

## ANTARCTICA.

### THE SCOTT EXPEDITION.

#### DR. MAWSON'S BASE

#### "JUMPED."

LONDON, March 28.

Cablegrams have been received from Stewart Island, off the South Island of New Zealand, giving news of the Scott expedition to the Antarctic, which left England in June last.

The information in the messages has occasioned a great sensation in London, first because it reports the presence of Captain Amundsen, the explorer, in the Bay of Whales, and, secondly, because it shows that Captain Scott has succeeded in establishing his second party at Cape Adare.

Captain Scott's message is dated January 25. It mentions that McMurdo Sound was exceptionally open, that a motor sledge was lost in an ice-hole, that the expedition's station had been erected, and also that he had secured a rich biological collection. Captain Scott also mentions his departure on a sledge journey southwards with 12 men, 8 Siberian ponies, and 2 teams of dogs. He hopes to return to Cape Evans in April.

The Terra Nova in the meantime proceeded west, intending to land a geological party and then go east to land an exploring party on King Edward's Land. All the members of the expedition were in excellent health.

#### LIEUTENANT PENNELL'S REPORT.

LONDON, March 28.

Lieutenant Pennell reports that the Terra Nova called at Cape Colbeck on February 2, when a heavy ice-pack stopped further progress eastwards. They were unable to land on Cape Colbeck, and returned along the edge of the barrier to the Bay of Whales. They found the Fram, with eight men, 116 Greenland dogs, and a full equipment for a journey to the Pole, wintering in the Bay. The Fram is to proceed to Buenos Ayres, returning the following season to re-embark Captain Amundsen. Stores were landed and a hut erected two miles from the ship, and the Terra Nova then left for McMurdo Sound. Here they located the Discovery's hut, and left a note stating that the party was well. The Terra Nova next proceeded to Cape Adare, where the wind blew the vessel 100 miles to the north. The explorers were unable to land at Robertson's Bay, and the eastern (? western) party are wintering at Cape Adare.

The Terra Nova explored eastward of Cape North, and discovered on February 22 mountainous land in 69°50' south and 163.20 east. An ice-pack forced them away, and they were unable to approach within 12 miles. The rediscovered coast was followed in a north-westerly direction for 30 miles. Within a distance of 10 miles from the coast the land was hilly and rugged, and scarred with numerous glaciers.

#### SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON'S VIEW.

##### DR. MAWSON'S BASE.

LONDON, March 28.

Sir Ernest Shackleton, the leader of the previous British Antarctic expedition, has contributed a special article to the "Daily Mail," in which he congratulates Captain Scott on 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, 14 miles north of the Discovery's winter quarters, and eight miles south of Cape Royd, which was Sir Ernest Shackleton's base.

Sir Ernest Shackleton questions whether Captain Amundsen is following the dictates of Polar etiquette in wintering within Captain Scott's "sphere of influence," and asks—Is Captain Scott following the same dictates in landing at Dr. Mawson's base? Sir Ernest anticipates that Captain Amundsen will go via Beardmore Glacier and follow his (Sir Ernest Shackleton's) route.

#### DR. MAWSON INTERVIEWED.

##### A COINCIDENCE IN PLANS.

LONDON, March 28.

Dr. Mawson, of Adelaide, who is to lead an expedition southwards next year, has been interviewed regarding Captain Scott's messages. He said:—"It was practically arranged in 1910 that I should accompany Captain Scott, but I was unable to join unless Captain Scott landed me and my party at Cape Adare for magnetic work on the northern coast. After mature consideration Captain Scott decided that such a proceeding would be impossible, at any rate for the first year. Hence my Australasian expedition. My plans were submitted to Captain Scott, and there was no secrecy in the matter. Australia supported Captain Scott, but in view of the present information some dissatisfaction in the Commonwealth is inevitable. Captain Scott wrote to me the last thing before leaving, and asked me to furnish full details of my plans. This I willingly did, giving all particulars, and adding that I intended to land at Cape Adare. Naturally I am sorry that circumstances have driven Captain Scott to take the course described."

[A full account of the progress of the Scott expedition, including all the details given above, with the exception of the views of Sir Ernest Shackleton and Dr. Mawson, appeared in yesterday's "Advertiser" from our special correspondent at Half Moon Bay (Stewart Island).]

## TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ENQUIRIES.

SYDNEY, March 28.

The South Australian Royal Commission on Education resumed its sittings to-day.

Mr. Turner (Superintendent of Technical Education) gave the total number of students as 18,139. These included 5,556 attending the Sydney College, 1,560 at suburban schools, and 5,508 in the country. Technical classes were held in connection with the public schools under the department's control, but the policy was to let them die out in view of the incidence of the system of continuation schools.

Were any of the branches of work done at the technical college up to the university standard?—Yes; sanitary engineering, architecture, sheep and wool instruction, and biology.

Are diplomas given to students recognised outside?—Yes, and it helps them considerably in obtaining employment.

In reply to a question whether the institution was receiving any assistance from private people, Mr. Turner said the Water and Sewerage Board, the Master Plumbers' Association, and the Master Builders' Association did so far as giving prizes and other awards to boys who came out in competitive examinations. It had no subsidy at all or endowment in any way from private people.

Suppose a boy should show marked ability, is any opportunity afforded him to go to the university?—I don't think there is at present.

What is the Government doing by way of assisting apprentices in engineering and relative trades in affording them the opportunity to attend technical classes?—A certain amount of legislation already provides specific advantages to students attending the technical college. The fees are on a nominal scale for apprentices under 21 years of age.

Mr. Ryan, M.P. (Chairman), understood New South Wales was spending 11d. a head of the population on education, while a little place like New Zealand was spending 1/11. "Did Mr. Turner think New South Wales was spending too little, rather than that New Zealand was spending too much?"

Mr. Turner replied that they would have to spend much more on technical education before many years.

Has the question of municipal supervision of education demanded your attention at all?—I don't think we are ripe for municipal rule yet.

The commission adjourned until to-morrow.