

(Cheers.) They all admired his spirit of adventure, not for personal benefit, but in order to secure something which would be of advantage and to the credit of the State, and possibly add to the scientific knowledge of the world. (Cheers.) Therefore, on behalf of the Royal Society he wished Dr. Mawson and his comrades farewell. God-speed, adieu, and au revoir, not merely as parting compliments, but in the simple and real meaning of the words. (Cheers.) They hoped that he would have a good time, and that his mission would be attended with great success, and under God's own care he and his party would safely return. (Cheers.)

Dr. Mawson's Reply.
 Dr. Mawson, who was received with enthusiastic cheers, said he wished to thank them from the bottom of his heart for the kind words said about him and his comrades, most of whom, from South Australia, were on the platform that day. Most of the speakers had referred to him as the chief spirit of the expedition. To some extent he was. But everything depended on the personnel of the expedition. He was but one of 32 in the land party, and could do nothing more in some respects towards the success of the venture, after having chosen the staff. The main obligation on his part was to choose the men who would do the work. He had done his best to choose men of character. (Cheers.) In getting his experts together he had received advice from all parts of Australia. It was something to the effect — "Do you think So-and-so is strong enough to stand the trip; he looks rather thin?" (Laughter.) The most important point to look for in an expedition of that kind was character, and it could be confidently said that the men representing South Australia were well-fitted in that respect. (Cheers.) It was not an easy matter to determine the character of a man until circumstances arose that would bring out his best qualities. (Hear, hear.) In the land of desolation and loneliness to which they were about to proceed, were the conditions by which the worth of each man could be measured, and in 18 months' time they would know in South Australia who had been the successful members of the expedition. He was confident all the men from South Australia would be. (Cheers.) In fact he was more than confident about them.

Inseparable from Risks.
 Reference had been made to risks. Of course risks were inseparable from an expedition of that kind. Every man must go forward with the certain knowledge that he would be facing the risk of life and limb daily, but sustained by the people's kind wishes, and under the protection of a Providence that reigned over all things, they had no anxiety in that respect, and would meet dangers when they came. (Cheers.) He desired to thank all who had assisted in the organisation of the expedition. The chief officers of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science had done all that was possible, and in this regard he particularly thanked Professor Henderson (president of the geographical section of that association). He was grateful to private donors for the gifts of foodstuffs, but more to the Government of South Australia than to any other organisation would the success they might obtain be due. (Cheers.) The decision of the Government to vote £5,000 was largely due to the Premier himself, who deserved every credit. It was Mr. Ryan who originally approached the Government with regard to supporting the expedition, and he came next to the Premier in their estimation of thanks. (Cheers.)

Arrangements for the Trip.
 He and the South Australian members of the party would be leaving Adelaide that afternoon for Hobart, which city they would leave in a fortnight's time. They would be glad to get away. (Laughter.) Personally, he felt that he would never have the energy to carry out the organisation of another expedition, but he would be prepared to go on exploring all his life. It was the drudgery or organising that one shrank from. Within a week after leaving Hobart they would call at Macquarie Island, where they would establish a base, and another week would find them in the antarctic region. They hoped to have their Christmas dinner ashore. The ship would return to Australia about the end of March, and in due time would appear in Adelaide, where they would be able to see how a polar exploration vessel was fitted up. Most of the elaborate deep-sea research equipment would be left in Hobart or elsewhere on the initial voyage — with four huts, coal, and 58 men, they would have too much on board as it was. They would begin their deep-sea programme in April next. The Aurora would return to the Antarctic next summer, and would pick up the parties and bring them back to Australia.

Suggestion to the Federal Government.

Personally, he would like to see the Aurora kept in commission for the continuance of scientific work, in the same way as the Prince of Monaco's vessel in Europe and the United States fisheries vessel were employed. At the conclusion of the expedition he did not wish to sell the vessel for commercial purposes, and he hoped the Commonwealth Government would see the importance of keeping the boat in commission for future work. (Cheers.)

Prospects of other Expeditions.

In March next they might expect to hear from Captain Scott. He would be back by about then, and if he did come he was sure to have reached the pole. (Cheers.) He believed the Japanese expedition only intended making a four months' cruise, and did not mean to form a base or to attempt to reach the pole. The intention of the expedition had been misrepresented to some extent. The German expedition would be leaving South Georgia Island about the same time as he was, but he did not think it was likely to reach the pole from that side of the globe. That day he had been advised that the expedition had sent back their motor sledges, although they had made only a small test with them on the Falkland Islands. A Norwegian expedition, under Amundsen, was now at the Bay of Whales, and was about to set out, but he did not anticipate it would reach the pole owing to the equipment not being good enough. He thanked them heartily for their enthusiastic send-off, which would keep their hearts warm even in the cold Antarctic. (Cheers.)

Three hearty cheers were given for Dr. Mawson and his colleagues, and at the instance of Mr. A. W. Piper a vote of thanks was accorded to his Excellency for presiding.

Afterwards the Mayor entertained Dr. Mawson and his comrades in his parlor, where he took a further opportunity of wishing them God-speed.

Farewell at the Station.

Dr. Mawson and the South Australian members of his Antarctic expedition party, and Mr. F. H. Bickerton, the motor engineer from England, who will have

charge of the aeroplane sledge, left by the express in the afternoon for Melbourne. Among those present at the station to say good-bye were his Excellency the Governor, the Chief Justice, the Chief Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Vice-Chancellor of the University (Dr. Barlow), the president of the Royal Geographical Society, and a large number of personal friends. As the train moved out of the station cheers were given for Dr. Mawson and his companions.

ARRIVAL IN MELBOURNE.

Melbourne, November 19.
 Dr. Mawson and the South Australian members of his antarctic expedition arrived from Adelaide to-day. They will leave to-morrow by the Loongana for Hobart. Before leaving Dr. Mawson will interview the Postmaster-General concerning the erection of a wireless station in Macquarie Island for use in expedition work, but he is afraid the application may be rather late.

THE JAPANESE PARTY.

DEPARTURE FOR THE SOUTH.

Sydney, November 19.
 The Japanese exploring ship Kainan Maru left for the Antarctic to-day. The Japanese commander states he had written a letter to Captain Scott, of the British Antarctic expedition, 1910, in the following terms: "We propose to land near Amundsen's winter quarters, and then to proceed southwards, exploring any land to the south-east and making scientific investigations. I trust that should it be our fortune to meet we shall do so in the friendly spirit which is characteristic of the cordial relations subsisting between the two great nations which we represent."

AN HISTORIC GATHERING.

The departure on Saturday of Dr. Douglas Mawson and the South Australian members of the Antarctic expedition party was the occasion of an historic gathering at the Adelaide Town Hall at noon. There was a large and representative attendance of the citizens, and as Dr. Mawson and his companions entered the hall, preceded by his Excellency the Governor, they received an enthusiastic ovation which spoke volumes for the interest that South Australia has in the undertaking. The speeches, though brief, were intensely patriotic and expressed to Dr. Mawson and his followers the feelings of South Australians with regard to the expedition from which so much is expected from a scientific point of view. The Governor, who presided, outlined the objects of the venture, and spoke in words of high praise of the gallant leader, whose achievements and courage have already been demonstrated in Antarctic exploration. His Honor the Chief Justice (Sir S. J. Way) followed with one of the most eloquent speeches he has ever delivered, and the several other speakers who took part in the farewell were all equally enthusiastic. Dr. Mawson, in his reply, sketched the proposed scope of exploration work, and expressed his appreciation of the compliment that had been paid to him and his comrades. There was another farewell demonstration at the railway station in the afternoon, when Dr. Mawson and his South Australian companions left for Hobart.

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Dr. Douglas Mawson (leader) and Messrs. C. T. Madigan, M. H. Moyes, A. J. Hodgeman, P. E. Correll, and F. H. Bickerton (members of the antarctic expedition) left by the Melbourne express on Saturday for Hobart, where they will join the Aurora. There were a large number of people on the platform, including His Excellency the Governor, the Chief Justice, the Chief Secretary (Hon. F. S. Wallis), the Attorney-General (Hon. W. J. Denny), the Vice-Chancellor of the University (Dr. Barlow), the Hon. L. O'Loughlin, M.P., and Mr. A. W. Piper, K.C. (President of the South Australian branch of the Royal Geographical Society). Cheers were given for the members of the expedition as the train moved from the platform.