The popular skipper of the Aurora (Captain Davis) received a magnificent ovation, the people rising in their seats and cheering him to the echo. Clearly and fluently, and in a ringing voice, the Antarctic captain told his story. It was at the time of the return of the Shackleton expedition that Australia might send an expedition of her own to the Polar regions, he remarked. The money was ready; there was never any difficulty in securing that. All they wanted was a leader. When eventually it was decided to send an expedition they asked the services of Dr. Mawson. Australia might well feel proud of the leader and the way he led the expedition. In the old country the expedition of the late expedition was regarded with indifference, because it was considered that Australians could not stand the cold Arctic climate. To their credit, it is said, they had proved otherwise. (Applause.) Twice he had put into Melbourne and once into Sydney for repairs to the Aurora, and on each occasion was most kindly received and the assistance rendered to them was great. (Applause.) Thank you for your welcome tendered that afternoon, which would remain in their memories for as long as they lived.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S OWN EXPLORER.

Hitherto the speaking had been done by Dr. Mawson. Davis yesterday South Australia's own explorer (Mr. Cecil Madigan) delivered a short address. For the quiet, unassuming young fellow there was in the hearts of South Australians, which fact was strikingly demonstrated, when he rose to speak, the audience making the greatest applause. They knew that several parties had been elected in Australia which could have done the work they had done, and just as well. How the Dogs were Fed.

"I do not know that I can tell you much" commented the explorer, "but perhaps I might tell you something about the feedings of the dogs. That was one of the first jobs I had in the second year. Dr. Mawson has already mentioned how Murphy used to retrieve the meat from the cellar with dogs. Feeding the animals was quite interesting—for the first few days," smilingly proceeded the narrator, "but after that—(Laughter). The dogs were fed on seals, shot during the summer. The birds were frozen solid and looked for all the world like red-gum logs. (Laughter.) I had to go out every day and chip pieces of these logs. Usually a very strong wind was blowing, and the chips flew away. The dogs quickly learned to get to the ledge of the log and spread themselves round in a circle with their paws well out, ready to catch the flying chips. They soon became experts at catching the chips, and even with a 90-mile breeze blowing they missed very few. (Laughter)

The "Crook Cook" Association.

Way down south there is a branch of the "Crook Cook" Association, and newly fledged Arctic explorers of necessity in the same. "You see," remarked the speaker, "we were all amateur cooks, but look good old Mrs. Besson down with us. (Laughter). We used to have to make kerosene, but once Mrs. Besson states that you have to use 2 oz. of butter, salt, and pepper. If you had anything to do with the making of kerosene you would know what the addition of pepper would mean. Anyhow, I was promptly elected to the "Crook Cook" Association. (Laughter.) The first question they were invariably asked was, "Don't you feel it?" (With apologies to "Punch" he would like to say to those who were curious on that point, "We don't feel it as hot as we did, but by jove we feel it hot at times. (Laughter)."

The Message of Condolence.

At the call of the mayor three hearty cheers were given for Dr. Mawson and his party and the proceedings terminated.

DR. MAWSON.

ARRIVAL IN MELBOURNE, MARCH 5.

Dr. Douglas Mawson arrived in Melbourne by the Adelaide express to-day, and a large gathering of the members of the Royal Geographical Society and other friends of Dr. Mawson, welcomed him on his arrival. The Mayor and council saw the party off. Dr. Mawson was presented with a large silver jug by the council, and a very pleasant reception was held at the council building. The Melbourne Observer and the Adelaide Advertiser also paid him a visit.

The Old Showgrounds.

The Premier (Hon. A. R. Peake), speaking at the Show luncheon on Thursday, made a passing reference to the pending removal of the showground to the new site at Wayville West. He observed that considerable portion of the ground occupied by the Royal Agricultural Society, and of adjoining institutions which would shortly be vacated, should be given over to the University. The University did not belong to the council of that body, but to South Australia. They wished not only that great institution should be conducted on progressive lines, but that the students should be comfortable in their surroundings. The University must have more room than it had at present, so that provision might be made for the extension of the Public Library and adjoining institutions, and of the School of Mines. All were great institutions, and must be properly provided for.