Professor Chapman said a great deal of good had already been done by the conferences of the Australian sections of the association, and it was reasonable to expect that at the congress proposed they would meet some of the greatest men and that accordingly greater benefits would result to Australia.

Mr. W. Howchin, in supporting the request, ended up to the present two congresses of the association had been held in Canada and one in South Africa. At the last Toronto meeting 570 papers were read and among the delegates were 55 Fellows of the Royal Society, the most select scientific body in the world. In South Africa in 1906, 277 papers were read and 724 delegates were welcomed with much enthusiasm. The total membership of that conference was 2,130, including 380 overseas members of the association. South African Government contributed $2,000, and private subscriptions to the amount of $2,000 were received.

The Minister, in reply, said the Government would be prepared to give every reasonable assistance to any proposal for the advancement of scientific research. The sum they were asking for was a large amount, and after he had submitted the request to his colleagues they would have to get the approval of Parliament. Probably Parliament would be requested to vote $2,000, and take the opinion of Parliament on that, with the understanding that the balance would be placed on the Estimates, which were usually dealt with towards the end of the session. He understood it was not necessary to get early expression of opinion from Parliament in order that the invitations could be issued, and the course he suggested would enable that to be done. He could promise them that he would bring the question before his colleagues without delay. He did not attach so much importance to the value of the congress as an advertising gathering. Its real value would be in the stimulus given to scientific research and the raising of scientific minds in deliberation on scientific subjects under differing conditions.

He quite recognised the strength of the argument that Australian scientists were working under disadvantages through being placed so far from the centres of old-world scientific associations, and he felt confident the Commonwealth would be justified in inviting members of the British Association to assemble in congress in Australia. He would place the request before his colleagues, and urge them to carry it, and to get the necessary vote in Parliament on the subject. He would like to know what the State Governments intended doing, or what they could do, and whether they would help materially in the success of such an undertaking, having at their disposal the means of transport and all the other necessary conveniences.

Mr. Howchin said the State Governments would be approached and asked to assist.

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**THE CALL OF THE ICE REGIONS.**

**ITS ATMS AND OBJECTS.**

Dr. Douglas Mawson returned to Adelaide on Friday, after a seven months' absence, on a scientific mission connected with the work of the Shackleton Antarctic expedition, of which he was a prominent member. Interviewed by "The Advertiser" shortly after his arrival, with regard to the expected Antarctic expedition, Dr. Mawson stated that he was arriving with his party, and that the party would be accompanied by Captain Scott in his ship, which was to be a well-equipped vessel. The purpose was to study the geographical features of the great unknown continent which lay north of the Antarctic Circle. The expedition would be equipped with the latest scientific instruments and apparatus, and would be under the command of Captain Scott. The expedition would be expected to make discoveries of commercial value, and to settling up the ownership of the region they would partake.

"I am certain," said Dr. Mawson, "that there was never the time so opportune for the expedition of such scientific and engineering workers to go to the region in the Antarctic for the purpose of discovering coal and other mineral deposits. Our object would be to accumulate data relating to all branches of science. Of course we would pay attention to the possibilities of economic development, such as the likelihood of discovering coal and other mineral deposits. If these opportunities are afforded in that vast unexplored territory for the establishment of industries of the future, oil, metals, and minerals, we shall have to be prepared to take advantage of them. Scientific observations in connection with the earth’s magnetism and the aurora borealis would also be considered of the highest value in their bearing on Australian conditions."

Mr. A. B. Hall, Commonwealth Meteorologist’s comment on your statement previously published: Dr. Mawson was asked.

"I hold the same opinions still," he said. "Mr. Hunt suggests that what are required are meteorological stations at certain positions on the Antarctic, and he said a station at a point in the Antarctic would be of no use. But there is no need where he suggests that observations are needed, and commences tells that the next best situation might be to set up a meteorological station in the Antarctic. If experience shows that the cost of keeping a permanent wireless station there was justified, a year’s observation would be of great value."

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**CONSERVATORIUM ORCHESTRA.**

It is probable that the greater part of the audience last night considered it had been rewarded by the grand orchestral performance yet presented in the Eildon Hall. Mr. Mawson and his instrumentalists required to play the music in the most remarkable manner. They were well-serviced, disciplined, strongly balanced, and adjusted with the utmost care. The orchestra was supported by a choral section of fifty voices, while the chorus of boys and girls was in excellent condition. The conductor, Mr. W. R. B. Hall, performed the Bach’s "B" minor concerto with remarkable skill, his interpretation of the lovely, sentimental music in the finale might have been occasionally more purifying. Mr. Hall’s conducting was always executed with perfect taste. The performance of the "Peer Gynt" suite, Mr. Hurland achieves a marvellous effect. The 'cellos were remarkable in their rendering of the four components, a stormy episode was excited by the repetition of "Asse's Enchantment," and the"Peer Gynt" suite was well received. The"Peer Gynt" suite was especially well done, every note being played with precision. Miss Ethel Dean made a triumph. The"Peer Gynt" suite was concluded with"Peer Gynt" concert in "P" minor for piano and orchestra. This magnificent composition carried the evening to its conclusion. Mr. Hurland was forthcoming to the proffer of the audience, he gave a very fine performance. Another "immense" number, "On the Grass," was played, and the"Peer Gynt" suite was encored. The orchestra was conducted with great precision by Mr. F. Burgess, R. E. A.

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Mr. E. F. Burgess, R. E. A., was on Friday appointed by the Council of the University of Adelaide a prisoner for 1911. Thus distinguished by his appointment, he is to be congratulated on his appointment by the University of Adelaide. It is probable that the greater part of the audience last night considered it had been rewarded by the grand orchestral performance yet presented in the Eildon Hall. Mr. Mawson and his instrumentalists required to play the music in the most remarkable manner. They were well-serviced, disciplined, strongly balanced, and adjusted with the utmost care. The orchestra was supported by a choral section of fifty voices, while the chorus of boys and girls was in excellent condition. The conductor, Mr. W. R. B. Hall, performed the Bach’s "B" minor concerto with remarkable skill, his interpretation of the lovely, sentimental music in the finale might have been occasionally more purifying. Mr. Hall’s conducting was always executed with perfect taste. The performance of the "Peer Gynt" suite, Mr. Hurland achieves a marvellous effect. The 'cellos were remarkable in their rendering of the four components, a stormy episode was excited by the repetition of "Asse's Enchantment," and the"Peer Gynt" suite was well received. The"Peer Gynt" suite was especially well done, every note being played with precision. Miss Ethel Dean made a triumph. The"Peer Gynt" suite was concluded with"Peer Gynt" concert in "P" minor for piano and orchestra. This magnificent composition carried the evening to its conclusion. Mr. Hurland was forthcoming to the proffer of the audience, he gave a very fine performance. Another "immense" number, "On the Grass," was played, and the"Peer Gynt" suite was encored. The orchestra was conducted with great precision by Mr. F. Burgess, R. E. A.