

March 4<sup>th</sup> 1914

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S OWN EXPLORER

### CECIL MADIGAN'S EXPERIENCES

#### HOW TO FEED DOGS IN A GALE.

The popular skipper of the Aurora (Captain Davis) received a magnificent ovation, the people rising in their seats and cheering him to the echo. Clearly and fluently, and in a ringing voice, the Antarctic captain said his say. It was felt at the time of the return of the Shackleton expedition that Australia might well feel proud of the doctor and the way he led the expedition. In the old country the experiment of sending an Australian expedition was regarded with diffidence, because it was considered that Australians could not stand the cold Arctic climate. To their credit, be it said, they had proved otherwise. (Applause.) Twice he had put into Melbourne and once into Sydney for repairs to the Aurora, and on each occasion was most kindly received and the assistance readily rendered. He desired to thank them for the welcome tendered that afternoon, which would remain in their memory as long as they lived.

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S OWN EXPLORER.

Hitherto the speaking had been done by Dr. Mawson and Captain Davis. Yesterday South Australia's own explorer (Mr. Cecil Madigan) delivered a short address. For the quiet, unassuming young fellow there is a very warm place in the hearts of South Australians, which fact was strikingly demonstrated, when he rose to speak, the audience making the walls tremble with their wholehearted applause. In the joy of homecoming, he observed, he felt in such a state of happy confusion that he found it very difficult to properly express the appreciation he felt at the kind welcome extended. Mr. Madigan shares the modesty of the members of the expedition. They did not feel that that afternoon's reception was exactly in the nature of a Roman triumph, he remarked, but that it was just an expression of gladness at their return. Members of the expedition knew very well that they only underwent the ordinary hazards and adventures of polar explorers and this in the ordinary way. They knew that several parties could have been selected in Australia which could have done the work they had done, and just as well.

#### How the Dogs were Fed.

"I do not know that I can tell you much," observed the young explorer, "but perhaps I might tell you something about the feedings of the dogs. That was one of the first jobs I had in the second year. Dr. Mawson has already mentioned how Murphy used to 'retrieve' the meat from the cellar with dogs.

Feeding the animals was quite interesting—for the first few days," smilingly proceeded the narrator, "but after that —" (Laughter.) The dogs were fed on seals, shot during the summer. The birds were frozen solid and looked for all the world like red-gum logs. (Laughter.) I had to go out every day and chip pieces of these 'logs.' Usually a very strong wind was blowing, and the chips blew away. The dogs quickly learned to get to the leeward of the 'log' and spread themselves round in a circle with their paws well out, ready to catch the flying chips. They soon became experts at catching the chips, and even with a 90-mile 'breeze' blowing they missed very few." (Laughter.)

#### The "Crook Cook" Association.

Way down south there is a branch of the "Crook Cook" Association, and newly fledged Arctic explorers of necessity join the same. "You see," remarked the speaker, "we were all amateur cooks, but took good old Mrs. Beeton down with us. (Laughter.) We used to follow her instructions to the letter. Once I tried to make salmon kedgeree. Now, Mrs. Beeton states that you have to use 2 oz. of butter, salt and pepper. If you had anything to do with the making of kedgeree you would know what the addition of pepper would mean. Anyhow I was promptly elected to the 'Crook Cooks' Association." (Laughter.) The first question they were invariably asked was "Don't you feel it hot?" With apologies to "Punch" he would like to say to those who were curious on that point, "We don't feel it as hot as we did, but by jove we 'elt it hot at first." (Laughter.) He thanked them for their enthusiastic welcome. They were very proud and happy to have been so well received. Most of all he was proud of the fact that their leader was a South Australian. (Applause.)

At the call of the mayor three hearty cheers were given for Dr. Mawson and his party and the proceedings terminated.

#### THE MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE

The following is a copy of the telegram which was sent by the mayor subsequent to the meeting, at the request of the Minister of Trade and Customs, to the fathers of Lieutenant Ninnis and Dr. Mertz:—"People of Australia, at public meeting in Adelaide to welcome return Mawson expedition, condole with you on your great loss, but congratulate you on your son's imperishable fame."

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## DR. MAWSON.

### ARRIVAL N MELBOURNE.

MELBOURNE, March 5.

Dr. Douglas Mawson arrived in Melbourne by the Adelaide express to-day, and was met by representatives of the Federal Government, professors of the Melbourne University, and the Royal Geographical Society. Dr. Mawson had expressed a desire for a quiet reception, and accordingly no effort was made to ensure anything like a representative gathering, and no speeches were made. Dr. Mawson was accompanied by his fiancée (Miss Delprat), Mrs. G. D. Delprat, and Mr. Delprat, jun.

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## GENERAL NEWS.

### THE OLD SHOWGROUNDS

The Premier (Hon. A. H. Peake), speaking at the Show luncheon on Thursday, made a passing reference to the pending removal of the showground to the new site at Wayville West. He observed that several bodies were already clamoring for the ground on which the Adelaide Shows had been held for so many years. It had been practically decided by the Government that a considerable portion of the ground occupied by the Royal Agricultural Society, and of adjoining institutions which would shortly be vacated, should be given over to the University. The University did not belong to the professors and the council of that body, but to South Australia. They wished not only that that great institution should be conducted on progressive lines, but that the students should be comfortable in their surroundings. The University must have more room than it had at present, so that provision might be made along the lines indicated. Further arrangements would be made for the extension of the Public Library and adjoining institutions, and of the School of Mines. All were great institutions, and must be properly provided for.