Meyrin-Geneva: This month's issue of CERN COURIER reports two important events which have been long awaited at CERN.

The opening article tells the story of the day when high energy proton beams were made to collide for the first time in the Intersecting Storage Rings. The ISR has been brought into operation remarkably smoothly well ahead of schedule. It was in an atmosphere of great excitement that two teams of physicists detected charged particles which could be identified as coming from interactions of the colliding protons. The energy involved was equivalent to that available at a conventional accelerator of 500 GeV and such phenomena have never been produced in a controlled fashion on earth before. Since then the equivalent of more than 1000 GeV has been attained.

The second article records the decisions of the CERN Council on 19 February when the go-ahead was given for the construction of the 300 GeV accelerator. After many years of debate, the proposition to build the new machine on a site adjoining the existing Laboratory and in such a way that its peak energy could be increased at a later stage, has won the approved of the great majority of the CERN Member States.