Materials Center Plans Complete

Second Largest Building At MIT
To Rise In '63

Construction of the Institute's newest major building, the Materials Center, will be completed early in 1964. Located on the north side of building 19, the new structure will form another major entrance to MIT. Made possible by financial assistance from the Department of Defense, the center will be available for occupancy by summer 1964.

In the original plans for the new building, William Willis, the architect, envisaged an eventual extension to the south wings to the north, changes in architecture and con-

The architect's drawing of the planned Materials Science Center, with the rear of the Great Dome in the background.

trols, and stairways with wide steps. The center will rise to the same height as the main building; however, having lower ceilings, it will contain five floors instead of four. Being 380 feet in length and having 100,000 square feet of floor space, it will be the second largest building at MIT.

The building is to be constructed of concrete in a colonnade effect. The facades will be dominated by windows, with walls of the first floor set back to create a colonnade effect. The facades will be dominated by windows, with walls of the first floor set back to create a colonnade effect. The facades will be dominated by windows, with walls of the first floor set back to create a colonnade effect. The facades will be dominated by windows, with walls of the first floor set back to create a colonnade effect. The facades will be dominated by windows, with walls of the first floor set back to create a colonnade effect.

Defence Dept. Support

The Defense Department's Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) has authorized the use of $6,000,000 Materials Science, and Engineering will be the second of five centers for the advancement of new materials, and on an understanding of the processes determining their properties, according to Dr. Robert Allman, British physicist who has recently come to the Institute as MIT's first director.

Materials at MIT are now under construction. The Center for Earth Sciences is now under construction. The Center for Earth Sciences is now under construction. The Center for Earth Sciences is now under construction.

Joshua Wolf, Lester Young, Ted Young, Michael Weiss, Barry Wessler, Jim Wolf, Lester Young, Ted Young.

The Tech

Will Colleges Pay for Service? City Studies Plan

The colleges in Boston may be required to pay more for parking lots and permits under a plan now being studied by Boston City Council. Under the plan, colleges and hospitals would pay for police, firemen, and street and street personnel who now get free. The plan is not likely to be in effect before 1964.

MIT and Harvard would not be affected because they already pay for police and street services under a long-standing “in lieu of taxes” arrangement. According to the Boston Globe, Bailey Nott and former Mayor Hynes, tried to get colleges and hospitals to pay for city services they use. The mayor found college presidents very willing to talk about the subject. They did not, however, ask for any money.

Currently, the City is studying the legal ramifications of levying taxes on non-educational parts of colleges.

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The researchers led by Dr. Robert M. Dowben, professor of biochemistry at MIT, announced significant progress in reversing muscular dystrophy at the 106th clinical meeting of the American Medical Association. The researchers found that two drugs, a sterol called 1-methyl-delta-1-1-threonol, and digitoxin, a digitalis compound, retard and slow the progress of the disease.

Dowben believes that muscular dystrophy may be at least partially due to lack of cell fluid through the membranes of the cell. This disease seems to increase the amount of leakage, thereby decreasing the rate of destruction of muscular tissues. Dowben believes disease progresses.

Dr. Dowben, a native of Philadelphia, is a graduate of Haverford College with an A.B. and of the University of Chicago, from which he received his M.D. He is assistant professor of medicine and is director of the endocrine and metabolic clinics at Northwestern University Medical School. He has specialized in muscle physiology.

Research Conducted On Computer-Planned Schedules

By Richard S. Russell

The Registrar's Office is conducting research to determine whether institutional scheduling can be handled by a computer. The Advanced Academic Simulation Program (GASP) Project has been using the IBM 7090 computer for the past several years.

GASP is one of the most promising programs of its kind; other programs are exploratory. GASP is an interactive program for investigating the computer's role in clerical processing, and is the result of Robert Holz, MIT's Assistant Registrar, the "computer should be thought of as a tool here."

The computer may help in scheduling courses as early as 1962, but it will not be used in the 1963 schedule, scheduled to be completed by many low-achievement students.

The GASP progress report, co-authored by Mr. Holz, states: "We pro-duced significantly better schedules than was produced manually for this term's use at Harvard. A number of scheduling conflicts were reduced to one-fourth of last term's total."

A score of 200 is the highest pos- sible, and 225 to 230 is a practical goal. At Harvard, GASP had achieved 227. This report has given the researchers more experience with class assignments by computer.

What does this mean to the Teach? 2061 students returned questionnaires for the Register's Office at the beginning of this term. The questionnaire showed that 89% of the students preferred class assignments; 17% wanted breaks between classes, and 16% had no preference.

In addition, 85% preferred class assignments in the morning; 25% preferred midday, and 1% the afternoon; 25% preferred a free lunch hour, although another 55% indicated they would not be satisfied with a free lunch hour. These findings have been used by the GASP workers to schedule a student's day, according to his preferences, although it will be impossible to accommodate all requests. Similar questionnaires are distributed by most departments to MIT students. Programmers, students, and faculty can be correlated when formulating schedules.

Despite the fact that 25% of the students were indifferent to a free lunch hour, the MIT Medical Department adovcates such a time. GASP has tried to find schedules that would give the students effective class assignments.

The GASP Project has been supported by a similar group at Stanford. Dr. H. P. Gadsby, who directs the research group here, has also been analyzing GASP findings. On the whole, it seems that the research helps to improve the small colleges and high schools. Instead of the building of a new Nakase Student House School has been aided by GASP Dame room allotments.

MIT will find in the 7090's schedules as well as the times the make them feasible. We are now researching a research being carried out by MIT's Administration Studies Committee, by Educational Facilities Laboratories (affiliated with the Ford Foundation), and by IBM.