

MAWSON EXPEDITION SUCCESSFUL

Did What It Set Out to Do

AUSTRALIAN QUADRANT IN ANTARCTIC CHARTED

Lady Mawson has received a wireless message from Sir Douglas Mawson, stating that he expects to return to Australia about the end of this month, but no indication was given as to which would be his first port of call.

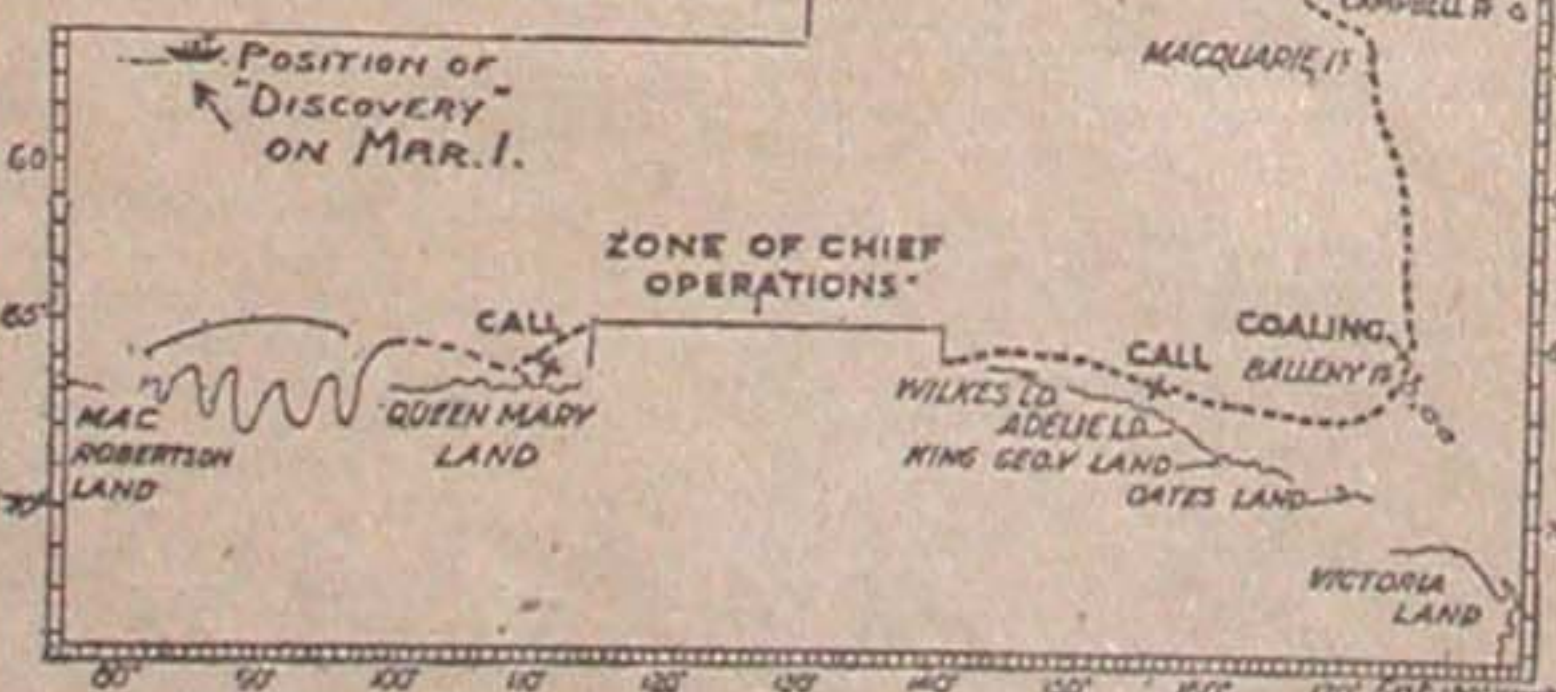
A much lighter ship than when she left Hobart early last November, owing to the consumption of coal and stores, the Discovery, with the Mawson Antarctic Exploration Expedition on board, has turned her bows homewards, the party having accomplished all that its leader planned to do, but not quite all he hoped to do had the fates been kind.

The Discovery is a small vessel and the quantity of coal she can carry in her bunkers is limited. To eke out that amount, use has been made of her sails whenever possible, and she will come home mainly by the aid of the winds. On the way south, supplies of coal were taken in at Macquarie Island, and from a whaler near the Balleny Islands in the Antarctic. Sir Douglas hoped that he would be fortunate enough to fall in with some whalers in the vicinity of Queen Mary Land, from whom he could obtain extra coal, so that he would be able to spend another week or so making a detailed examination of the coast of MacRobertson Land, but he was disappointed in this.

Purely Scientific Expedition

The main object of the expedition, which was purely a scientific one, was to explore the sector of the Antarctic coastline, which extends from the Balleny Islands to Queen Mary Land, and which lies in what is known as the Australian quadrant of the Antarctic. With the exception of Adelle Land, which belongs to France, practically the whole of this section was unexplored before this expedition, and was shown on maps as a dotted line. Included in the unexplored portion are what are known as Oates Land, 350 miles in extent, and Wilkes Land, 900 miles in extent, as well as a vast unmapped area to the west. Sir Douglas Mawson succeeded in what he planned to do. Not only has he sailed along the unknown stretches of coast, mapping them as he has proceeded, but, by means of the aeroplane carried on board, many successful flights over the land have been made.

Just what the results of the expedition will be, it is too early yet to say, but there is no doubt but that it will add greatly to our knowledge of that lone south land, in which it has been said vast mineral wealth lies hidden, only waiting to be discovered. It was not the function of this expedition to search for such hidden riches, but it may open the way for others which may be the successful in that direction.



Map showing the route of the Discovery from Hobart to MacRobertson Land, and her position on March 1 when it was last reported.

ANTARCTIC JOURNEY

MAWSON LEAVING SOON

Will be Away Five Months

Sir Douglas Mawson will leave for Melbourne early next week to make final arrangements for his return to the Antarctic. With the Discovery in charge of Capt. K. MacKenzie and a party of 40 men, he expects to leave for the south about the middle of November, and return in April next year.

The Discovery will cruise from Melbourne to Hobart, where the scientific equipment will be overhauled and a supply of coal taken on board. The principal fuel used, however, will be coal briquettes, which are being shipped from Cardiff, England. Weighing 25 lb. each, and measuring 18 in. by 12 in., these briquettes are a compressed mixture of anthracite coal and pitch. They are clean, easily handled, and give out an intense heat when burned.

Those who make the journey will include scientific parties, crew and men for emergencies. The expedition expects to return before the winter, which, if plans go to schedule, should bring members back to Australia some time in April, next year. However, should they be forced to spend the winter down south sufficient supplies will be carried to tide them over.

"So far, we foresee no obstacle in the way of the success of the expedition," said Sir Douglas Mawson this week. "Possible sickness among our men concerns us little, as the areas into which we will penetrate are the healthiest in the world. No germs can live in such a temperature, and even colds are rare."

Asked whether it would be possible for the areas to sustain population, Sir Douglas said that only in certain parts would that be possible. Certain parts of the coastline about the Ross Sea, for instance, had quite a mild temperature, although the barren nature of the country would militate against settlers. He thought it possible, however, to make an existence in this location, provided the community was prepared to work and not mind the hardships.

Antarctic Expedition

"Commonsense," North Adelaide:—It is proposed to raise £12,000 for another Mawson expedition to the Antarctic.

Scientific research should be encouraged as much as possible. Without the discoveries of scientists and the inventions of such men as Edison and Marconi, the world would be at a standstill. However, Antarctic expeditions should not be countenanced at present when Australia is passing through a period of depression and financial stress.

Such a large sum as £12,000 could be much better spent.

OFF TO ANTARCTICA

Carpenter on Discovery

SUCCESSFUL UNLEY MAN

Adventure-seeker since 18 years of age, Mr. Joseph Williams, of Unley, has sailed the seven seas and been in many strange corners of the world. Within a few weeks he will set out on what he considers the most momentous adventure of his life—to the Antarctic with Sir Douglas Mawson in the Discovery.

Mr. Williams, who will act as ship's carpenter, will leave Adelaide on Monday for Melbourne. He will put the finishing touches to the Discovery in preparation



MR. JOSEPH WILLIAMS

of Unley, who will leave on Monday for Melbourne, where he will join the Discovery, on which he will serve as ship's carpenter. The vessel will leave at the end of next month with Sir Douglas Mawson on another voyage to the Antarctic.

for its return trip to the Antarctic regions. It is anticipated that the vessel will leave for Hobart toward the end of next month on its way to the Polar regions.

When preparations were being made for the first visit of the Discovery to the Antarctic Mr. Williams endeavored to obtain a position with the expedition, but his application was too late. He applied this year to Capt. McKenzie through Sir Douglas Mawson, whom he had met at Adelaide University.

Mr. Williams, who is instructor in woodwork at Unley Central School, has been granted leave by the Education Department. He expects to be away for about six or seven months.

WORKED ON TRANSPORT

Life aboard ship will be no new experience for Mr. Williams, as most of his life has been spent on the ocean. He has made five trips from Australia to Great Britain and back, has been eight times across the Atlantic, and once across the Pacific. On one vessel he travelled round the world.

This steamer was used as naval transport C5 during the war. It was a German vessel, and was lying at Port Adelaide when war broke out. It was interned and renamed Araluen. It took war supplies to Britain. The return trip was made by way of the Atlantic and through the Panama Canal, a call being made at San Francisco to pick up hay for Melbourne.

Mr. Williams left the Araluen on its return to Australia, and joined the 5th Pioneer Battalion in 1916. He later saw service with the 11th Field Company of Engineers.

MEDAL FOR LIFESAVING

He made many trips in ships conveying fruit between West Indies and Britain.

"I always looked forward to my visits to the West Indies," remarked Mr. Williams. "I had many pleasant moments with the negroes gathered round singing old plantation songs to the accompaniment of the banjo I played." Mr. Williams intends to take his banjo with him on the Discovery.

Mr. Williams was born in Manchester (England) 40 years ago. In his youth he used to ring the curfew bell at Eccles, a township near Manchester. Among his most treasured possessions is a medal for saving the life of a boy at Kangaroo Island. He holds war medals and a mercantile marine medal for service rendered on a transport.

OFF TO ANTARCTIC

Sir D. Mawson Leaves To Rejoin Discovery

MELBOURNE, Monday.—Sir Douglas Mawson, leader of the Commonwealth Antarctic Expedition, which is to make its second trip south in the Discovery this summer, left Melbourne by the Nairana today, to rejoin the Discovery at Hobart, from which port the steamer will sail on November 22.

Just before his departure Sir Douglas made arrangements with Amalgamated Wireless, Ltd., for a weekly broadcast in Australia of the expedition's adventures. The Discovery's first port of call will be Macquarie Island.

LADEN TO PLIMSOLL

On November 22 the good ship Discovery, laden to her Plimsoll line with a full cargo of coal, stores and gear, and with several new faces among the scientific staff and crew, will leave Hobart and sail for the Antarctic on her second cruise.



Sir Douglas Mawson.

Sir Douglas, outlining his plans, said that it was difficult to lay down a hard and fast programme for a cruise in the Antarctic.

"Our movements are dependent on the state of the ice, the weather and coal," he said. "But we have a general idea of the nature of the work we want to do, which is to continue the oceanographical programme begun last season, and to clear up further blank spaces in the chart of the unknown coastline."

"We shall call at Macquarie Island on our way down, and thence shape a course for the Balleny Islands, where we hope to meet the whaling ship Sir James Clark Ross, which will transfer to us about 100 tons of coal, and from here we hope to cruise to the westward, making the coast wherever possible."

MORE EXPERIENCE

"With the experience of the former cruise, plus the extra coal which we shall have and the decision to defer our departure from Hobart until November 22, we expect to accomplish a great deal of purely scientific investigation. Our people are now familiar with the working of the dredges and other gear, and the use of the aeroplane which we are taking will give us a greatly extended range of observation."

Sir Douglas Mawson stressed the fact that the expedition was primarily scientific in its inception and aims.

"We shall be operating in practically virgin waters with a well-equipped ship, and with a competent staff of young scientists, all of whom are very keen on their work. It had been hoped to take with us a broadcasting plant which would have enabled us to speak to Australia from the Antarctic, but this plan has fallen through, though, since we have an improved wireless installation and will be nearer to Australia than on the last voyage, we shall be able to send frequent messages of our progress."

"International interest in the Antarctic is increasing year by year. This season there will be a larger number of whalers there than ever before, and, since these lands and these waters are contiguous to Australia, it is right and proper that we should be in the forefront of whatever enterprises may eventuate there in the near future."

DISCOVERY CREW SIGNED ON

Getting Ready To Leave On November 1

MELBOURNE, Wednesday.—Aboard the Antarctic exploration ship Discovery at Williamstown, 16 men, picked from hundreds of applicants, have signed on. Several South Australians are included.

A chief officer, a chief steward, two cooks, three stewards, and 10 seamen have been engaged, and today they began the task of getting the Discovery ready for her departure for Hobart on Saturday week.

The new men are all young, the youngest being G. J. Rhodes, assistant cook, of Albert Park.