

## MAWSON EXPEDITION.

## The Official Reception.

Dr. Mawson spent yesterday at Brighton, in preparation for the official welcome which this afternoon is to be extended to him and his companions at the Adelaide University. He has had a very busy time since his return, in meeting the demands of interviewers, in returning the greetings of friends, and in answering literally shoals of telegrams and letters which have poured in on him. Dr. Mawson has received congratulations from many parts of the world. The first message reached him by means of the Semaphore Signal Station. It was from the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir Samuel Way), and read thus:—"Heartiest welcome back. We are grateful that you and your brave companions are safe, after your perilous adventures." Other important messages were as follow:—

From Capt. Roald Amundsen, the discoverer of the south pole:—"Welcome home. Warmest congratulations."

From Sir Ernest Shackleton:—"Heartiest congratulations on your success and safe return, from us all."

From Dr. Charcot, the commander of the French antarctic expedition:—"Bravo. Welcome."

From the Royal Geographical Society of London:—"Warmest congratulations on safe return and great achievement.—Lord Curzon, President."

From Sir Harry Barron, Governor of Western Australia:—"Heartiest congratulations on safe return of yourself and party."

From Dr. Hugh Robert Mill, the great authority on antarctic geography:—"Heartiest congratulations on magnificent results."

From Professor Orme Masson, Acting Chairman of the advisory committee of the Mawson expedition:—"Welcome home and heartiest congratulations."

## DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

His Excellency the Governor-General (Lord Denman) arrived by the Melbourne express train yesterday, to be present at the reception to Dr. Mawson. He was accompanied by Lord Richard Nevill, and both are the guests of Mr. T. E. Barr Smith at Mount Lofty. His Excellency will leave again this afternoon for Melbourne. Other visitors from Victoria are the Minister for Customs (Mr. Groom), who will represent the Federal Government, and Professor Orme Masson, of the Melbourne University, who is Acting Chairman of the advisory committee of the Mawson expedition. The Chairman, Professor David, is in London.

## TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME.

For to-day's reception at the Elder Hall of the University, graduates are requested to wear academic dress and to assemble in the concert hall at 2 o'clock. The proceedings will commence at 2.15 p.m., at which time the Chancellor (Sir Samuel Way) and the members of the council and Senate, and professional staff will march in procession to their seats. The Chancellor will be accompanied by the Premier (Hon. A. H. Peake). So soon as they are seated the Governor-General (Lord Denman) and the Minister of Customs (Mr. Groom) will be conducted to the platform by the Vice-Chancellor (Dr. Barlow) and Mr. Justice Murray. The Chancellor will extend a welcome to the Governor-General, who will deliver an address, as also will the Premier and the Minister of Customs. Then the Chancellor will confer the degree of doctor of science (ad eundem) on Professor Orme Masson, who is Acting Chairman of the Mawson expedition committee, and President of the Australian Association for the Advancement of Science. Professor Masson will give an address, after which Dr. Mawson and Capt. Davis, of the Aurora, will speak. Presidents of societies and other bodies participating in the welcome will be accommodated with seats on the platform. As the Governor-General is to leave for Melbourne by the afternoon's express train, it is expected that the proceedings will be concluded by 4 o'clock.

## THE AURORA.

The good little wooden steamer, the Aurora, which conveyed the Mawson expedition to and from the antarctic, is berthed in the Company's Basin, at Port Adelaide. Although not formally open for inspection, she had many visitors yesterday. Capt. Davis states that the public may look over her on Wednesday and Thursday. In all probability the Aurora will be taken to Hobart at the end of this week, where her crew will be paid off and she will be laid up. It has not been decided in any way what will eventually become of her. The Aurora goes to the cool waters of Hobart, where she will be free from attack by the toredor worms. She is an unsheathed wooden vessel, and in the warm waters of Australian harbours the destructive worms would revel in her. Most of the specimens brought from the polar regions have been discharged from the vessel.

## THE DOGS.

The dogs which were brought back in the Aurora have been presented to members of the expedition. They are located in cages near the bears at the Adelaide Zoological Gardens, where they are undergoing quarantine.

Professor Baldwin Spencer, C.M.G., F.R.S., recently delivered an address on "The life of the Australian tribesmen" before the Royal Anthropological Institute, London. The address was illustrated by cinematograph films and phonograph records. He described minutely the habits of the aborigines in all their wild picturesque grandeur. The lecturer explained that the corroboree was a method of handing down to their dark-skinned descendants the history of their ancestors—a mission which was entrusted to chosen men from each tribe from time to time. Ceremonies connected with death and burial, which only selected members of the tribes were supposed to understand, were related to the London public. Professor Spencer won the sympathy of his large audience in behalf of the natives.

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor (Sir Samuel Way) will preside at the welcome meeting to Dr. Mawson at the University this afternoon.

Professor Mitchell, of the Adelaide University, who has spent the vacation at Colombo, returned by the mail steamer on Saturday.