stitutions in the Rochester area to ensure maximum use of the observatory.

Dr. Mees, whose name will be given to the new facility, was vice president for research and a director of Eastman Kodak at the time of his retirement in 1955. He had headed Kodak research for more than forty years, and during that period many special films and plates for use in astronomy were produced by the Kodak Research Laboratories. His interest in astronomy was both professional and personal, and he was active in a number of astronomical groups. In 1950, Dr. Mees was cited for "outstanding contributions to the science of astronomy" by the American Astronomical Society. He died in 1960.

MURA and the AEC

The Atomic Energy Commission has decided not to construct the 12.5-BeV high-intensity accelerator proposed by the Midwestern Universities Research Association. As a consequence, the AEC has announced, the work of MURA scientists will be reoriented toward the design of a 600- to 1000-BeV proton accelerator. The MURA group, now located at Stoughton, Wisc., will be joined in this effort by scientists from Argonne National Laboratory. After a transition period, the project will be centered at Argonne. Scientists at Brookhaven National Laboratory, where design studies for such a machine are already in progress, will also participate. According to the same announcement, the AEC is also supporting design studies at Lawrence Radiation Laboratory for a 200-BeV proton accelerator.

MURA, Associated Midwest Universities, Argonne, and the University of Chicago, according to the AEC, are exploring means for more direct participation on the part of midwestern universities in the management and use of Argonne's Zero Gradient Synchrotron.

The announcement, released on January 20, suggests that the AEC's attitude toward MURA differs from that of the Panel on High-Energy Accelerator Physics. The Panel, under the chairmanship of Norman F. Ramsey of Harvard University, had been convened at the request of the AEC and the President's Science Advisory Committee to study the problems of the future growth of high-energy physics. Its report, made public last spring, contained a number of specific recommendations, including construction of higher energy proton accelerators.

The Panel had recommended construction of a super-current accelerator by MURA "without permitting this to delay the steps toward higher energy". The MURA machine was to have been of the fixed-field alternating gradient type that has been under study at MURA for about ten years. It had been expected that the machine would produce 10^{14} protons per second at its full design energy of 12.5 BeV, and 10^{16} protons per second at 1 BeV or below. The Panel had advised that its design energy be increased from an originally proposed 10 BeV in the expectation that a single machine would then suffice for this entire energy region.

Radiation applications

A service laboratory designed to perform radiation research and processing was established by Varian Associates in February of this year. The basic device employed for radiation generation in the firm's new Radiation Applications Laboratory is an electron linear accelerator capable of producing 7.5×10^{14} electrons per second at 6 MeV. The accelerator source will be available for long-term experiments on a rental basis. Selected short-term experiments will be run for scientists at no cost.

Services to be offered by the Laboratory include radiation-effects studies, radioactivation and analysis of trace elements in materials, radiography of dense objects with large cross sections, research in crystal chemistry, and the study of samples with an EPR spectrometer while the samples are under radiation bombardment.

Inquiries should be addressed to Russell Schonberg, Manager, at Varian Associates, 611 Hansen Way, Palo Alto, Calif.