

—For the Citizens.—

The Mayor of Adelaide (Mr. L. Cohen) said after the several eloquent references he thought a few words from him would do. His duty was the simple and pleasurable one of wishing the members of the party, on behalf of the citizens, bon voyage, success, and a safe return after a very successful expedition. (Applause.) He thought he was justified in saying that rarely if ever before had an expedition set out for scientific purposes which had the eyes of the entire Commonwealth, he believed of the world, on it as had the present expedition. (Hear, hear.) It was the most important expedition which had ever before set out from the shores of Australia. Again he wished the members bon voyage, very successful work, and a safe return. He hoped the happiest results might be attained by Dr. Mawson and his brave comrades as the result of the important and great scientific expedition they were entering upon. (Applause.)

—Advancement of Science.—

Professor Henderson, representing the Association for the Advancement of Science in Australasia, said he took the first opportunity in public to express thanks for the committee of that association for the generous help given by private citizens and the Government to the expedition. He wanted to particularly mention the names of Messrs. P. Barr Smith and W. A. Horn, who gave £1,000 each. (Applause.) Also Messrs. Angus, Simpson, Scarfe, Todd & Samuel, and P. J. Hawkes, who, through the energetic spirit Mr. Piper had generously contributed to the funds. In addition,

they had received many valuable contributions in material, and he expressed thanks to Messrs. Wilcox, Reid, Conrad, Metters, the Castle Salt Company, and the Corn and Duck Company. All those had helped them, and saved them the expenditure of money by giving generously towards the material required on the voyage. There were other small amounts which he could not mention just then. He wanted to come to the main matter. In regard to the help given, they would realize that in an expedition to cost £50,000 they must look to the general public and those who represented them to assist. (Applause.) He wanted to state as clearly and emphatically as he could that the committee of the association were exceedingly indebted to the generosity of the Government of this State for its splendid contribution. (Applause.) He could not refrain in that connection from mentioning the name of Mr. Ryan, M.P., who had helped them to approach the Government, and who had helped the cause with an amount of enthusiasm of which he seemed to have an inexhaustible fund. The Government had generously responded, not only with money—he was not sure that money was the main point—but had given a lead to the rest of the States of the Commonwealth. (Applause.) It had been stated publicly in Sydney and printed in the press that it was the Government of New South Wales which had given the lead to the rest of the States. That was not correct. (Hear, hear.) They were exceedingly indebted for the generosity displayed by the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria; but the lead had been given by neither of these States, but by the Government of which the Chief Secretary was a member. (Applause.) They had also to thank the Government of South Australia for offering facilities for Dr. Mawson to secure supplies at cost price, and save a considerable amount of money in that way. He could not speak too emphatically about the generous assistance contributed to the expedition by the South Australian Government. (Applause.) All he had to say in addition to thanking those ladies and gentlemen was that Dr. Mawson would go to the south pole with the full confidence of the council as well as the committee of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science. When the matter was brought before its notice in January last in Sydney there were 50 members on the council present. It was proposed that the association should give one-third of its total funds—£1,000—to the expedition, and there was not a single vote against it. (Applause.) That was evidence of complete confidence on scientific grounds in the leader of the expedition. (Applause.) Let him give an illustration of the confidence in Dr. Mawson of another reliable character. There were two men in this world who knew more about Dr. Mawson's capacity as a leader than any others. One was Professor David, whose student Dr. Mawson once was. (Applause.) Professor David had not only stated his confidence time after time, but had gone through the districts of New South Wales lecturing in order to raise money for the expedition. The other one was Dr. Mawson's late commander, now Sir Ernest Shackleton. (Applause.) The Chancellor had expressed himself on the merits of Dr. Mawson as soon as the expedition returned. Sir Ernest could hardly have used terms which were more satisfactory from the point of view of the University and those associated with

him. (Applause.) He also reminded the gathering that Sir Ernest had been instrumental in London in raising £8,000 towards this expedition. (Applause.) His sole purpose was to bring before the public the very best evidence available that Dr. Mawson was the man for this expedition, and had the confidence of scientific men and men who had faced those dangers and difficulties with him. He was undertaking a difficult task—a task not without dangers. (Hear, hear.) Because of that they would watch with great interest, and perhaps with some anxiety, those wireless messages which would come from the south pole. They wished him godspeed. They hoped he and his comrades would surmount all difficulties, and bring back results to be placed before the Australasian Association, and also before the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which would meet in Australia soon after his return—results which would show that there had been progress made in the scientific research of the world. (Applause.)

—“Sort of Apostolic Succession.”—

Mr. A. W. Piper, K.C. (President of the South Australian branch of the Royal Geographical Society) said he felt the honour and enjoyed the pleasure of speaking on behalf of that society in bidding godspeed to Dr. Mawson, and his comrades, whose courage would be revealed in the antarctic equal to the modesty they displayed that day, and which kept them in the back seat on the platform. (Laughter, and applause.) The Geographical Society naturally would follow the expedition with the greatest interest, and would give the heartiest applause to the feats they performed. (Applause.) The expedition was starting under the happiest auspices of a sort of apostolic succession. They would remember and they all honoured the name of Capt. Scott, who was down in the antarctic now. (Applause.) They would remember the fine spirit with which Capt. Scott had spoken of Sir Ernest Shackleton—his lieutenant—who unfortunately was invalidated home. (Applause.) Then Sir Ernest Shackleton had gone upon his own expedition, and taken Dr. Mawson with him. All present knew by heart the generous, though perhaps only just, spirit with which Sir Ernest had spoken of and supported Dr. Mawson. (Applause.) The Shackleton expedition was one of the most successful on record. To conduct that great expedition over those vast unbeaten tracks, and bring the whole of the party back safe and sound, besides doing the scientific work which had been done, was one of the great feats of the nation. (Applause.) Dr. Mawson and his party were now going to the antarctic, animated by the same spirit which had actuated previous expeditions—to determine to do good work, and cooperate with that comradeship of which the Chief Secretary had spoken. (Applause.) The Geographical Society stood for the science of geography, but the science of geography stood for making the resources of this earth, upon which they had to live, available to contribute to the happiness of the human population. Dr. Mawson and his party, down as it might be in cold and apparently desolate regions, courageously determined, not merely for the sake of dry-as-dust science, but in the interests of human happiness, to undertake work to make those places contribute something to the happiness of the world's population. (Applause.) They were going forth in what he took it was the true spirit that ought to actuate Australians, as the representatives of Australia. Every man, woman, and child on this continent owed his opportunities and happiness to the same spirit of adventure, and exploration, and of determination to know the world

which animated the party who were going out now, and which not much over a century ago had actuated the men whose names had already been mentioned—Cook, Flinders, Sturt, Stuart, and the others. (Applause.) It was the duty of Australians, recognising what they owed to geographical and scientific exploration, discovery, and hardihood, to take their part in discovering the secrets that still remained in this globe on which they lived. He heartily wished, in behalf of the members of the society and those interested in making the world better known, and a better place for human beings, them all happiness and a safe return, although not too speedy, and a very hearty welcome when they returned. (Cheers.)

—The Royal Society.—

Dr. J. C. Verco (President of the Royal Society) said he wanted to do honour to the Royal Society by representing it at that gathering, when Dr. Mawson would make history, and also help to give him a send-off which would be encouraging to him. He would like let Dr. Mawson know that the members of it were proud of one of their fellows as leader, organizer, and more than that, originator of this enterprise. (Applause.) This was the first Australian antarctic expedition. They would like Dr. Mawson to know, too, that they had complete confidence in him, knowing that he had had previous experience, that he was a brave man, knew the difficulties and perils, and was ready to face

them again. They knew that he was an able man, too. (Applause.) They had seen the work he could do at home. They had knowledge of the scientific work he had been able to do in the polar regions. They knew that when he went down south and found himself in some tight place they would like him to recall their assurance of confidence, and that he would be able to win through it and come out right in the end. (Applause.) They also wished him to know that they expected a great deal, not merely that he and his comrades would have a nice trip to the antarctic and had returned safe and well, but that he would come home laden with priceless information, that he would bring them his notes, his diaries, his experiences, his explorations, his pictures, his specimens, would come back with new journals, new charts for Mr. Piper, and the Royal Geographical Society; with new seas and new lands, new mountains—because they were found rather than obliterated—(laughter)—and would bring back for the museums new plants, new animals, new minerals, and also for the Royal Society new facts and, should he say, new fancies—(laughter and applause)—new theories and, possibly, new natural laws for them. (Applause.) They would like him to know that they would wait for him at the Royal Society, and see him open up some of those precious packages. They wanted him to know that they admired his spirit of adventure, not the restless spirit of casual adventure that must go somewhere and search either for something or for nothing, but that rational spirit in the certainty of gain—an adventure for advantage. (Applause.) Not the adventure for gain, for personal benefit, but the adventure which should be to the credit of their State, which should add to the material richness of the Commonwealth and possibly to the territory of the Empire, and to the scientific knowledge of the whole world. (Applause.) So, on behalf of the Royal Society, he wished Dr. Mawson and his comrades farewell, godspeed, adieu, not merely as compliments, but in the simple meaning of the words. They hoped they would have a good time and great success, God's own care, and a safe return, so that the Royal Society, the Geographical Society, and all others might give them a right loyal welcome when they all returned safe home. (Loud applause.)

—Dr. Mawson's Speech.—

Dr. Mawson, who was accorded an ovation upon rising, and was received by the audience standing and cheering him, said: Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen—I wish to thank you from the depth of my heart for this generous ovation and send-off that you are giving to myself and my comrades, most of whom from South Australia, I am happy to say, are here to-day hearing the good advice and the nice things to take with them south. (Applause.) Most of the speakers have referred to myself, and I appear to be the chief spirit in the expedition. To some extent that is so. Everything depends upon the personnel of the expedition. But I am only one of 32 of the land party. I can do nothing more, in some respects, towards the success of the expedition after having chosen the staff. It is an obligation on my part to choose the men who will do the work, for direction is useless in such circumstances. I have done my best to choose men of character. (Applause.) I have had advice from wellwishers in different parts of Australia, something to this effect:—“Do you think So-and-So is strong enough? Do you think he can stand it?” That might be personal, and might apply to me in a personal way also. The most important point to look for in members of an expedition like this is character. (Applause.) I think it can be confidently said that the men representing South Australia are well fitted in that respect. (Applause.) It is impossible for me to tell, therefore, how they are going to act until circumstances arise that will bring out character. In that land of desolation, in that land of loneliness to which we are about to proceed there are the conditions to measure a man at his worth. (Applause.) You will know in 18 months' time who have been the successful members of the expedition and who have not. I personally feel confident that all the men chosen will be successful. (Applause.) I am more than confident in regard to the South Australian members. There has been a reference made to the risks. Of course risks are inseparable from expeditions of this kind. Every man must go forward with the certain knowledge that he is facing the risk to life and limb, but with your kind words and the Providence that reigns over all things, we have no anxiety in that respect. (Applause.) We shall meet dangers as they come. I want to take this opportunity to personally thank those who have assisted in this organization. The Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science and its chief officers have done all they possibly could. Professor Henderson (the President in South Australia) has been foremost in assisting me. The private subscribers and the givers of foodstuffs have been mentioned by Professor Henderson. Some minor ones have been omitted,