The Advertiser, September 8th, 1914.
THE FROZEN SOUTH.

THE AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

LECTURE BY SIR DOUGLAS MAWSON.

The first of a series of illustrated lectures by Sir Douglas Mawson, the leader of the Australian Antarctic Expedition, was given in the Town Hall, Sydney, on Wednesday evening. Mr. A. A. Simpson (Mayor) presided, and in introducing Sir Douglas, said that a man who had spent 22 months in a polar region, under the greatest difficulties, had the privilege of addressing the community upon the Antarctic, and his reputation was enhanced by his fellow scientists. (Applause.)

The lecture was warmly received, and the audience went away with a feeling that they had received a most interesting and instructive lecture on the Antarctic region, and its natural history. Sir Douglas, in a masterly manner, narrated the political and geographical features of the continent; the nature and history of the flora; the faith and endurance of the explorers and their companions; the history of the discoveries, and the scientific results of the expedition. His lecture was a valuable contribution to the understanding of the Antarctic.

A Seventh Continent.

The picture projected on the screen was an illustration of the Antarctic region. It showed a group of icebergs and pack ice. The ice was of various colors, from white to blue, and the picture was beautifully lit. The audience was captivated by the beauty of the scene, and the scientific knowledge of the presenter.

Strong Winds.

Sir Douglas Mawson described the strong winds that are common in the Antarctic region. He said that the wind on the coast of Adelie Land was so strong that it was often necessary to put on a thick overcoat to protect the body from the cold.

End of Lecture.

The lecture was a revelation to the audience, and they left the Town Hall with a new appreciation of the Antarctic region. Sir Douglas Mawson's lectures are a valuable contribution to the understanding of the Antarctic, and his scientific knowledge is highly respected by his fellow scientists. (Applause.)
Death of Lieutenant Niniss

The audience listened in almost painful silence to the recital of incidents which led to the deaths of Lieutenant Niniss and Dr. Mertz, and more particularly to the act of Lieutenant Niniss, as he called the scenes before his memory. The three of them went out with the intention of making an observation of their winter quarters. The first accident happened on December 16th, and Sir Douglas was figuring out the latitude, when he noticed an indication of crevasses and turned around. He continued with his observations. Shortly afterwards he noticed Dr. Mertz looking down the crevasse, which he had broken, and turned round, but no living thing was seen. He and Dr. Mertz went back some distance, and Lieutenant Niniss then noticed his back broken. They then noticed certain articles that belonged to the ledge, and they must have been killed instantly. They thought there might be some hope of discovering a track, but after waiting for nine hours they gave up. During this time the injured dog had died, and the others were as yet in no condition to travel far. Lieutenant Niniss was no longer able to help them and was crowded out.

Down of Dr. Mertz.

They were about 200 miles from their winter quarters. He and Mertz thought if they could do a certain mileage a day, they could be back in time. They attempted 18 to 20 miles a day, but they soon got weak, and the weather was abominably bad. Lieutenant Niniss had a snow-scope, but not a magnetic needle was useless so close to the magnetic pole, and the sun was never seen. Lieutenant Niniss gave up about one day. They got so weak that they had to be shot. Sir Douglas Majors had to look after themselves, and gave the rest of the remaining dogs, but had not much nourishment. By January 2nd the dogs were too weak to travel, and the keenness of the dogs was gone. On January 7th Dr. Mertz died. It was very hard to be left alone, and he had to be shot. Sir Douglas was very weak, and the skin was peeling off his feet, making it difficult to travel for three days, and with half of it made a cross, which he placed on Dr. Mertz's grave.

Almost Another Tragedy.

On January 16th Sir Douglas restaged in crevasses, until he once fell the full length of the crevasse. He was almost too weak to climb out. When he got to the top the ice gave way.
pended in mid-air. He stayed like it for 10 minutes. He thought it was the end for him, and he began to feel in his pockets for a penknife in order to cut the rope. He did not have a knife, and he decided to make one supreme effort. He seemed to attain new strength, and managed to get out of the crevasse. He did not remember exactly what happened for some time afterwards, but when he came to his senses snow was falling. He began to philosophise, and there being plenty of food he had a good meal, thinking it was worth while to have a merry life if only a short one. He took fresh courage, and began his one-man sledge journey, the first that has been accomplished. He fell into crevasses three more times, but eventually got across the glacier. On the morning of January 29 he saw a dark object in the distance, and found that it was a depot of provisions that had been left by a search party only a few hours before. After further difficulties he got to the base, to find that the vessel was going over the horizon. It was called back by wireless, but just then bad weather returned, and it was impossible to relieve the party. It was over two years from when he left the vessel to the time when he again saw the captain and crew.

A splendid series of views and cinematograph films depicted incidents and scenes in Antarctica. Considerable interest was evinced in the concluding views, taken on Macquarie Island, of the various kinds of animal life. The photographs of the penguins were interesting, and often amusing.