

of his Alaskan adventures, but also of those in other parts of the world. Born in 1907, the son of a Montana rancher, Fro grew up in the West and, like all young men, felt the pull of distant places. After graduating from the University of Chicago, he began his travels in 1929 on a tramp steamer that was to take him to the far reaches of the Orient. After a brief stint as a teacher of English in the Philippines, he travelled by steamer across the Pacific, the Indian Ocean, into the Mediterranean and France, reaching Paris in the summer of 1930. There, with the assistance of Ralph Linton, Fro obtained a stipend to attend a summer and fall session in the American School of Prehistoric Research. As part of the curriculum, the participants visited cave sites in France and Spain, where Fro had the opportunity to meet Abbé Breuil, ". . . who set off the first spark of true interest in the remote past" (chapter 1, p. 23). Returning to America in 1931, Fro began graduate studies in anthropology at Yale. His dissertation research in the Bahamas, Haiti, and Puerto Rico resulted in a two-phase cultural chronology that has weathered the test of time (chapter 2). Following his West Indies research, Fro was offered a position in 1936 at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks, where he studied the human artifacts recovered by gold miners from the Pleistocene muck deposits around Fairbanks and began his studies of modern and prehistoric Eskimo culture on St. Lawrence Island and Point Hope (chapter 3).

At the onset of World War II, the now arctic-adapted archaeologist found himself director of the U.S. Quinine Mission to Ecuador to obtain cinchona bark for soldiers stricken with malaria. By 1944 he was attached through the Foreign Service to the Allied Control Commission for Occupied Germany. I particularly like the story of his entry into Denmark before it had been officially liberated at the close of the war, as I had been told this story on several occasions by Giddings and Larsen. In Copenhagen, Fro stopped off at the Danish National Museum wearing an American uniform and thus served as the unofficial announcement that Denmark was free of the German occupation. Fro noted that the celebration was instantaneous (chapter 4)!

After his many wartime experiences with the Foreign Service, Fro was selected as the next director of the University Museum of the University of Pennsylvania following the death of George Valliant (chapter 5). Under his long directorship, expeditions were mounted to Mesoamerica, Southwest Asia, North Africa, Southern Europe and Southeast Asia (chapters 6-10). Noteworthy were the expeditions to Tikal in Guatemala, Gordium in Turkey, Sybaris in Italy, and Ban Chiang in Thailand, which spread across the greater part of his museum career.

In chapters 11 and 12, Fro turns to a discussion of the changing role that museums have played in the post-war era. To bring the benefits of the physical sciences to archaeology, Fro created the Museums Applied Science Center in Archaeology. Within the museum new formats were devised to update the role of museums in public education. It was probably the creation of the Peabody Award-winning television show "What in the World" — which involved Fro as moderator and the University Museum curators and guests as experts to determine the use, age, and country of origin

of objects brought before them — that most successfully brought the museum to public attention. Fro retired as director of the University Museum on 30 September 1976. After his retirement he became the director of the Land Preservation Fund of the Natural Conservancy in Washington, D.C., where he became involved in efforts to save the environment. In his latter years Fro settled in Cornwall, England, on a small country estate. During this period he was writing and served as a consultant to British television.

The final chapter (13) is a summing up of a long life, a reflection on those events that propelled him into a career of archaeology and how the study of the past has a bearing on the present. It is very much a statement of a personal philosophy engendered by years of involvement in the past.

Through this very personal narrative, Fro takes his readers not only on expeditions to far-off places, but provides them with glimpses of the behind-the-scenes activities that are an integral part of the daily operation of research conducted by a major museum in a variety of archaeological settings. *Reflections of a Digger* is very well written and is presented in an attractive text format with accompanying illustrations. The book will be of delight to both established scholars and students as well as the general reader intrigued by the activities involved in archaeological research.

Fro died on 11 October 1992, shortly after the publication of this volume.

Robert E. Ackerman
Department of Anthropology
Washington State University
Pullman, Washington 99164-4910
U.S.A.

TOWARDS NEW HORIZONS — JOHN HALLER, 1927-1984. Edited by FRITZ H. SCHWARZENBACH. Zürich: Verlag der Fachvereine an den schweizerischen Hochschulen und Techniken AG, 1992. 128 p. Hardbound. US\$60; £39; SFr78; DDK350. (Available from the publisher at ETH Zentrum, 8092 Zürich, Switzerland.)

This handsome book is a real gem — a joy to read and a pleasure to review! It is the story of John Haller's life from his student days at the University of Basel to the culmination of his career as professor of geology at Harvard University. Friends, colleagues, former students and his wife, Susanne Haller-Weisskopf, have all contributed to this wide-ranging and well-illustrated volume, the co-publisher of which is Schweizerische Stiftung für Alpine Forschungen, Zürich.

The tone of the book is set in the preface by Fritz Hans Schwarzenbach, a botanist and long-time friend. Schwarzenbach correctly observes that real scientific progress and achievements in the Arctic have often had to take a back seat, in terms of both media attention and funding, to the more sensational exploits of an increasingly active coterie of adventurers. A notable exception to this deplorable trend was the series of Danish East Greenland expeditions, 1926-39, led by Dr. Lauge Koch and resumed by Koch after World War II, between 1947 and 1958.

John Haller's East Greenland "career" began in 1949, when he and his compatriot Emil Witzig spent the winter

on Ella Ø (Ella Island) with two Danes and two Greenlanders. Haller's first work was concentrated in the crystalline Caledonian rocks of the inner fiords, and he went on to become the leading expert in East Greenland geology and the chief scientist of Koch's expeditions.

This arctic book differs from most in its extremely personal nature. A reminiscence of student days is followed by reports from expedition co-workers about the wonderful years of geological exploration and mountaineering in East Greenland. Then come vignettes dealing with the 20 years that John Haller spent as a professor at Harvard, appraisals of his scientific work by colleagues in Massachusetts and at the Geological Survey of Greenland, Copenhagen, and finally short commentaries dealing with John Haller the Person. Not only do the diverse contributions give the reader a well-rounded picture of an exceptionally gifted individual, but the inclusion of illustrations not commonly published enhances the value of the book tremendously. The first of these is a map and profile of a cave, Glitzersteinhöhle, which Haller mapped while at Basel. The publication (1949) containing this map is, according to the bibliography, the only one for 30 years that dealt with a topic other than East and North-east Greenland!

Haller's talent as an illustrator is revealed throughout the expeditionary part of the book — in his painting of the wintering station, in his sketch of MS *Sabine* rolling in heavy seas in Kejsler Franz Joseph Fjord as a result of a föhn wind from the icecap, in his magnificent panoramic sketch of the view from La Marcia (1462 m) and in his coloured geological field maps with marginal notations. He even sketched his sledge and dog team half in the water, the consequence of traveling across thin ice! The occasional cartoon is reproduced also.

Although most geologists working in the Arctic, whatever their speciality, are aware of John Haller's monumental contribution to our understanding of the East Greenland Caledonides, few will be aware that during the winter of 1949-50 on Ella Ø he dug snow pits, described the stratigraphy, recorded temperatures every 10 cm and took microphotographs of snow crystals.

The status of geological knowledge in East Greenland prior to John Haller's involvement is summarized by Curt Teichert, who participated in the Danish East Greenland Expeditions in 1931-32. Niels Henriksen, Anthony Higgins and Peter Dawes, all of the Geological Survey of Greenland, bring us up to date with regard to the contributions made by Haller and their contacts with him after he no longer was engaged in field work in East Greenland. Curt Teichert notes (p. 38) that "John Haller will forever be known as the great synthesizer of the geology of central and northern East Greenland, an area of extraordinary geological complexity that occupies a position of global importance for the understanding of the geological history of the North Atlantic region." The advent of aerial reconnaissance flights for geological mapping is traced by Fritz Schwarzenbach, including the first use of helicopters for reaching nunatakker in 1956.

From the testimonials in the final section the reader learns much about the human side of John Haller. It is apparent

that he not only excelled as a geologist, but as a father, husband and friend as well, and he was possessed of a deeply spiritual nature. The affection in which he was held by his students is revealed by the song "Big John Haller," written during an excursion to the Canadian Rockies in 1980.

This book is lavishly illustrated. In addition to the sketches and maps mentioned earlier, photographs appear on 57 of the book's 128 pages, and 21 photographs are in colour. Together they constitute a fine record of the magnificent landscape in which John Haller was fortunate enough to work. They also provide the reader with an appreciation of how operations in East Greenland were conducted, even to details of the commissariat! The photographs I like best are in the chapter "John Haller from His Own Texts," by Fritz Schwarzenbach, especially washing clothes in a 45-gallon drum, washing himself under a waterfall and plodding across a valley festooned with camp gear. And then there are the magnificent aerial photographs — my favourite is "Spaltegletscher" in Fraenkels Land (p. 26).

As with every book, there are a few omissions and errors. Several place-names mentioned in the text do not appear on any map. Figures 32 and 74 are missing, and the text under Figure 74 (labelled 75) refers to Figure 75, which follows three pages later. And, on page 28, Lauge Koch died in 1964, not 1970.

In spite of its price, not surprising in view of the fine paper and the abundant use of colour, this book should be in the library of every individual and institution interested in the history and development of geological exploration in the Arctic. My only regret is that I never had the privilege of meeting John Haller.

Weston Blake, Jr.
Geological Survey of Canada
601 Booth Street
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1A 0E8

ALWAYS GETTING READY, UPTERRAINARLUTA: YUP'IK ESKIMO SUBSISTENCE IN SOUTHWEST ALASKA. By JAMES H. BARKER. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1993. 144 p., 2 maps, 93 duotone photos, bib. Hardbound, US\$50.00. Softbound, US\$29.95.

Jim Barker has always (for 20 years, anyway) been getting ready to make this book, and the results are well worth the wait. He first visited Bethel in 1970, where he was impressed by the warmth and humanity of the Yup'ik men and women who make their home in the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta. He wanted to know more about these "real people," who were content to reside in the arid tundra lowland of southwest Alaska. Subsequently Jim lived in Bethel, the center of a region boasting 20 000 Yup'ik inhabitants spread throughout more than 50 villages. He worked first at the local radio/TV station KYUK and traveled all over the region, camera in hand. A skilled black-and-white photographer before he moved to Alaska, his huge person soon became a regular guest in many of the villages and his photographs a staple of local publications.