

problem, we have some resources, we're a team, we will solve it"—extends right across the polar community. Whether cooking for fifty seriously hungry people, directing a cargo plane into the site, digging out the cargo plane after it sinks in soft snow off the side of the skiway, pulling five tons of cargo off the plane by hand to make it easier to get the plane going again, organizing the five tons of cargo before it gets buried by the snowdrifts from a big storm, fixing broken pieces of the plane right there in the snow, fixing nearly-antique heavy equipment, or inventing a Fourth of July barbecue-on-ice, polar drillers get the job done quickly, safely, efficiently, and usually cheerfully.

There are exceptions, of course, such as the fellow who became inebriated and relieved himself on a heater in one of the few warm buildings, but he caught a one-way trip to the coast on the first available plane. And such instances are in-

FIGURE 3.9
Catherine Melville, of the Polar Ice Coring Office, working on the GISP2 drill inside the drill dome.

