

Director of Navigation May Command Mawson Polar Ship

SECOND IN COMMAND OF LAST EXPEDITION

Captain Davis, Close Friend of Sir Douglas
Mawson, Was With Shackleton

FUNDS APPEALED FOR

THE Commonwealth Director of Navigation (Capt. J. K. Davis) has been invited by Sir Douglas Mawson, of whom he is a close friend, to command the Discovery in its forthcoming Antarctic expedition.

IT is considered certain that Capt. Davis will accept. He commanded the Nimrod with the Shackleton expedition to the Antarctic, and was second in command of the Mawson expedition in 1911. THE South Australian president of the Royal Geographical Society (Mr. Simpson) yesterday said the future success of wheat harvests in South Australia might be assured if Sir Douglas Mawson made the meteorological observations he hoped to make.

MELBOURNE, Friday. — The

Prime Minister (Mr. Bruce) yesterday appealed to public bodies and all interested in the proposed Antarctic expedition to give it the same generous support as was given Sir Douglas Mawson's expedition in 1911.

He said the National Council of Research was interested

in the personnel of the expedition, but Sir Douglas Mawson himself would choose the equipment.

The Chief Secretary (Mr. Tassie) said yesterday the Government had not yet considered making a grant to the expedition. State money was badly needed to relieve unemployment.



"If after the expedition a series of meteorological observation stations were established around the Antarctic by the Australian, South African, Argentine, and Chilean Governments, farmers would know when to plant early, and when late," said the president of the S.A. branch (Mr. Simpson) yesterday.

Boon to Country

"That would be a great boon to the Commonwealth.

"Australian weather predictions have long been unsatisfactory, not from any fault of meteorologists, but from want of sufficient data about polar conditions which affect our climate."

The South Australian Government gave the 1911 expedition, which was mostly financed by public and private subscriptions, £5,000. The total cost of that expedition was £50,000.

Mostly Graduates

The expedition comprised 26 men, mostly young Australian graduates, including the South Australians, Messrs. C. T. Madigan, A. J. Hodgeman, Alec Kennedy, P. E. Correll, and Commodore Moyes, brother of Archdeacon Moyes, of Adelaide. Five others maintained a wireless station, and carried on valuable meteorological research on Macquarie Island.

Mr. A. J. Hodgeman, who left the Architect-in-Chief's Department to join the expedition, is now a London architect. Mr. Kennedy is managing a mine in the north-west of Western Australia. He was in Adelaide a month ago.

Mr. P. E. Correll, of Adelaide, has been engaged in engineering since his return from Antarctica. He has made various inventions.

Lady Mawson said yesterday Sir Douglas would return from England in May, and would set out on the expedition in November. "I try not to think of it, and I certainly cannot talk about it," she said.

May Not Use Discovery

LONDON, Friday.—Sir Douglas Mawson said that although Great Britain had offered him the use of the Discovery for his expedition, he had in mind ships which might be more suitable. He would decide in two days.

The crew had not been chosen. Most would be Australians, but there would be a few Englishmen.

Some British scientists have been asked to join the expedition.