

# UNEXPECTED DISCOVERY.

## MESSAGES FROM THE ANTARCTIC.

### THREE EXPEDITIONS.

LONDON, March 28.

The cablegrams received from Stewart Island, south of New Zealand, of the arrival there of the Terra Nova, bringing news of the British Expedition to the antarctic, under the command of Capt. R. F. Scott, have created quite a sensation in London, in the first place owing to the presence of Capt. Amundsen at the Bay of Whales, and secondly because of the fact that Capt. Scott has established his second party at Cape Adare.

Sir Ernest Shackleton, who led the "Furthest South" Expedition, has written a special article to The Daily Mail on Capt. Scott's exploration work. He congratulates the commander of the expedition upon having successfully landed the major portion of his equipment and stores at the base best suited for a dash to the pole. This is Cape Evans, at which place Capt. Scott has decided to make his winter quarters. It is situated 14 miles north of the winter quarters of the previous expedition, when Capt. Scott was in command of the Discovery, and eight miles south of Cape Royds, which was Shackleton's quarters.

Capt. Scott's message, dated January 25, mentions that McMurdo Sound was found to be exceptionally open, that the expedition had lost a motor sledge in an ice hole, that a station had been erected as expedition quarters, and that a rich biological collection had been made. The command

#### VOYAGE OF TERRA NOVA.

Lieut. Pennell, continuing his description of the voyage of the Terra Nova among the ice, says:—"Stores were landed at a hut erected two miles from the ship, and the Terra Nova started for McMurdo Sound. We found in the Discovery hut a note saying 'party well.' The Terra Nova proceeded north. A gale off Cape Adare blew us here, and 100 miles further to land at Robertson Bay. Eastern party (here the newspapers insert a query western party) were wintering at Cape Adare. The Terra Nova explored eastward of Cape North and discovered on February 22 mountainous land 60.50 deg. south and 163.20 east. The ice pack forced the ship away, and we were unable to approach within 12 miles. Rediscovered the coast, and followed the coastline north-westward for 30 miles, within a distance of 10 miles. The coast was hilly and rugged, and scarred by numerous glaciers.

#### THE MAWSON EXPEDITION.

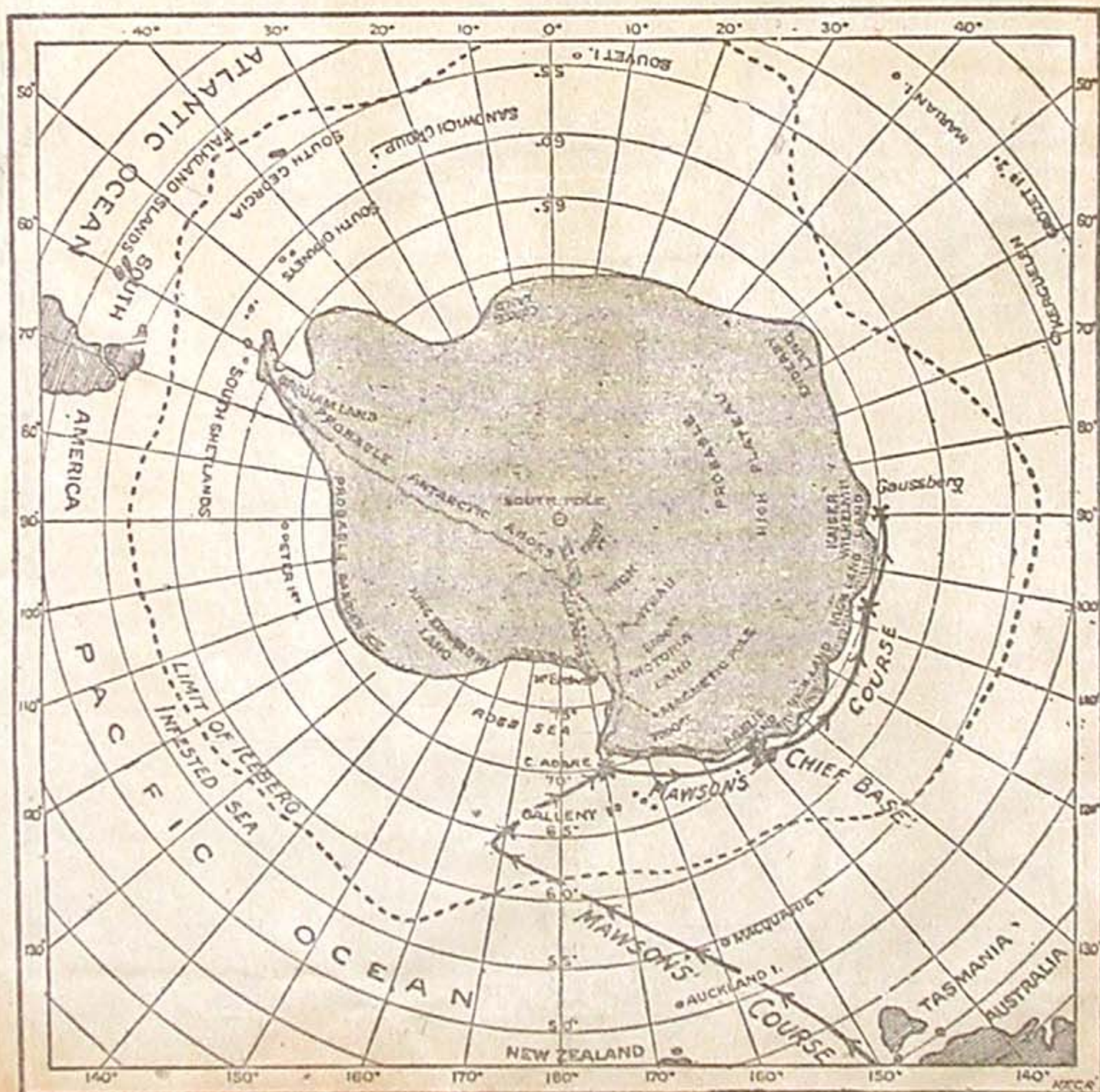
##### LEADER INTERVIEWED.

Dr. Douglas Mawson, who proposes to command an expedition to the south polar regions, and is now on a visit to England to secure financial support for his project, has been interviewed. He says:—"It was practically arranged last year that I should accompany Capt. Scott on his expedition,

make his dash for the pole via the Bearmore glacier, and follow the route of the Shackleton party.

#### THE NORWEGIAN EXPLORER.

Capt. Ronald Amundsen, the Norwegian explorer and friend of Nansen, set out from his homeland last August in Nansen's famous vessel, the Fram, which had been partly reconstructed for the purpose. He had for some time been organizing a scientific expedition to attempt the voyage across the north polar basin, from Behring Strait. At the moment of sailing Capt. Amundsen surprised the geographical world by announcing that he would proceed first to the antarctic, apparently with the intention of entering the race for the south pole. His precise plans, however, were not known, except that the region of the north pole was to be the ultimate objective. Leaving the Norwegian seaport of Christiansand Amundsen said he would steer the Fram southward to the Madeira Islands, and thence proceed down the South American coast. The Scott expedition had little idea that the Norwegian expedition had preceded them to the antarctic, and the discovery of the Fram in the Bay of Whales must have been quite unexpected.



ANTARCTICA SHOWING THE ROUTE PROPOSED TO BE FOLLOWED BY DR. MAWSON.

THE CROSSES INDICATE WHERE DR. MAWSON PROPOSES TO ESTABLISH BASES FOR SLEDGE PARTIES.

der referred to his departure to the south with a party of 12 men and eight ponies and two dog teams, and that he hoped to return to Cape Evans by April.

The Terra Nova in the meantime had proceeded to the west, intending to land the geological party, then to the east, to land the exploring party at King Edward Land. All were in excellent health.

—Stopped by Icepack—

Lieut. Pennell, who is with the Scott expedition as magnetist and meteorologist, reports:—"The Terra Nova reached Cape Colbeck on February 2. A heavy icepack stopped our progress to the eastward. Unable to land at Cape Colbeck, we returned along the barrier edge, and reached the Bay of Whales.

#### NORWEGIAN EXPEDITION DISCOVERED.

Lieut. Pennell states in his message:—"Capt. R. Amundsen, the Norwegian Arctic explorer who set out last autumn with a view to proceeding to the north pole, was found wintering in the Bay of Whales with his vessel, the Fram, which had on board eight men, 116 Queensland dogs, and a full equipment for the journey to the south pole. The Fram proceeds to Buenos Ayres, returning in the following season to re-embark Capt. Amundsen.

but I was unable to join unless he landed me and my party at Cape Adare for magnetic work on the northern coast. After mature consideration Capt. Scott decided that this was impossible, at any rate for the first year. Hence my Australasian expedition. My plans were submitted to Capt. Scott, and there was no secrecy in the matter. Australia supported Capt. Scott's expedition, but in view of the present information some dissatisfaction in the Commonwealth is inevitable. Capt. Scott wrote the last thing and asked me to furnish full details of my plans. This I willingly did, giving him all particulars, and adding that I intended to land at Cape Adare. Naturally I am sorry that circumstances have driven Capt. Scott to take the course that has been described."

#### EXPLORER'S COMMENTS.

Sir Ernest Shackleton questions whether Capt. Amundsen is following the dictates of polar exploration etiquette in wintering in the sphere of Capt. Scott, the leader of the British Antarctic Expedition. The inference is, says Sir Ernest, that Capt. Scott is following the same dictates by landing at the base which Dr. Douglas Mawson proposed for his expedition. Sir Ernest expects that Capt. Amundsen will

#### RACE FOR THE POLE.

##### PROFESSOR DAVID'S OPINION.

SYDNEY, March 29.

Professor David, F.R.S., D.Sc., in an interview regarding the news of Capt. Scott's expedition brought by the Terra Nova, said Capt. Scott by laying out the depots before the winter would have placed his party for the south pole at a great advantage as compared with the Shackleton expedition. From a scientific point of view the results of Capt. Scott's expedition, as well as the Norwegian expedition, would be much enhanced by their co-operation in the taking of scientific observations, which would no doubt have been arranged by this time. The race for the pole would prove an interesting and exciting one. Capt. Amundsen was certainly very strong in his transport facilities, and his dogs would be able to carry heavier weights than those of Capt. Scott's party, as they were bigger and stronger animals. The final stage in the dash for the pole would probably be about 300 miles for Capt. Scott and from 250 to 300 miles for Capt. Amundsen.