

—All Fine Fellows.—

There was great excitement. The main base decided to put ashore and carry on the work. Capt. Davis took the ship west, intending to land wherever he could. That he did successfully a long way to the west. The ship returned home, and both parties set about their duties for the year. The men were most determined, and they believed the results had been very satisfactory. All his companions were fine fellows. (Applause.) They were also very retiring. They had not even gone up on the platform, and they might have done that. (Applause.) The second year at Adelie Land passed very monotonously during the first few months, but now they were all back again, and they were very happy. He hoped the public would be

satisfied with what had been accomplished when the results were published. The elaboration of them would require the services of about 70 men in various special duties, and some of the staff were already at work.

—From the Sky to the Bottom of the Sea.—

There was a vast amount of data. It ranged from meteorological facts to deep-sea fish. Some idea of the work involved in their scientific investigations might be gleaned from the fact that the total number of entries in the records—and they really amounted to synopses—was something like 17,000. The synopses referred to wind velocity, sunshine, cloud, temperature, and many other things. If they multiplied 17,000 by eight they would have an idea of what the records in meteorology alone represented. It would certainly not be before August that the preliminary statement could be made.

—The Tragedy of the Expedition.—

"I don't like to refer to any details of my sledge journey," continued Dr. Mawson. "We all had sledging experiences, arduous and very trying. My comrades here to-day had their hazardous times. They went to the antarctic knowing that they would have to take risks. The funny thing is that some of them want to go again. That's the curious part about it. I had an idea that way myself, but I have not got it so much now. (Laughter.) Still, one never knows. The deaths of Lieut. Ninnis and Dr. Mertz have been referred to, and it is only right that I should say a word or two about them. There were no better men on the expedition. (Applause.) They were fine fellows both of them. I don't know that they would regret their deaths if it could be possible for them to hear us talking about them. They went to the antarctic knowing the risks. I never heard a complaint from either of them. Ninnis had a painful inflammation of the fingers before he lost his life, but he never said a word. On occasions I lanced his fingers, and although the operations must have been exceedingly painful, he did not complain. Mind you, we were then supposed to be having a good time. Everything was all right. (Laughter and applause.) Since I got back I have had a look at Ninnis's diary, but he said nothing about the painful experiences that he must have gone through.

—Nature's Gentlemen.—

"Ninnis came of exploring stock. His father is Inspector-General Ninnis, head of the medical service of the Royal Navy. Ninnis himself was an officer of the Royal Fusiliers, and he was determined to do something for his country. He stood by the expedition in every possible way. Dr. Mertz was a Swiss by birth, but he was a man every Englishman would have liked to have called an Englishman. (Applause.) He was a man of great feelings, generous—one of Nature's gentlemen. I don't like to think about him now. When he was dying he tried to stop me from knowing the worst. He was unconscious at the last, or he might have left a final message. Those two men gave up their lives, and I feel sure that any other of my comrades would have done the same if it had been required of them. (Applause.) They were prepared to do so. As for myself, I don't claim to have done a bit more than anybody else. Others in my circumstances might have done better. It was unfortunate for Dr. Mertz that he could not live on dog meat so well as I could, perhaps. Of Capt. Davis I cannot speak too highly. (Applause.) His resource and knowledge have been of great value, and could not have been done without."

—Dr. Mawson's Great Victory.—

Capt. Davis, who was accorded an ovation, said he was glad to have the opportunity to thank His Excellency the Governor-General and the other speakers for the way they had referred to the Aurora. If the work of the ship had been successful it was largely owing to the help he had received from not only his own officers and crew, who had always zealously sup-

ported him, but also from the members of the expedition who they had carried from time to time. (Hear, hear.) Probably the chief reason that the expedition had achieved the measure of success they had been pleased to attach to it had been that the leader of it had been the right man in the right place. (Applause.) A man had to know what he was doing down south, and had to have the confidence of those he led; and he personally did not think any man was more fitted

to lead an expedition than was Dr. Mawson. (Hear, hear.) Probably they had only fully realized that when they thought they had lost him, during those anxious days of waiting when he had returned from a journey that was absolutely unparalleled in the history of exploration, a journey which he thought was one of the greatest illustrations of how the sternest affairs of Nature were overcome by the superb courage, power, and resolve of man. (Applause.) It did good to all on the vessel, and he was sure it would do every one good in the great country of Australia, which should read of that magnificent journey. (Applause.) It would have been easy to have died in such circumstances as Dr. Mawson had then found himself, easy to have got inside the bag and to have given in to the difficulties; but it was quite a different thing to go on and on as Dr. Mawson did for 30 solid days. That was the finest thing that had ever been done in such an expedition. (Applause.)

—Complete Confidence and Unanimity.—

Personally he could only say that whenever difficulties had arisen—and very difficult situations had arisen in those parts—he had always as a seaman been able to act with the complete confidence that whatever he did would receive the absolute support of Dr. Mawson. (Applause.) That was absolutely necessary in antarctic work. One had to feel that, provided he was acting rightly, he would be supported by the leader. He had not only been supported by Dr. Mawson, but when it had been necessary to leave a relief party behind the 18 men were to the fore and ready to volunteer to spend another year in what was one of the worst parts of the world. (Applause.) It was that spirit which made it possible to act in a way that was best for all. It was the feeling that when difficulties might come every one was going to stand by and see the thing through. (Hear, hear.) He was glad to think that party had been able to render succour to Dr. Mawson, and that one of the depots it laid out had ultimately brought him through his difficulties. (Applause.) He was proud to have had a place in the expedition, and he would always look back to the men who had been associated with him and to the splendid part which they had played. Whatever little he had been able to do in the undertaking had been made possible by the support he had received. He asked them to accept the hearty thanks not only of himself, but also of his officers and the crew of the Aurora, and he was only sorry that he could not call upon the others to speak for themselves. (Applause.)

—Felicitations.—

His Excellency the Governor-General, in moving a vote of thanks to the Chancellor, said he had to thank Sir Samuel for having given him the opportunity to listen to two of the finest speeches he had ever heard, those by Dr. Mawson and Capt. Davis. (Hear, hear.) The leader had said that, if not the whole, then at least a portion of a continent would be added to Australia as a result of the expedition. If that were the case he did not think it would fall to his lot, but to the lot of his successor to go down and formally take over the country in behalf of His Majesty the King and the Commonwealth Government. (Applause and laughter.) He was pleased that duty would not fall within the sphere of his province. (Laughter.) Regarding the Chancellor, he might say a great deal, but he would content himself with mentioning only one or two things. Sir Samuel had been connected with the Adelaide University from its inception, and had been Chancellor for 31 years. It must have been a pleasure to him to have presided at that gathering, and to have seen what great achievements had been performed by South Australian University men. (Hear, hear.) He believed that Sir Samuel had not been in the best of health, but he was pleased that he was now improving, and he hoped that he might long be spared to occupy the position of Chancellor, and further that of Chief Justice of the State and also that of Lieutenant-Governor of South Australia. (Applause.)

The vote was passed with acclamation.

Sir Samuel Way, in replying, said that if it had been good manners he would have moved that the proposition should be amended to refer to His Excellency the Governor-General. (Laughter.) They were all grateful to Lord Denman for having been present and for the admirable service he had rendered. (Applause.) He had at-

tended with much inconvenience to himself, and they would carry away with them a grateful memory of his visit and of the enthusiasm he had shown in the great occasion in which they were privileged to be participating. (Applause.)

Cheers for Lord Denman concluded the historic proceedings.

WELCOME TO MESSRS. CORRELL AND MADIGAN.

The Prince Alfred Old Collegians' Association will tender a welcome home luncheon to Messrs. P. E. Correll and Cecil T. Madigan on Wednesday. It will be conducted on the same lines as a Commonwealth luncheon. "Old boys" intending to be present are requested to notify Bricknell's before 3 p.m. on Tuesday. The President of the Association (Mr. N. A. Webb) will occupy the chair, and several prominent citizens will be present.

A MAYORAL TRIBUTE.

The Mayor of Unley (Lieut.-Col. Dollman), at the meeting of the corporation on Monday night, said he desired, in behalf of the citizens, to express gratification at the safe return of Dr. Mawson and his party from their perilous journeyings in the antarctic. Especially did they welcome the gallant leader and those of his companions who were natives of South Australia. The scientific achievements of the expedition it was impossible for a layman to assess. The journeyings afforded an opportunity to impress the whole world with the personal bravery and intrepid conduct of Australians. Faced as they had been by terrors and dangers seen and unseen, compassed about by the severest climatic conditions and privations, and hourly and daily risking their lives for the sake of the science they studied and loved, they had graven for themselves and Australia a monument of achievement which would stand for the admiration of peoples of every clime and tongue. In the hearty welcome which they offered they must still find room for an honest and sincere regret for those brave hearts who had fallen by the way, and were now amid the everlasting snows in a grandeur of science. Their memory of whom would live on and on in the minds of all who loved the deeds and daring of brave men. (Applause.)

CONCERNING PEOPLE.

The Governor-General (Lord Denman) and his Chamberlain (Lord Richard Neville), who attended the reception of Dr. Mawson at the University on Monday, left for Melbourne by the express on the same afternoon. The viceregal car was attached to the train. On the platform to witness their departure were the Lieutenant-Governor and Lady Way. Sir Samuel was wearing the robes of office of Chancellor of the Adelaide University. There were also present Dr. Mawson, Capt. Davis, of the Aurora, and Mrs. and Miss Delprat.

"STILL, ONE NEVER KNOWS."

Several personal touches at the University greeting to Dr. Mawson, Capt. Davis, and party appealed to all those who were present. Dr. Mawson was palpably nervous. He has been accustomed to solitude for so long that the noise of people has perhaps worried him. The gathering was calculated to upset any one. The Governor-General was there, the Chancellor (Sir Samuel Way) was in the chair, and hundreds of the chief men and women of South Australia sat in front and behind the explorer to do honour to the party. Lady Way and party occupied seats in the front row, and Miss Delprat, the fiancée of Dr. Mawson, sat in the front row. The latter would not have been a woman if she had not been pleased with the reception of Dr. Mawson. Her smile showed how she revelled in the honour paid to him. Dr. Mawson, remarking on the experiences the party had had, said:—"The funny thing is that some of them want to go again. I had an idea that way myself, but I have got over it now." With a merry countenance directed at his fiancée, he added:—"Still, one never knows." But the audience knew, and laughed happily.