

Island, and Americans and British alike soon recognized Latady's extraordinary range of abilities and skills. He could turn his hand to anything that required manual dexterity, inventiveness and patience, from the installation and calibration of the trimetrogon air cameras to making a replacement needle for a sewing machine. As a skier and mountaineer he was in a class by himself. For those who lived and worked alongside him we remember him as a real person with a pungent, yet never unkind wit, for his repartee and brevity of speech. He showed great loyalty to people when loyalties were under strain, complete reliability, and had an ability to lead when he was not the leader and to cause no offence as he did so.

In the non-expedition sense, Bill was no less outstanding. He bullied the West German Goertz firm to produce a specialist copying lens to his design which is still a world-beater. He became an international installer of 'Cinerama', managing both the technical and financial side of the business, and invented and marketed a high-speed photographic system for surveying airport runways. He was a founder member of the Juneau Ice Field Project and was active in this research field until the 1970s. His ability as an optical engineer was recognized when he was awarded the American film industries technical oscar for a ceiling mounted remote control studio camera.

As Professor Maynard Miller writes, 'he was a tinkerer, a craftsman, an inventor, a genius in his own field, and probably the finest optical engineer in North America'. For all of us who overwintered with Bill at Stonington Island, knowing him was a highlight that we will never forget. The world could do with a few more Bill Latadys.

Kevin Walton

#### ERRATUM

*Polar Record*, Vol 19, No 123, September 1979, p 614–16. 'Otter Glacier' was officially named Armstrong Glacier in 1976.