

The Lieutenant-Governor and chancellor of the University said, technically, that was a congregation of the University to welcome back their lecturer on petrology and mineralogy after a long absence, occupied in original research of great and permanent and scientific value. (Applause.) Actually, their welcome as a University had been enlarged into an Australian first welcome home to Dr. Douglas Mawson—(loud applause)—who had returned after two years' dangerous explorations in Antarctica and in Antarctic seas, from which he narrowly escaped with his life.

#### Imperishable Renown.

Dr. Mawson had written his name high on the scroll of imperishable renown—(cheers)—as a great Australian hero, of courage, fortitude, and endurance unsurpassed in the whole history of exploration in any age or in any part of the world. (Applause.) The welcome had a national character, stamped upon it by the distinguished representative men from all parts of Australia, by whom he was surrounded, but chiefly by the presence and participation in their welcome by his Excellency the Governor-General—(cheers)—for with respect to great deeds like Dr. Mawson's his Excellency could speak authoritatively for the whole Commonwealth.

#### Governor-General Eulogised.

During his short residence among them Lord Denman had gradually but surely won his way into the hearts and high esteem of the subjects of the King all over Australia. (Applause.) They all deeply regretted that the state of his Excellency's health obliged him to return to England before completing his full term of office. They knew that although he would change his clime, distance would not obliterate his love for Australia.

Lord Denman—Hear, hear.

Sir Samuel Way said that they hoped that his return to England would have

the effect of thoroughly recruiting his health. (Hear, hear.)

#### Keen Supporter of Project.

Lord Denman's was no new-born enthusiasm for that great enterprise. Before he left England, and while the practicableness of an exploring expedition into Antarctica under Dr. Mawson's leadership was still under discussion, his lordship was a keen supporter of the project. He helped to secure the first subsidy of £2000 from the British Government, as well as some of the munificent contributions from private donors, and his Excellency was a generous subscriber himself. (Applause.)

#### Parliamentary Aid Secured.

After his arrival in Australia the first great public meeting he attended was in Melbourne, at a lecture by Dr. Mawson, and his Excellency's advocacy from the chair greatly helped to obtain the grants by the Commonwealth and Victorian Parliaments, without which the expedition would have been an impossibility. (Cheers.) The message inviting his Excellency's presence on that occasion caught Lord Denman at Albury in the early hours of last Friday morning, as he was returning from a tour in New South Wales.

#### Bracing Air of Mount Lofty.

Although suffering from a painful attack of hay fever, which had happily disappeared in the bracing air of Mount Lofty, his Excellency accepted the invitation at once, and named the only day on which he could attend. When his Excellency arrived back in Melbourne he would have made long railway journeys on five successive days in order to be present that afternoon. (Applause.) He (Sir Samuel) was sure they would all agree that apart from his great office no one could so appropriately as Lord Denman give Australia's first welcome home to Dr. Mawson and his brave comrades, whom they were proud and glad to have with them that afternoon. (Applause.)

## "FINELY CONCEIVED AND NOBLY EXECUTED"

### MINISTER OF CUSTOMS SPEAKS

#### AUSTRALIA CONTRIBUTES TO SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

The Hon. E. Groom (Minister of Customs) said it was to have been the privilege of the Minister of External Affairs (Representative Glynn) to welcome Dr. Mawson and his comrades home, but work of a pressing nature had precluded his attendance. The gathering was something more than a local tribute of esteem. The feelings of relief, of satisfaction, joy, and congratulation thrilling their hearts that day were but an echo of the common sentiment felt throughout the whole continent.

#### An Australian Expedition.

The expedition was essentially an Australian one, and Australia was justly proud that its record was worthy of the best traditions of exploration recorded not only in the history of the Empire, but of the nations of the world. (Applause.) The field of work, the choice of leader, the selection of associates had all tended to make the Australian character of the expedition pronounced. It indicated an intention on the part of the Australian people to take their share in the work of scientific research and to add their contribution to the knowledge of the universe. The Australians in the expedition had shown that under the inspiration of the noblest motives they could suffer, dare, do, and sacrifice themselves. (Applause.) It was but fitting that Australia, which owed its existence as a part of the British Empire to the fact that it was discovered by an expedi-

tion sent out by the British Government, should foster the same enterprise.

#### Repaying Australia's Debt.

Dr. Mawson and his companions were worthily repaying Australia's debt in that respect. (Applause.) They congratulated the doctor and his associates upon a plan finely conceived and worthily executed. (Applause.) Their part it was to devise, to dare, to do—a mighty enterprise worthy of the best traditions of the British Empire. Their aim was purely scientific, yet in accomplishing their purpose they had put up a record of heroic achievement.

#### They Did Not Die in Vain.

Though two of Dr. Mawson's companions lay amid the southern snows they had not died in vain. Their spirit of indomitable courage, endurance, and self-sacrifice would remain a natural heritage of noble inspiration. (Applause.) That day they could enter fully into the joys of those whose relatives had returned. There could be nothing but profound admiration for those who, in silent suffering, watched their loved ones go out to face the unknown perils of the Antarctic regions. (Applause.) Such a spirit of sacrifice was necessary for the preservation of national greatness. That day Australia most heartily congratulated Dr. Mawson and his companions and expressed its deepest gratitude to them for their noble work. (Loud applause.)

### CECIL MADIGAN'S SCHOLARSHIP

#### STILL ELIGIBLE TO GO TO OXFORD.

South Australia is deservedly proud of Cecil Madigan, who so distinguished himself during the expedition. It will be remembered that in order to remain with the expedition he did not go to Oxford when last year he was chosen as the Rhodes scholar. It will be learned with pleasure that he will not be debarred from proceeding to Oxford after all. The Chancellor of the University (Sir Samuel Way) announced at the welcome home to the returned explorers yesterday that he had received a cable from the trustees of the Rhodes scholarship fund to the effect that the position would be

kept open for Mr. Madigan, and that they were very proud of his achievements.

#### PROFESSOR ORME MASSON HONORED.

Professor Orme Masson, of the Melbourne University, was honored by the Adelaide University yesterday, when he was admitted to the degree of Doctor of Science. The professor was introduced to the Chancellor (Sir S. J. Way) by Mr. Howchin (Professor of Geology at the University), and Sir Samuel then formally conferred the degree. The ceremony lasted a few minutes only.

### TRADES AND LABOR COUNCIL

#### EXPRESSES ITS APPRECIATION

Mr. T. B. Merry addressed the following letter to the Lieutenant-Governor:—

"Sir Samuel Way, Bart., LL.D., Chancellor of the University.  
"Honored Sir—On behalf of the Trades and Labor Council permit me to thank you for your invitation to the council to send its president to the reception tendered to Dr. Mawson to-day. May I assure you that our president deeply appreciates the compliment paid to our council in inviting him to sit on the platform? This is probably the first time in the history of either the South Australian University or Trades and Labor Council that such an invitation has come to hand, and seeing how greatly the work of both institutions may be facilitated by the cooperation of its leaders, may I be permitted to express the hope that this evidence of reciprocation which your council has inaugurated may result in the extension of the high ideals for which your University stands? I am sure that no section of the community will be disposed to wish it well more sincerely than the members of the South Australian Trades and Labor Council.—Yours respectfully, T. B. Merry, Secretary Trades and Labor Council."

### THE KING'S MESSAGE

"To the Governor-General, Adelaide—

"Please express my hearty congratulations to Mawson and members of his expedition on their safe return after their arduous experiences, and upon their successful achievements. At the same time I deeply regret the loss of their tried companions.—George R.I."