Micro-ode to Aldo

Sometimes I'm asked, "How is OPAL
Organized? Who's there to set a
Standard of discipline and hard work?
Who's the boss?" they say. "That's Mette,"

I reply, "but if you're wondering why
OPAL's democratic anarchy
Is such a productive, pleasant place to work,
It's because of Aldo Michelini."

Non ci diede ordini o verità,
Data la sua grandezza e pietà;
Ma ci trattò con grande lealtà
E preferì farci da papà.

Last year I labored on the PB
In the discouraged Chicago crew;
How it raised our spirits when one day
Aldo came and helped out too.

His leadership was often subtle;
Sometimes you'd hear a hurried
"You better get that working quick
Or Aldo will get worried."

And now that everything's working well
He's leaving the OPAL administration
For a villa on the Italian coast;
When do I get my invitation?

What the future has in store for OPAL
Only time can tell.
Aldo brought us this far: may his
Successor do at least half as well.