

professors of the University of Naples, including Professor I. Califano, who also heads the biology and medicine section of the Italian National Research Council. The board has been badly shaken by Montalenti's resignation.

Adding to the disharmony has been the failure of a compromise attempt to give Dohrn some assistance with the scientific and technical side of his job. About a year ago, Professor G. Chieffi of the University of Camerino was named temporary scientific and technical adjutant to Dohrn by the council. Like most leading Italian biologists, Chieffi had close associations with the station. Chieffi's role was never clearly defined, relations between Dohrn and Chieffi were obviously strained, and last fall Chieffi made known his intention to resign.

The recent break between Montalenti and Dohrn and what it symbolizes make a settlement even more difficult. Not only did Montalenti have a long professional involvement with the station, but he was a close friend of Reinhard Dohrn. Early in his career Montalenti served as an assistant and then department head at the station. In 1939 he went to a post at the University of Bologna. When the armistice of 1943 took Italy out of the war, Montalenti made his way south and took over management of the station. He saw it through the very hard times at the end of the war and then moved to the chair in genetics at Naples University. Peter Dohrn, who served as a German army doctor, came back to Naples and, in the years after the war, studied at the university and joined the station staff as an assistant. In the mid-fifties Montalenti, a respected and influential figure in Italian and international science, supported Peter Dohrn in his succession to the directorship and took his part in times of stress afterwards. At a purely personal level, the estrangement between the two very different men is one of the saddest aspects of the events at Naples.

Dohrn's real misfortune is perhaps not, as his detractors say, that he lacks the scientific authority of his grandfather or the outstanding managerial talents of his father, but that he lives in a time when the scientific impresario is an anachronism.

A view held by some biologists is that the Naples station has become a backwater, an unproductive place at an unsuitable site, run in a casual style that is no longer tolerable. An op-

posite view, held with equal vehemence, particularly by people who use the station, is that despite physical shortcomings the research atmosphere at the station is a unique and salubrious one. For example, an American visiting scientist said that for biologists accus-

tomed to the grind of the committee-ridden American university, the Naples station is "the greatest therapy center in the world" and that he had gotten more research and writing done in Naples than at any time in recent years. Some alumni of the station are unstint-

Particle Physics: New Talk of East-West Ties

Over the past dozen years, Soviet and American physicists have occasionally talked of cooperative endeavors in high-energy physics, but outside of an exchange of visits to each other's facilities, no concrete results have followed. Now, with the Russians putting the finishing touches on the world's biggest accelerator, a 70-Bev machine at Serpukhov, near Moscow, new talks of cooperation have informally been taking place. According to some sources, these have centered on the possibility of American scientists designing and constructing experiments for the Serpukhov machine, and of Russians doing the same here when the AEC's 200-Bev accelerator is completed. Since the Russians have agreed to an arrangement under which a French group is building a bubble chamber for the 70-Bev machine, it is felt that they favor some international cooperation. But since we are pounding the Soviets' ideological cousins in Vietnam, and they pound back with Soviet-manufactured ordnance, the question of opening a new East-West avenue of scientific cooperation is considered to be delicate and uncertain. Nevertheless, talks are proceeding on an informal basis. One AEC official commented, "Wouldn't it be something if we put a \$3-million experiment into Serpukhov? Think of the bookkeeping problems."

Meanwhile, the 200-Bev accelerator continues to produce contention. Civil-rights groups around the Weston, Illinois, site chosen for the machine are adamantly insisting that the project should not be permitted to proceed unless Illinois passes an open-housing law. Last week, Senator John O. Pastore (D-R.I.), chairman of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, again voiced his support for their position. The Republican Minority Leader, Senator Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois, replied that, if the accelerator is blocked for lack of an open-housing law, he will attempt to block funds for projects in other states that lack such legislation. Among those projects, he said, are NASA's facilities in Houston and at Cape Kennedy. Dirksen was quoted as saying that he told Pastore, "John, you've got a fight on your hands." To which Pastore is said to have replied, "I know it."

In another development concerning the accelerator, the Joint Committee's subcommittee on research, development, and radiation, chaired by Representative Melvin Price of Illinois, stated its opposition to the AEC's plans to economize by building a stripped-down model of the original design. Price's subcommittee declared that "the AEC's decision to propose a reduced scope accelerator was dictated by the Bureau of the Budget for budgetary rather than technical reasons"—which is a fair statement of the matter. The subcommittee concluded that short-term economizing would ultimately increase the overall costs.

The assorted uncertainties that confront the 200-Bev machine are said to be having an effect on the recruitment of staff for the vast project. Many persons are eager to work on the project, but at the moment there is very little to work on. As the high-energy community recalls, political complications produced several years' delay in the start of construction on the Stanford Linear Accelerator. Design work on the 200-Bev machine was sufficiently advanced for construction to have started at least 18 months ago, but the competition for the site introduced an unforeseen delay, and now the civil-rights issue poses the possibility of still further delays.—D.S.G.