 for advanced teaching and research and elementary laboratories.

A committee of Cambridge faculty members headed by W. A. Deer, professor of mineralogy, has examined the long-term needs of the various scientific departments of the university. It specifically recommends [Cambridge University Reporter 96, no. 14, (1965)] that a site in West Cambridge be developed, initially for physics, and later for other physical sciences, and the proposals have been ratified by the "Regent House," the assembly of all teaching officers within the university.

In making its recommendations the committee concerns itself with matters going beyond the purely physical

needs of the individual departments. It feels it necessary, for example, to maintain the various disciplines in close physical proximity, while anticipating possible changes in administrative organization and trends in numbers of both students and staff. Supervised research, in particular, has been the main sufferer from the shortage and inadequacy of accommodation for physics, the Deer committee reports. This shortage is one of the most urgent problems in the university, says the committee, since some of the buildings into which the department is crowded date from the 1870's and many are dingy and obsolete; Mott describes them as "our Victorian slums."

A group within the Cavendish, Mott tells us, has been giving much thought to proper planning of a large university laboratory. He believes that the cost will be at least £3 million (\$8.4 million) and that part will come from government sources and part from elsewhere. This may be quite a problem, he says, particularly in view

of the deflationary measures recently taken in England to rescue the pound, which include deep cuts in public and private spending.

Founded in 1871, the Cavendish Laboratory was built with the personal funds of the Duke of Devonshire (a descendant of Henry Cavendish) who was then chancellor of the university. James Clerk Maxwell occupied the first Cavendish Chair, followed by John Lord Rayleigh, Sir J. J. Thomson, Ernest Lord Rutherford, Sir Lawrence Bragg and Sir Nevill Mott.

NSF fellowships

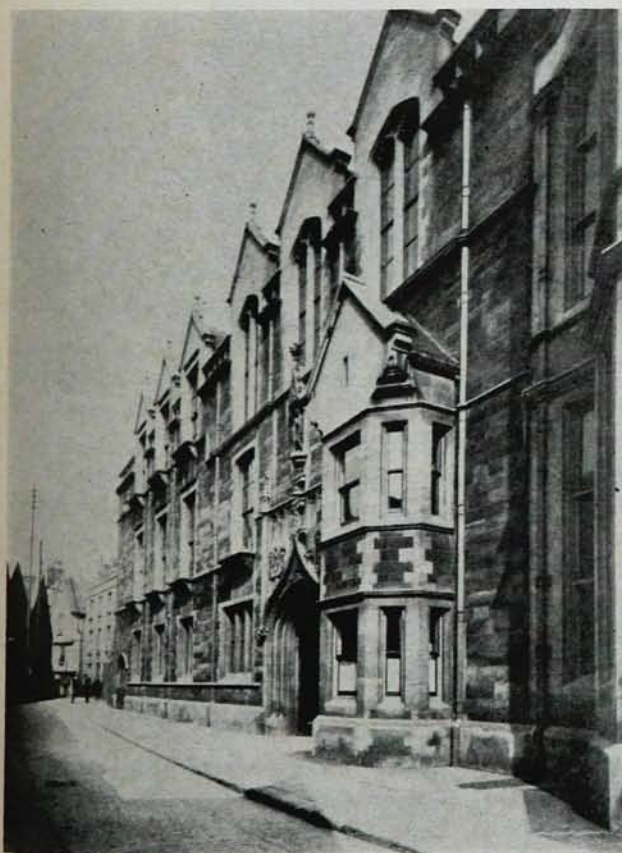
Application deadlines for three fellowship programs have been announced by the National Science Foundation.

Science faculty fellowships (deadline: 10 Oct. 1966) will be awarded to 350 junior college, college and university teachers of science, mathematics or engineering who have a minimum of 3 academic years of full-time teaching experience, and who plan to continue teaching. The fellowships provide an opportunity to improve teaching effectiveness.

One hundred senior postdoctoral fellowships (deadline: 10 Oct. 1966) will be awarded to scientists of recognized stature who have held the doctoral degree for at least 5 years, or who have had the equivalent in training and research experience. These fellowships provide the opportunity for supplemental study or research.

NATO postdoctoral fellowships, administered by the NSF, will be awarded to approximately 55 holders of the doctoral degree or those with the equivalent in training and experience. Recipients are expected to study or work in NATO-member countries, but consideration will be given to those planning study elsewhere.

For further information and application materials write: (NSF) Fellowships Section, Division of Graduate Education in Science, National Science Foundation, Washington, D.C.



OLDEST BUILDINGS of Cavendish Laboratory, seen from Free School Lane in Cambridge, date from the last century.