

Academy group will review Shockley notion

Persistence paid off this month for physicist William Shockley, the co-inventor of the transistor, who has injected himself into the racial situation by once again demanding a major research inquiry into whether intelligence is more dependent on inheritance than on environment. Shockley believes inheritance may be the determining factor.

During a closed-door shouting match at the fall meeting of the National Academy of Sciences at Dartmouth College, the Academy agreed to create a committee to consider Shockley's questions and suggestions on intelligence, and to report back at the spring meeting on what, if anything, the Academy should do about them.

A day later, Shockley's attempt to deliver a paper on what has become a crusade for him was blocked by 25 to 30 black and white students, who rose to clap when he began speaking and kept it up intermittently until session chairman Walter Stockmayer called the session off 90 minutes later. (Dartmouth has some 170 Negroes in its student body.)

Shockley has been pressing for an Academy inquiry into his notion for several years. In 1967 an Academy committee looked into the question but reported back that nothing should be done about a Shockley-sponsored resolution calling for Academy action, in part because such research might further stir up racial tensions in the U.S.

When Shockley reintroduced his resolution this month behind closed doors at Dartmouth, it never came to a vote. Instead, the membership agreed to a motion calling on Academy President Philip Handler to create a committee to look into Shockley's resolution and report back next spring. (Handler has made it clear in many ways that he is not sympathetic to Shockley's ideas.)

Handler was unavailable for com-



Dartmouth blacks, and some whites, prevent Shockley (left) from talking

ment, but Shockley said it was his understanding that Handler had invited him to nominate candidates for the committee. Shockley also called creation of the committee a "very constructive step." He had one reservation, however. "A number of people in

the Academy," he said, "share the opinion I have expressed and put in print—but they are quite unwilling to be put in print to that effect." This, he contended, reflects an attitude that the public cannot be trusted with the truth.

CERN 300-GeV may be on the rocks

Europe's 300-GeV accelerator project is hanging by a thread—the thread of French participation.

France and Germany are the two principal supporters of the scheme, but France's shaky economy, following last summer's devaluation of the franc, is forcing the Pompidou government to have second thoughts about whether the country can afford its \$108-million contribution to the \$400-million project and an additional \$17 million a year for operational costs.

The French Government has promised to tell the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) by

the end of November whether it is in or out of the project.

A CERN council meeting is scheduled for December 18-19 at Meyrin, Switzerland. If the French Government decides not to continue its support of the accelerator, the whole project may be killed at that meeting. If it is killed, CERN will have to draw up a whole new research plan—possibly around an electron-ring.

Unconfirmed rumor in Geneva has it that if the 300-GeV machine is dropped, Bernard Gregory, director-general of CERN, will resign, viewing the cancellation as a personal failure. Late this month Gregory was in