

during a whole year may be taking place at present. A close relationship between the amount of ablation over the lower part of the glacier and the solar radiation income was observed. It is hoped to present the results of the glaciological investigations in full in a later paper, in which both the ablation process and the structural changes at the snout will be discussed.

The botanical studies served to confirm distributional features noted before. Further ecological and phenological notes on flowering plants were taken and collections of all the species found were made. The collections of higher plants and less complete collections of mosses, lichens, and fungi have been deposited in the National Museum of Canada. Among the collections are a number of holarctic range extensions. The phenological data for 1959 as compared with those for 1958 support the evidence that the summer of 1959 was cooler than that of the previous year. This is also indicated by the fact that the snow melt was appreciably later in 1959 than in the two preceding years.

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Obituary

PAUL WALKER 1934-1959

Paul Walker was a research scientist who had worked for the Arctic Institute in the Arctic and the Antarctic. He was born in California and graduated from Occidental College, Los Angeles in 1956, majoring in geology. He had visited Alaska and already spent one summer in Greenland before graduating. On leaving college he took part in the work at Red Rock Lake, Greenland, helping to map shear zones in ice cliffs. In October 1956 he went to Antarctica to participate in the I.G.Y. program. Based at Ellsworth Station he worked on the Filchner Ice Shelf, and was selected to

go with the traverse party, which covered 1,100 miles in 80 days in the area south and west of the base. Walker returned to the U.S. in 1958 to help with the compilation and analysis of glaciological and geological data from Antarctica that was being undertaken at Ohio State University. In 1959 he was appointed glaciologist with the U.S.A.F. Ellesmere Island Ice Shelf Project. He went into the field with the party in May and in early August was paralyzed by a brain seizure. Flown out by light aircraft on August 10, 1959, he was taken to California. An operation brought only temporary relief and he died after great suffering, paralyzed and nearly blind, in hospital a few months later.

Paul Walker was young scientist of great promise, a hard and careful worker in the field, and the best of companions. His death is a great loss in a very real way to the polar world he loved.

The Canadian Board on Geographical Names has approved the name "Walker Hill" for the prominent 1400-foot feature on Ward Hunt Island, named in commemoration of Paul Walker by his companions.

JIM LOTZ

Activities of the Geographical Branch in northern Canada, 1958 and 1959*

An outline of the geographical studies of the Geographical Branch in northern Canada from 1947 to 57 was published in *Arctic* 10:246-50. This note summarizes the activities and publications of the Branch concerning this area in 1958 and 9.

Terrain analysis and physiographic studies

Physiographic studies of Melville Peninsula¹ were continued in 1958 and 9 by V. W. Sim² 3. In 1958 Sim, assisted by R. Moskal, investigated the north-west coast and north central interior

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