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—My Second-in-Command.—

Fifteen hundred miles away was the Mawson Western party in command of Wild, a man who has had more experience of the antarctic than any other living man. He is now my second in command. They made similar journeys, happily without loss of life, and the information brought back by this section of the expedition is bound to be of the greatest importance. To the seamanship of Capt. Davis the expedition owes more than a little. Without the glamour of long marches, without the excitement of the discovery of new land each day, Davis steered his ship through snowstorm and blizzard, and by icebergs, contact with which would smash his little craft in a minute. Four times he passed through these seas with the Aurora, and brought her safely home with the men on board, after encountering the worst weather on the worst side of the antarctic continent, where the average wind velocity for months together is not less than 50 miles an hour. And so ends this remarkable enterprise, which must link together for ever those who have taken part in it.

TAKING THE UNIVERSITY TO THE PEOPLE.

Under the auspices of the Trades and Labour Council a meeting was held on Thursday, March 26, to further consider the proposal to establish the Workers' Educational Association of South Australia. The meeting was attended by 14 delegates, representing a large number of the industrial workers of the State. The chair was occupied by Mr. T. Ryan (President of the Trades and Labour Council). The Secretary was Mr. T. B. Merry, who holds a similar position with the Trades and Labour Council. A constitution was adopted, and it was decided to circularize the various industrial bodies and the University, School of Mines, and Public Library authorities, to be represented at the first annual conference on April 15. The greatest interest is being taken in the movement.

A UNIVERSITY TOUR.

Mr. Oscar von Willer (Lecturer in Physics and Mathematics at the Sydney University, who has been visiting the universities of England, America, and the Continent, has returned to Sydney. "I put in about six weeks at Cambridge in the physical laboratory," said Mr. von Willer. "Sir J. J. Thompson is the head of the department, and there was much of great interest. I next visited the universities of London, Birmingham, Leeds, and Manchester, particularly with reference to the teaching of physics. I saw a lot that was new, especially the work of Professor Bragg (formerly of Adelaide), at Birmingham in connection with Rontgen rays, and Professor Thompson's on 'the nature of matter' at Cambridge. I was greatly impressed with the amount of research work that is being done at the English and Continental universities. Mr. von Willer's tour included seven weeks on the Continent—Paris, Strasbourg, Heidelberg, Nuremberg, Vienna, Zurich, Milan, Florence, Rome, and Naples were visited in turn (says The Daily Telegraph). "The one that impressed me most—in so far as the physical laboratory was concerned—was Vienna," continued Mr. von Willer. "It was quite the most elaborate and best equipped that I saw, and I think it is the most up-to-date in the world. Heidelberg has also a finely equipped modern laboratory. There was a lot that was new to me in regard to teaching methods. In America they go in largely for the tutorial system. In England there was nothing very new in regard to 'method.'"

THE MAWSON WEDDING.

Couple Leave for England To-day.

MELBOURNE, March 31.

A wedding in which public interest was evinced was celebrated to-day in Holy Trinity Church, Balaclava. The bridegroom was Dr. Douglas Mawson (leader of the recently returned Australasian Antarctic Expedition), and the bride Miss Paquita Delprat, youngest daughter of Mr. G. D. Delprat (general manager of the Broken Hill Proprietary Mine) and of Mrs. Delprat, formerly of South Australia, and now of Linden, Williams road, Windsor. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. F. Masters, in the presence of a large congregation. Almost as large a company assembled about the church grounds in the hope of gaining a glimpse of the explorer and his handsome bride. The ushers for the occasion had all visited the antarctic. They included Lieut. C. Bage, Messrs. C. A. Hoadley, E. Dyce Murphy, M. H. Moyes, G. H. Ainsworth, and J. H. Blair (chief officer of the Aurora), Dr. McLean, and Mr. Griffiths Taylor (Scott's expedition). The bridesmaids were Miss Carmen Delprat (sister of the bride), and Miss Hester Berry (of Adelaide. Capt. J. K. Davis, of the Aurora, supported the bridegroom as best man, and Mr. G. D. Delprat (brother of the bride) was groomsmen.

The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a handsome gown of white satin crepante, made with a tunic and deep basque of fine shadow lace. The slightly décolleté bodice was draped with similar lace, the corsage showing a chemise of beaded embroidery, and the waistline a finish gained by cabochons and strings of seed pearls. A long train of satin brocade lined with lace fell in graceful lines, and the veil of fine silk tulle was arranged off the face with a circlet of orange blossom. She also wore a beautiful necklace of superb black opals, a gift from the bridegroom, and carried a posy of white azaleas. The bridesmaids wore white satin draped with sea-green ninon de soie and white valenciennes lace. Their hats were of black velvet, trimmed with dark fur, and a small green apple set in its foliage, and a happy contrast was their bouquets of lovely pink roses. En suite with their frocks were the bridegroom's gifts, necklets set with green tourmalines and diamonds.

At the conclusion of the ceremony a reception was held at Linden by the parents of the bride. Mrs. Mawson, mother of the bridegroom, was unable to leave her home in New South Wales owing to ill health, but her other son, Dr. W. Mawson of Sydney, was present, and the Adelaide University was represented by Mr. Hodge. Other visitors from Adelaide included Lady Butler, Miss Kathleen Butler, and Miss Stirling (daughter of Professor Stirling). Among the wedding gifts were a silver-mounted leather blotter from the Governor-General and Lady Denman, and a massive silver salver and tea and coffee service from members of the Australasian Antarctic Expedition. The principal toast was proposed by Professor David, of Sydney.

Dr. and Mrs. Mawson will leave to-morrow by the R.M.S. Orana for Europe.

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THE MAWSON EXPEDITION.

A JOURNEY WITH ONE SURVIVOR.

WHEN A MAN FALLS DOWN A CREVASSE.

Melbourne, March 30.

At a complimentary dinner tendered to him at the Oriental Hotel to-night, Dr. Mawson gave the most detailed account he has yet given of his experiences on the sledge journey with Lieutenant Ninnes and Dr. Mertz, from which he alone returned alive.

After mentioning that he and his two companions left the base in Adelie Land about the beginning of November, 1912, he proceeded—"The day of the accident Mertz had gone on about a quarter of a mile, while Ninnes, a little way back, was attending to one of the sledges. Presently I saw Mertz looking over his shoulder. He looked again, and it struck me that something was behind us. I looked round and I could see nothing. There was just the absolute plain. I went back. It had dawned on me in the moment what was the cause. I could see a big gaping hole in the snow. He must have gone straight down into the blankness below."

Dr. Mawson then spoke of the journey of Dr. Mertz and himself back to the hut, in the course of which his companion died. "In the average," said Dr. Mawson, "one dog died each day. When this happened we ate the dog, but as it had died from starvation there was not much nutriment in it. Mertz died quite suddenly at midnight on January 17. When Mertz died things looked about all out, but I did not worry. The end was such a foregone conclusion that it did not seem worth worrying about. Perhaps it was because I felt like that and had got past the stage of worrying that I am here now. I just went on and wondered how far I would get towards the hut before I started exploring another country, and a stranger one than any met with in the Antarctic. The situation was full of interest. I can say that now, looking back, and more so so, because I was right out of this world. Once I fell down a crevasse, and do you know what I thought when I was falling? I thought what a fool I had been not to eat the food I had with me instead of saving it up to be wasted when I was dead." (Laughter.)

In conclusion Dr. Mawson mentioned how he had stumbled on some food left by one of the parties that had come out to look for him. He was then at the last gasp, but this gave him strength to struggle on and reach the hut.

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At Holy Trinity Church, Balaclava, Victoria, on Tuesday Dr. Mawson, the hero of the Antarctic expedition, was married to Miss Francesca Adriana (Paquita) Delprat, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Guillaume Daniel Delprat, late of Broken Hill, now of "Linden," Williams-road, Windsor. Our Melbourne correspondent telegraphed last night:—The bridegroom, who was attended by Captain J. K. Davies, of the Aurora, commanded just as much attention as the girlish bride in a robe of white satin and shadow lace. The bride's gown was finished with a train of brocaded crepe de chine, and her tulle veil fell softly over a chaplet of orange blossom. She wore an opal necklace, the bridegroom's wedding gift. The Rev. F. Masters officiated at the altar. Being the Lenten season there were no decorations at the church, but later at the reception a novel scheme of decoration was revealed in the marquee, where the wedding tea was served. The roof was designed in color effect to represent the Aurora Australis. Model penguins in miniature took the place of flowers in the decoration of the tables, and the wedding cake was made to represent an iceberg with penguins resting on its surface. Miss Carmen Delprat and Miss Hester Berry (Adelaide), the bridesmaids, looked like two water lily maidens in frocks carried out with white satin and lace veiled with pale green tulle. La France roses formed their posies. Dr. Mawson leaves to-morrow with his bride for Europe. Among the presents received were a silver tray and coffee service from the members of the Antarctic expedition, and a silver-mounted blotting pad from Lord Denman (the Governor General).