

disruption of scientific meetings. The Soviets also received messages of concern from the New York Academy of Sciences, the American Physical Society, the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics, and the American Mathematical Society.

Hirsch says that the crisis came to a head when ten Soviet participants in the conference were summoned one by one to police headquarters and told that they were engaging in anti-Soviet activities. Some were threatened with arrest, and others were told they would lose the privilege of living in Moscow. They were reminded of the case of Viktor Brailovsky, the cyberneticist who was sentenced to 5 years of internal exile last June. The threats had the desired effect.

—**Eliot Marshall**

Cheap Electricity May Save 200 Brookhaven Jobs

On 21 September, New York Governor Hugh L. Carey told a Brookhaven National Laboratory audience that the Power Authority of the State of New York (PASNY) would divert some of its unused capacity to supply the laboratory with electricity at a fraction of the price the local utility is charging. The lower rate will reduce a projected \$18-million power bill in fiscal 1982 to \$11.5 million. The savings could rescue 200 jobs that are scheduled for elimination as the result of Reagan Administration budget cuts.

Brookhaven, in common with other laboratories that house power-intensive high energy accelerators, has been hard hit by rapidly rising electricity prices. Brookhaven has screamed louder than most because its supplier, the Long Island Lighting Company, depends on the most expensive fuel of all, oil, and for some years has charged the laboratory the same rates as other customers, rather than the lower tariff it once enjoyed.

The problem was compounded this year when the Reagan budget for fiscal 1982 contained a \$16-million decrease for Brookhaven; the laboratory calculated that the cut would require a reduction in force of 500 positions. In a first wave of layoffs last spring, 175 persons were let go. While more slots will go by attrition, many

workers have been fearfully awaiting the expected second wave. But, thanks to the new agreement with PASNY, this apparently will not come.

Martin Blume, an associate director of Brookhaven, seems to be the hero of the moment. Together with other members of the laboratory directorate, Blume early on identified low-cost electricity from PASNY as the most fruitful avenue of financial relief. PASNY was established back in the days when Franklin Roosevelt was governor of New York and was in some respects a forerunner of the Tennessee Valley Authority. The opportunity to purchase 16 megawatts of electricity from PASNY came when an upstate New York customer of the authority could not use the power it had contracted for. An additional 14 megawatts may soon be available. An intensive educational effort by Blume and his colleagues helped to convince Governor Carey and PASNY that Brookhaven's economic, technological, and educational importance to New York made the laboratory a worthy recipient of the low-cost electricity, for which there is a great demand.

—**Arthur L. Robinson**

Researcher Charged with Cruelty to Monkeys

Edward Taub, the scientist whose monkeys were seized from his laboratory after an animal rights group alleged mishandling, has now been charged with violation of Maryland's Animal Cruelty Law. Trial has been set for 27 October.

Events have been moving swiftly since police removed the 17 macaque monkeys from the Institute for Behavioral Research in Silver Spring on 16 September on the initiative of Alex Pacheco, a young animal rights activist who had been doing volunteer work at the laboratory. Police acted on the basis of an affidavit from four scientists Pacheco asked to survey the lab in Taub's absence in August (*Science*, 2 October, p. 32). The court placed the animals in the care of Ingrid Newkirk, a Maryland humane official who, in turn, had them deposited in the basement of the home of Lori Lehner of the county humane society. Both women are associated with Pa-

checo's group, People for Ethical Treatment of Animals.

The animals did not stay at Lehner's long, however. On 18 September Taub obtained a court order to have the monkeys returned to the laboratory. Shortly thereafter, the monkeys were kidnapped by persons who apparently did not want them sent back to Taub. Distraught, Taub held a press conference at which he said his monkeys might be killed and offered a \$450 reward for their return.

Meanwhile, negotiations were being carried on in secret between law officers and unnamed animal rightsers. Geza Teleki, a George Washington University primatologist who was one of the four to sign the affidavit, acted as an intermediary in the negotiations. Finally, on Saturday, 26 September, the animals were brought back to the laboratory, unharmed, by persons whose identities have been withheld.

Taub is now charged with animal cruelty, presumably on the basis of reports by two zoo veterinarians who examined them before they were kidnapped from their temporary quarters. The vets, Janis Ott, of the Brookfield Zoo in Illinois, and Phillip T. Robinson, of the San Diego Zoo, reportedly found that several of the monkeys require special care in the form of antibiotics and vitamin supplements. The state's attorney's office confirmed that there were problems with the monkeys, but said no details were being publicly released.

Taub has been using the monkeys in limb deafferentation research designed to benefit stroke victims. He says only about ten people in the country understand the problems attendant to the procedure in which nerves in one arm are severed, and that the charges are based on "a total misunderstanding of the nature of the research we have been doing. . . ."

The week before he was formally charged with violation of the Maryland law, Taub expressed the fear to *Science* that his reputation would be ruined in what he regarded as a set-up by animal rights activists. He called them a "reckless and ruthless group of people . . . who will stop at nothing to achieve their objective [halting all animal experimentation]." The group describes itself as being opposed to all painful research with animals.

—**Constance Holden**