The People Welcome Antarctic Explorers.

Merely the Albert bells chimed, pealing out the invitation to the people of welcome to the return of Antarctic heroes. No invitation was needed. Long before the town clock chimed the hour of three, the Town Hall was filled in every part with an expectant throng, eager for a sight of the men who had fought the Ice King and contended, wrestling with the Antarctic, to tune's most treasured success. What previous, what might be termed the academic welcome was tendered yesterday was the people's day. The Melbourne Morning Post, in an editorial on the promise. Then that crowd did not forget that, associated with him, was Cecil Madigan, the distinguished young South Australian 29th Scholar. Thus did they read a tribute to the sea, the sea, the sea, the sea. The sea, in whose hands they had read with a thrill and a quickening of the pulse, was actually in their midst.

The welcoming home of a hero, he from the battlefield or the frozen wilds may be a pleasurable experience to the looker-on, but to the hero himself, the onlookers a hindrance. They were welcomed by the members of the expedition. Indeed, said Dr. Mawson, so numerous had been the welcomes that he had not had time to keep his private engagements. Now, however, the publication of the welcome is over.

Over upon once rang out as the tall, bespectacled leader, accompanied by the Mayor of Adelaide (Mr. A. A. Simpson), walked down the stairs and took their places on the platform at the entrance to the City Hall. (M. W. B. Fysh) peeped out the note of welcome, in which the citizens so heartily joined. The interior of the hall was gay with bunting and flags. Points of interest in the platform arrangements were a group of airship covering the floor, the golden eagle, the national emblem of the land of the leader (Dr. Mawson). One missed the colors of the Aurora, that stout little ship that "braved the storms and the howling winds."

The mayor presided, being supported by Dr. Mawson, Captain Davis, Mr. Cecil Madigan, and Mr. A. H. Hodgkinson, members of the expedition, the Commissioner of Social Services, Mr. W. H. Butler, the Minister of Customs (H. E. L. Groom), the Commissioner of Crown Lands (H. F. W. Young), Professor Mawson, Dr. J. C. Verdon (president of the Royal Society), Mr. Crawley, Vice-President of the Royal Society, and the late Captain Scott. The members of the expedition also occupied seats on the platform. Just in a homely sort of way, Dr. Mawson, Captain Davis, and Mr. Madigan talked of life in the Antarctic.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S ROLL OF HONOR.

HER PART IN POLAR EXPLORATION.

The Mayor of Adelaide (Mr. A. A. Simpson) has been elected to the position of president of the city's branch of the Australian Antarctic Association. The election of the Lieutenant-Governor was unopposed, as he was a candidate for the position. Mr. Douglas was re-elected, but the other two members are to be appointed by the council.

HEROES OF THE PAST.

As Australians they might well be proud of the achievements of those who have explored, conquered, and occupied the Antarctic. Their courage and endurance, their scientific knowledge, their ability to endure the hardships of the Antarctic, are all admirable. They have shown that Australians are capable of great things.

A DESTRUCTIVE EXPEDITION.

But though Australians in a measure have had their share in the Antarctic, they must not consider that their work is done. There is still much work to be done in the Antarctic, and Australians are needed to carry on the work. The expedition of Dr. Mawson was a splendid example of the work that can be done in the Antarctic. It was a destructive expedition, and it was done in a spirit of scientific inquiry and exploration. It was an expedition that was destined to make the world take notice of the work that Australians are doing in the Antarctic.