

MILLIONAIRE GIVES £10,000 TO MAWSON ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

THE ANTARCTIC.

SIR DOUGLAS MAWSON'S EXPEDITION.

Gift of £10,000.

APPEAL FOR ADDITIONAL DONATIONS.

Canberra, May 2.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Bruce) announced to-day that he had received from Mr. MacRobertson, of Melbourne, a gift of £10,000 towards the cost of the equipment of the Antarctic expedition which the Commonwealth Government had organised to proceed this year, under the leadership of Sir Douglas Mawson.

"The Federal Government," said Mr. Bruce, "wish to convey publicly to Mr. MacRobertson their gratitude and appreciation of this magnificent gift, which will be of the very greatest assistance in furthering Australian exploration and scientific research in a region in which the Australian people are so particularly interested."

Mr. Bruce said he thought the Commonwealth Government's appreciation of such a magnificent public spirited act would be equally shared by all the people of Australia and Europe.

Other Gifts.

The Prime Minister also stated that the Government had received gifts of £100 from Mr. A. A. Simpson, of Adelaide, and £250 from Sir Samuel Hordern, of Sydney, towards the equipment of the expedition. He desired publicly to thank those gentlemen also for having so generously supported the expedition.

Mr. Bruce added that he was convinced that the magnificent lead which Mr. MacRobertson and the other donors had shown would induce patriotic citizens to give their support to the expedition in such a manner as to enable Sir Douglas Mawson to proceed on his mission with the latest and best equipment needed for carrying out the many and varied aims which he hoped could be successfully achieved. Australia had already set such a high standard in Antarctic exploration and research that every Australian citizen was interested in seeing that the forthcoming expedition should be no less well prepared for the trip, as those which had been organised by other countries.

Perfect Equipment Essential.

Everyone who accompanied Sir Douglas Mawson, said Mr. Bruce, whether in a scientific or any other capacity, would be making great sacrifices, and the Government were persuaded that the public spirit of the Australian people was such that they would make every effort to place at Sir Douglas Mawson's disposal the most complete and perfect technical equipment which money could buy. In order to permit this to be done the Government appealed to every patriotic Australian to support the expedition.

GOOD SUPPORT IN ENGLAND.

LONDON, May 1.

Sir Douglas Mawson has delayed his departure from England for the purpose of meeting Captain Davis, who is arriving in London from Marseilles on Sunday to take charge of the Discovery. Sir Douglas leaves for Australia by the Maloja, via Marseilles, on May 10.

He hopes to confer with Mr. Bruce in Melbourne early in June. He is receiving most generous contributions from Anglo-Australians towards the cost of the equipment of the Discovery.

THE ANTARCTIC.

MAWSON EXPEDITION.

PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL.

Canberra, March 22.

The leader of the Opposition (Mr. Scullin), resuming the debate in the House of Representatives to-day, on the printing of the papers in relation to the proposed Australian Antarctic expedition, said that men who ventured into unexplored regions should do so with the knowledge that Parliament was behind them. When compared with the cost of the previous expedition, the estimated cost of this venture, namely, £16,000, seemed rather small. The previous expedition, led by Sir Douglas Mawson, had cost £60,000; but in regard to this expedition it had to be considered that the ship was being furnished free of cost. That had been a big item of expenditure in the previous expedition.

There was also the question of the possible financial results that might accrue if our flag were planted in a certain portion of the Antarctic. Ships recently returned had brought back £200,000 and £300,000 worth of whale oil, and the Australian people should have the opportunity to exploit that product. However, he did not support the project from the financial point of view, which was only a secondary consideration. Australasia led the world in discoveries in the Antarctic, and Sir Douglas Mawson led all other explorers. Australia owed a duty to future generations, in gathering knowledge of conditions in the Antarctic.

Mr. Mann said that to his mind the most important aspect of the expedition was the gathering of information regarding meteorological records, as Australia required to investigate in every possible way information in that connection in the Antarctic regions. He also advocated a system of co-operation with South Africa, so that the earliest possible information regarding climatic conditions might be obtained from that country. It would be of immense value to Australia.

The motion for the printing of the papers was agreed to.

MAWSON EXPEDITION.

TO START FROM CAPE TOWN.

STAFFED BY AUSTRALIANS.

Melbourne, March 28.

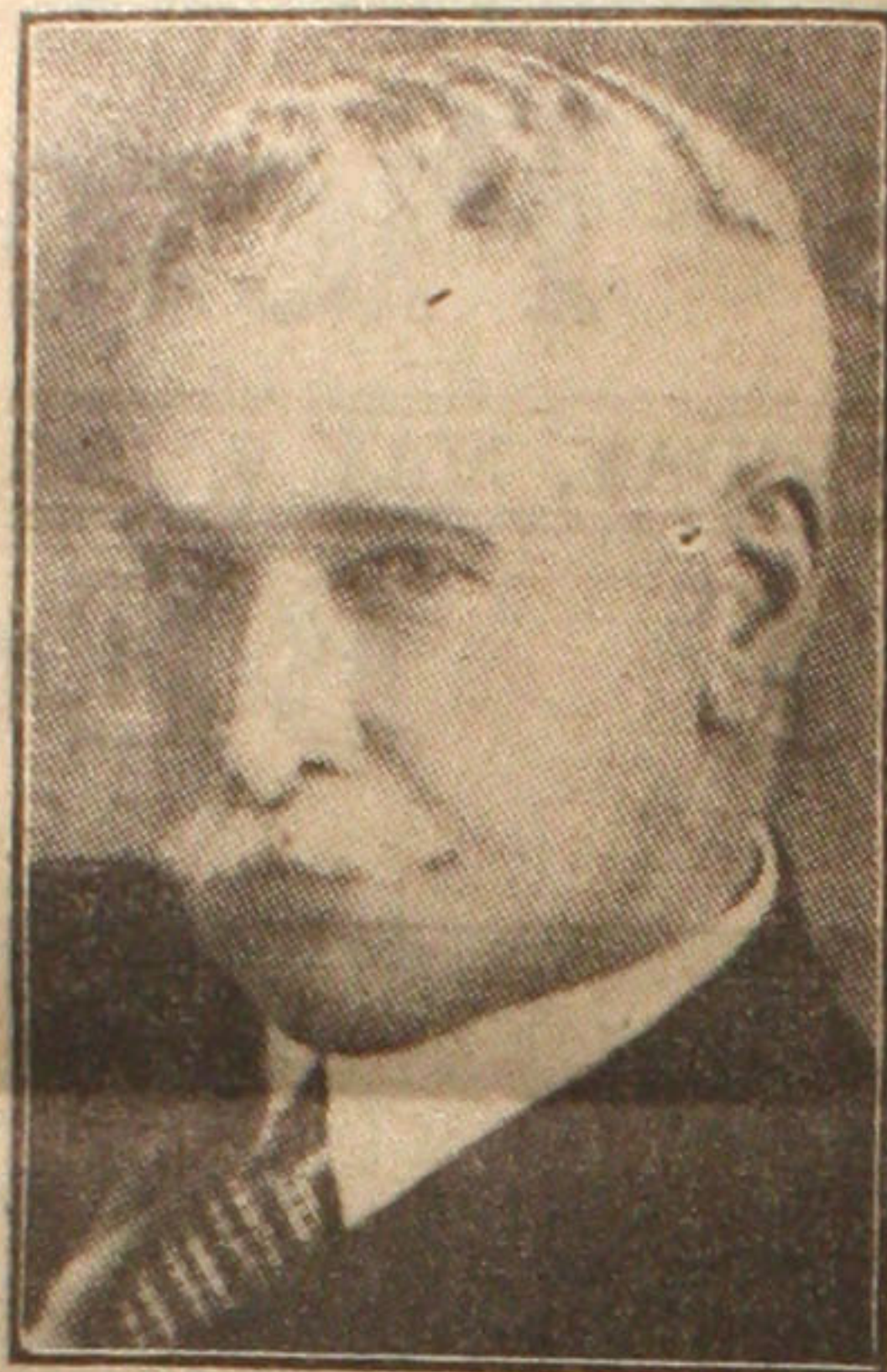
Sir Douglas Mawson's expedition to the Antarctic will start from Cape Town next summer.

The chairman of the committee appointed to arrange details of the expedition (Sir George Pearce) stated to-day that yesterday's meeting had before it a cable message from the leader (Sir Douglas Mawson). This stated that, after consultation with the Admiralty and Admiral Evans, who had experience in the Antarctic, he considered it advisable to start from South Africa. Approval, therefore, had been given to this course.

It had been pointed out that the Discovery, which was a heavy ship, would need to take advantage of the prevailing winds. If Melbourne had been made the starting point the Discovery, after reaching the Antarctic Circle, would have had to beat against strong winds, which would necessarily mean heavy coal consumption. The amount of coal which it would be possible to carry would be limited, so every advantage would have to be taken of the winds in the Far South.

As far as possible the expedition would be staffed by Australians. Plans were in hand for securing the most modern scientific equipment and other apparatus necessary for the successful accomplishment of the expedition's objective.

£10,000 For Mawson Expedition



MR. MACPHERSON ROBERTSON

MELBOURNE, Thursday.—Mr. Macpherson Robertson, the Melbourne chocolate millionaire, has sent to the Prime Minister a cheque for £10,000 towards the cost of the equipment of Sir Douglas Mawson's expedition to the Antarctic this year.

Mr. Bruce said today he wished to convey to Mr. Robertson the thanks of the Australian Government for his magnificent gift.

Mr. Bruce has received donations of £100 from Mr. Alan Simpson, of Adelaide, and £250 from Sir Samuel Hordern, of Sydney.

He hoped other public spirited citizens would follow their lead.

The Government appealed to every patriotic Australian to support the expedition.

Sir Douglas Mawson To Return By The Maloja

LONDON, Wednesday.—Sir Douglas Mawson has delayed his departure to meet Capt. Davis, who will arrive in London from Marseilles on Sunday. Sir Douglas will go to Australia by the Maloja.

He hopes to confer with the Prime Minister (Mr. Bruce), in Melbourne, early in June.

He is receiving most generous contributions from Britons and Australians toward the cost of the equipment of the Discovery.

SIR DOUGLAS MAWSON RETURNS

Discovery May Sail From Capetown

FREMANTLE, Tuesday.—To complete his plans for his expedition to the Antarctic, Sir Douglas Mawson, the Australian explorer, has returned to Australia. He passed through Fremantle today on the Maloja. Sir Douglas went to England to superintend the outfitting of his ship, the Discovery, which will carry the expedition into Antarctica.

In an interview, he said that his plans had matured a little since he left Australia but, before definite decisions could be made regarding the personnel of the expedition and the programme of work that had to be done, he would meet his committee in Melbourne.

It was most likely that much ground would be covered in the far south before the Discovery reached Melbourne, and if that plan was adhered to the ship would proceed south from Capetown late this year.

Sir Douglas added that further explorations would most probably be made later south of Australia, Hobart being used as a base.

Old Comrades Will Join Mawson

"GREATEST POLAR EXPERT"

Sir Douglas Mawson Will Succeed in South

SIR Douglas Mawson is the right man to carry through successfully, the proposed Government expedition to the Antarctic, Mr. P. E. Correll, of Seacliff, who was a member of Sir Douglas's previous expedition, said yesterday.

"As one who was included in the shore staff of Sir Douglas's Antarctic venture of 1911-14, and who spent three summers and one winter in the Antarctic in intimate personal association and comradeship with this greatest of living polar experts, I can testify to his remarkable scientific and other qualifications," he said.

"Sir Douglas several times talked over with me matters concerning the proposed expedition immediately before he left for England. While I cannot disclose all I learned of the nature and probable scope of the forthcoming expedition, I think no harm will be done if I say that Sir Douglas intimated that the personnel of the proposed expedition would most probably include members of the staff of his former Polar party.

Valuable Results

"The benefits likely to be derived from such an expedition may seem, to the uninitiated, somewhat nebulous, but one can predict confidently, that very valuable results will accrue, not only to Australia, but to the world in general.

"Polar exploration, both in the Arctic and Antarctic regions, has already provided big returns in the form of polar products such as whale oil, furs, and fossil ivory, the value of which exceeds by many millions of pounds the total expenditure incurred in polar exploration from the earliest times."

While danger seems inseparable from Polar exploration, the hazards of a voyage of discovery in Antarctic seas such as that contemplated, would be minimized by the keen foresight and able leadership of Sir Douglas Mawson, Mr. Correll said.

Mr. Correll spent some months with Mr. Cecil Madigan, lecturer on geology at the Adelaide University, and the late Dr. A. L. McLean, on an extended sledge journey to the east of Sir Douglas Mawson's main base at Commonwealth Bay.

This resulted in the discovery and charting of the previously unknown Antarctic territory of King George V Land.

Mr. Correll may go south with Sir Douglas Mawson again.

MAPPING UNKNOWN COASTLINE

Expedition May Start From Capetown

THE area to be examined by the Mawson expedition runs from that portion of the Antarctic coast immediately south of New Zealand to the west as far as Enderby Land. Very little of this long coastline has been explored, and only two small areas, known as Adelie Land, have ever been set foot on. Enderby Land lies to the south of Africa, and is 2,200 miles from Capetown.

In these regions it is difficult for a vessel to beat to windward against prevailing westerly winds, and, accordingly, it is thought that the point of departure may be Capetown, from whence the Discovery could set out to the southward towards Enderby Land, with her bunkers full of coal.

From Enderby Land the vessel will proceed in slow stages to the westward, hugging the coastline and landing exploring parties at every opportunity.

Great importance is attached to the use of a seaplane, which could leave the ship's side, and make valuable aerial surveys whenever the weather permitted, returning to the ship each day. By this means a very large area could be mapped and surveyed, while those in the ship were sounding and making a close survey of the coastal waters.

Through the Ice

The main factor in any expedition of this kind is coal. The Discovery must go 2,200 miles before reaching the first objective, Enderby Land, and thereafter she will be consuming coal daily while forcing her passage through the ice along the Antarctic shoreline.

After reaching the point where the land turns sharply southward toward the Ross Sea, the ship, now near the end of her coal, could take advantage of the wind to bear up for a New Zealand or Tasmanian port, after a prolonged cruise of some 8,000 miles.

Sir Douglas Mawson's expedition will be one of three at work in the Antarctic next summer. Byrd is in the Ross Sea arc, where he intends to allow his ship to be frozen in during the coming winter. Wilkins has taken the Graham Land region as his territory, and will return there next spring in time to resume his flights, while the Mawson expedition will be working along that section of the coast midway between Byrd and Wilkins.