

# Sir Douglas Mawson Tells Of Antarctic Plans

## SOUTH AUSTRALIANS WILL GO

### Flood Of Applications: Risks To Be Faced

### EQUIPPING SHIP

ONE or two members of the Commonwealth Government Antarctic expedition would definitely be from South Australia, the leader of the expedition (Sir Douglas Mawson) said last night.

"We have simply been deluged with applications from various parts of the world," he said.

"Two-thirds of them have come from Australia, and a fair number from South Australia.

"New Zealand wants to have two men in the expedition, and as it has contributed to the funds, I am anxious that one, at any rate, shall go.

"It is no easy thing to select men for a venture like this. There are so many serious conditions, and all sorts of agreements have to be signed.

"The element of risk comes in, and any man who goes down to the Antarctic has got to face it. But there will not be the least difficulty in filling the ship.

"The Discovery is fitted to take 40, but we shall crowd in every one we can.

"Among the numerous applicants are many who cannot possibly be accepted, but when the appointments have been made finally, the personnel will be very representative, and, I think, capable.

### EQUIPPING SHIP

"I do not expect to go to Melbourne again for a month. Much will have to be done by correspondence.

"Meanwhile, we are going ahead equipping the vessel. The provisioning is now receiving attention. Our scientific installation is nearly all completed, and is under order."

Sir Douglas said a lot of money would be saved by the expedition's going from Cape Town.

"The Discovery was a very slow ship, and the voyage to Australia would take two months. That cost, which included coal and wages of the crew, would be saved."

From all aspects, sailing from Cape Town was better.

"If you take a good map," said Sir Douglas, "and measure the distance from Cape Town to Melbourne, you will find that this route just skims past the Antarctic coast. It is the short cut.

"Ordinary ships avoid it because they are afraid of bumping into ice. Well, that's part of our job.

"On the voyage to Melbourne we shall be getting on with our work. We may see Albany; it all depends on weather conditions. Then will come Adelaide and Melbourne."

The members of Sir Douglas Mawson's party will leave for Cape Town in about three months.

## MAWSON EXPEDITION

### PLANS COMPLETED

#### GIFT OF £10,000

Plans for the Mawson expedition to the Antarctic have been completed, and the personnel has been chosen. A gift of £10,000 has been received from Mr. MacRobertson.

Melbourne, July 3.

No announcement regarding the personnel of Sir Douglas Mawson's expedition to the Antarctic will be made until the arrival in Melbourne on Wednesday of Senator Sir George Pearce, chairman of the Federal committee which is directing the arrangements.

Sir Douglas Mawson, who with professor Sir Edgeworth David left for Adelaide by train to-day, said plans for the expedition had been completed. The personnel of the expedition had been decided upon subject to the acceptance of the various members concerned. This had yet to be received in some cases.

The committee would hold at least one more meeting before the departure of the party. Then the scientific section of the party would sail for Cape Town on the Blue Funnel liner Nestor in September. At Cape Town they would join the Discovery, with Captain J. K. Davis in command. The expedition would take a large quantity of stores and equipment from Australia. Australian foodstuffs were just what was required for the expedition.

On behalf of the expedition Sir Douglas Mawson officially accepted a cheque for £10,000 as a gift from Mr. MacRobertson. The cheque was handed over to the committee and placed to the credit of a trust account for the expedition.

## 9 AUSTRALIAN SCIENTISTS

### Doctor And Two Airmen In Personnel

MELBOURNE, Monday—Nine of the 22 scientists who will accompany Sir Douglas Mawson on his expedition to the Antarctic will be Australians, said the chairman of Sir Douglas' committee (Sir George Pearce) today.

An echo sounding expert for marine survey work will be provided by the British Admiralty, and the British Government will lend Mr. Marr, a whale expert now stationed at the Falkland Islands.

New Zealand will be represented by Mr. R. Simmers, of the New Zealand Meteorological Department, who will act as meteorologist to the expedition.

Other members of the expedition will include a marine biologist, a taxidermist, a chemist, a surveyor, a doctor, two airmen, and a photographer and cinematographer.

The committee is also considering a proposal to send a well-known journalist.

### WORK OF EXPEDITION

The expedition will extend the exploration and survey work on those parts of the Antarctic adjacent to Australia which were visited by Sir Douglas Mawson on his previous expedition in 1911-14.

Work of commercial value will be done in meteorological, geological, marine, biological, and zoological investigations.

The committee is now negotiating in Australia for the remainder of the personnel.

A Moth seaplane, which will be able to land on ice or water, will be shipped with the Discovery, which will leave London on August 1 for Capetown. There will be a crew of 28, according to present arrangements.

The Australians and New Zealanders will join the Discovery at Capetown, leaving for Enderby Land in November.

Unless the Discovery is trapped in the ice she will return to Hobart as a base for the winter, while preparations are made for a second cruise in the following summer.

(An article on Sir Douglas Mawson, by Professor Kerr Grant, is on page 7.)

## ANTARCTIC RESEARCH

### THE DISCOVERY INSPECTED

LONDON, July 27.

Two hundred Australians were today privileged to inspect at the East India Dock Sir Douglas Mawson's ship Discovery, which is shortly to proceed to the Antarctic. For the benefit of the guests the dock shed was laid out with an amazing array of foodstuffs, samples, cosy sleeping bags, ice suits, skis, and sledges. But the chief interest was the stout little ship flying the Australian flag.

An interesting visitor was Admiral Skelton, who built her a quarter of a century ago, and is proud of her splendid condition. He thinks she is fitted out admirably.

Another notable visitor was Sir George Wilkins, who was fascinated by the wonderful wireless equipment crammed into the tiniest cabin.

Sir George said judging by his own experience the smaller set on the Discovery should be in touch with the world most of the time. He added that the ship was an example of modern planning, and everything was most complete.

Over the deckhouse amidships the aeroplanes are stowed in huge cases. Indeed the Discovery is a lesson in using every inch of space to advantage.

Captain Davis, who received the guests at the gangway, is proud of his new chart of the Antarctic. It is a rare old print of 1650, dug out of an antique bookshop by Messrs. Richard and Dermot Casey, who presented it to Captain Davis. The Discovery will sail for the Cape on August 10.

## TWO AVIATORS TO GO WITH MAWSON

### R.A.A.F. Man To Be Chosen Within Fortnight

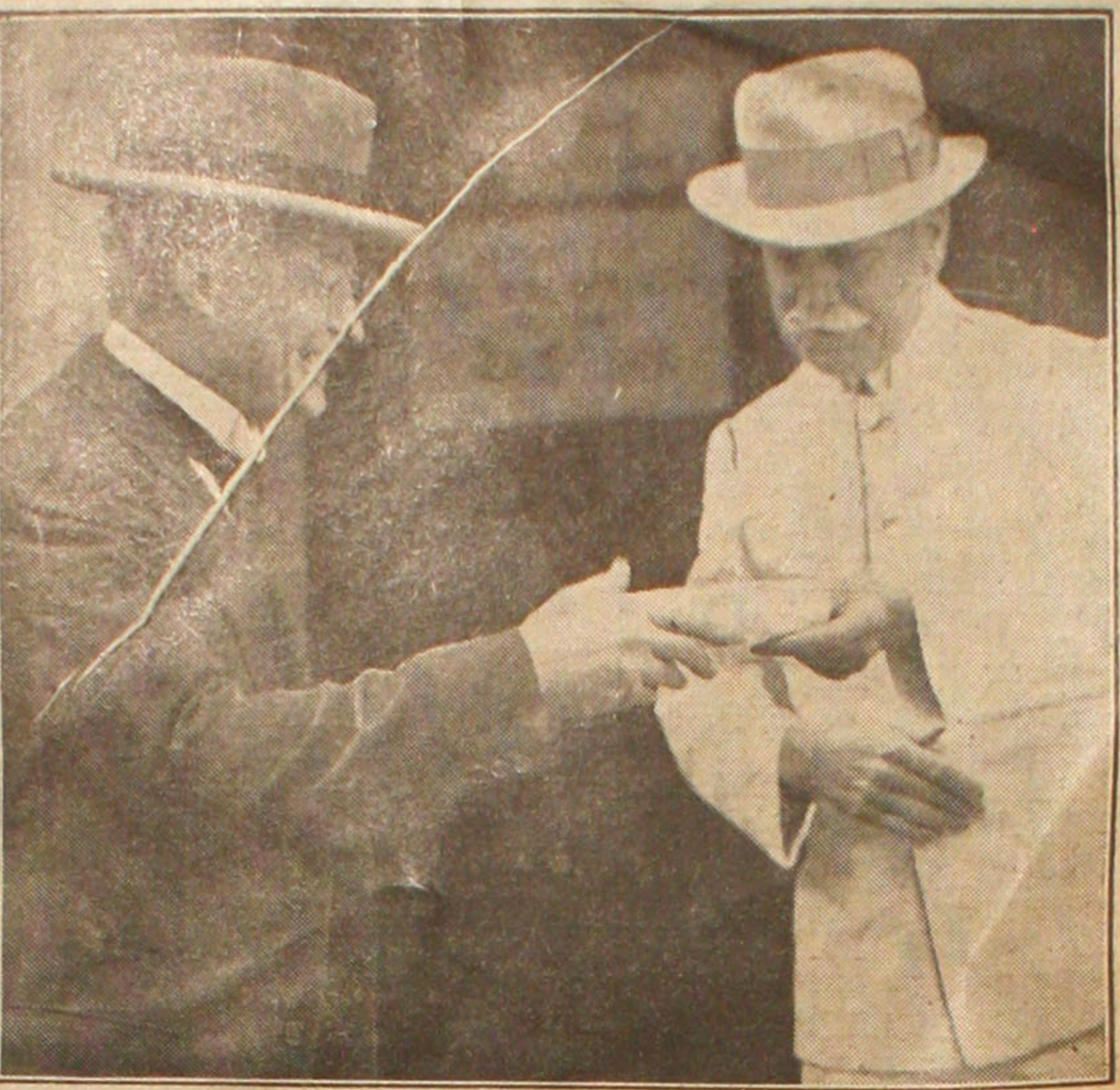
SIR Douglas Mawson yesterday denied the report that only one aviator would be taken on the Australian Antarctic Expedition.

He said only the appointment of another aviator had to be made to complete the personnel. The committee was now enquiring into the selection which would take perhaps a fortnight. The officer would probably be a member of the R.A.A.F. from Sydney or Melbourne. He was not aware that anybody had applied from South Australia.

Sir Douglas said the reason why it was not possible to take an all-Australian crew on the Discovery was cost and suitability.

He said it would cost about £3,000 to put an Australian crew on board. The men would have to be signed on and off in London, and that would mean that those engaged in the Commonwealth would have to be sent there and brought back after the expedition was over.

## Mawson Expedition Gift:



ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION GIFT: Sir Douglas Mawson, who returned from Melbourne yesterday, receiving a cheque for £10,000 from Mr. MacRobertson, the chocolate millionaire, yesterday—a contribution to the Antarctic expedition funds.

## BUSY TIME AHEAD

### MAWSON EXPEDITION

#### Work of Prof. T. H. Johnston

Prof. T. Harvey Johnston, of Adelaide University, who will be in charge of zoological work on the expedition to the Antarctic, is looking forward to a busy time.

A subject of absorbing interest to him, he said today, would be the study of the parasitic life that infested fish, birds, and seals, but that would have to be subordinated to the general work of collection and preservation of material.

Sir Douglas Mawson recognised the importance of the biological side of the trip, as was shown by the fact that at least two other men had been deputed to assist in it, he said.

"We hope to call in 'at an island or two on the way, and opportunity will be taken to collect material, not only from land and swamps, but from the sea front," said Prof. Johnston. "Bird life will be studied more particularly by one of the assistants. I will be on the marine side of the work."

### MARINE DREDGING

"Marine dredging will be undertaken wherever possible. The ship is particularly well equipped for this. As a result we should obtain a more reasonable understanding of life on the sea floor. This is particularly desirable in the immediate vicinity of the Antarctic Continent itself. It is an enormous area, and only small sections of it have been investigated in this way.

"Many new forms of life have been discovered, but we hope to extend that knowledge greatly when the collections we obtain have been worked up by specialists in Australia and elsewhere on our return. Another important part of the biological work is, of course, the investigation of small floating and swimming life, to which the term plankton is commonly given. "It is this small life which really forms the ultimate basis of so much other marine life. Fishes and crustaceans live on it, other fishes devour them, and whales and so forth feed on the latter. It is similar to wheat, vegetables, and grass in our life.

### ROUGH SEA EXPECTED

"The plankton work will be in special charge of one of the scientific men of the expedition, who has been studying it for years in South America.

"Large plankton nets have been procured from England for this purpose, and have cost a great deal of money. Plankton will be studied at various depths.

"The main work will begin from the time we get through the pack ice. The sea is supposed to be extremely rough, and there may be some days when we will not be able to work. Other days we may be busy for practically the whole 24 hours."

## £10,000 PRESENTED

### Antarctic Expedition Fund

MELBOURNE, Today. Sir Douglas Mawson, who will shortly leave with the Australian Antarctic Expedition, was today presented with a cheque for £10,000 by Mr. MacRobertson in aid of the funds of the expedition.

"This has removed our financial difficulties, and we are grateful to Mr. Robertson," said Sir Douglas, who left for Adelaide this afternoon.

## THE ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

Sir Douglas Mawson, the leader of the Australian Antarctic expedition, stated on Friday that it would not be possible for the Discovery to leave Cape Town in September, as telegraphed advice from Sir George Pearce, chairman of the Antarctic Expedition Committee, had stated. The actual date of leaving would depend on many things. After leaving Cape Town for the Antarctic they would not be in touch with civilisation until they returned to Australia. It was impossible to say when they would return, as it would depend on whether they got frozen in or not. The expedition was essentially a scientific one, and there would be no spectacular attempts to reach any given point. They hoped to make discoveries which would be of value to Australia and to science.

## MAWSON PARTY KNOWN TODAY

### All Now Selected

### PROFESSOR DAVID PRAISES LEADER

ALL the members of the Antarctic expedition have been chosen, said Sir Douglas Mawson, who returned yesterday from Melbourne, where he attended a meeting of the committee to select the personnel, and their names will be announced today.

Telegrams had been sent to those selected, he said, asking them if they would accept the terms offered. If they replied in the affirmative, the chairman of the committee, Sir George Pearce, would announce their names today.

Sir George Pearce passed through Adelaide by the East-West express last night for Melbourne.

He will see the secretary (Dr. Henderson) in Melbourne today, when the report of the committee will be considered.

## MAWSON'S APPALLING EXPERIENCES

### Former Colleague Lauds Courage

ASKED for his opinion of Sir Douglas Mawson as a polar explorer, Professor Sir Edgeworth David said last night that having known him as a student at Sydney University, and then on the first Shackleton expedition, he could speak with first-hand knowledge.

No one could have been more resourceful on that perilous journey of about 1,200 miles than Sir Douglas, or more devoted to the taking of scientific observations despite the discomforts and dangers.

The hardships and perils he endured on the first Shackleton expedition were surpassed by his terrible trials on his own Australasian Antarctic Expedition. After losing Lieut. Ninnis, who was precipitated into a crevasse in the inland ice, and then, through sickness, his other comrade, Mertz, Mawson struggled back alone over the crevassed ice for hundreds of miles often through raging blizzards, to his winter quarters.

"It is doubtful," added Sir Edgeworth, "whether any other polar explorer has lived through such appalling and tragic circumstances.

"He owed his life to his instinctive resourcefulness and magnificent courage and will-power.

"Speaking of Mawson's last Antarctic expedition, Gordon Hayes, in his recent work on that region—the most classical work that has ever been written about the polar areas—says scientific knowledge of Antarctica has been more advanced by the Mawson expedition than by that of any other South Polar explorer."

Sir Edgeworth said the keynote of the present expedition was research—the charting of unknown coasts, study of whales, seals, bird, and innumerable other forms of life with which the waters of Antarctica teemed, collecting of magnetic data and the taking of continuous meteorological observations bearing on Antarctica as a controller of the weather of Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and other places.

"No wonder," concluded Sir Edgeworth, "that, with such a historic ship as the Discovery, such a captain as J. K. Davis, leader as Mawson, and a cause that has aroused world-wide enthusiasm, the expedition has won the support of many benefactors and prompted the gift of £10,000 by Mr. MacRobertson, of Melbourne. "When Mawson and his men sail, our hearts will be with them!"

## THIRD JOURNEY TO ANTARCTIC

### Commander Moyes Alone In Ice For 11 Weeks

### ADELAIDE MAN

COMMANDER M. Moyes, brother of Archdeacon Moyes, who will make his third trip to the Antarctic when he goes with Sir Douglas Mawson in August as survey officer, has had many thrilling experiences in Polar regions.

With Sir Douglas's first expedition he spent 11 weeks alone in an ice hut, and went through great hardships.

When another member of the party failed to join him, Commander Moyes thought an accident must have happened, and went across the snow for 30 miles, searching for him.



COMMANDER MOYES

He could not find him, and, becoming snow blind, had to crawl most of the way back to his camp.

After a long time other members of the party joined him. They saw him waving from a distance, and were greatly relieved to find him alive and well.

Commander Moyes made his second trip as navigator with the Shackleton relief party. Winter was coming on, and he had a thrilling race against time and the ice. The dash was successful, and the rescue was accomplished.

### OLD ST. PETER'S BOY

Commander Moyes, who is 43, is the second son of the late Mr. John Moyes, a well-known South Australian educationist. He went to St. Peter's College and obtained his B.Sc. degree at Adelaide University.

After his return from the Antarctic he joined the Royal Australian Navy as commander of the instructional branch.

He went to England three years ago with the Melbourne, and studied naval methods abroad.

He is at present in Sydney on the Penguin.

## FREQUENT NEWS FROM PARTY

### No Room For Journalist On Discovery

MELBOURNE, Thursday.—The chairman of the Antarctic Expedition Committee (Sir George Pearce) expressed regret today that it had been found impracticable to include a journalist in the personnel.

The difficulty, he said, was insufficient accommodation in the Discovery.

Arrangements will be made to keep the outside world fully informed of the movements of the expedition. A member of the scientific staff will send frequent wireless despatches, which will be widely distributed among newspapers.

## MAWSON EXPEDITION

### NO ADDITION TO STAFF

Melbourne, July 15.

Owing to the limited accommodation on board the Discovery, it is unlikely that there will be any additions to the staff of the expedition which Sir Douglas Mawson is leading to the Antarctic in September.

It was considered last week that an additional aviator might be taken, but the chairman of the Australian committee (Sir George Pearce) announced to-day that it had been decided to sail with the present staff. He had been advised by Captain J. K. Davis, who is in command of the Discovery, that when the vessel left Cape Town she would be a full ship, and that no further accommodation could be found.