

## RACE FOR THE POLE.

### SCOTT OR AMUNDSEN.

LONDON, March 29.

Dr. Mawson, of the Adelaide University, was interviewed yesterday concerning the action of Captain Amundsen, the Swedish explorer, in concealing the plans of his Antarctic expedition. Captain Amundsen left last year ostensibly with the intention of undertaking an examination of the oceanographical conditions of the North Polar basin, taking with him provisions for seven years. In October, however, some months after setting out on his journey, word was received in Sweden from Captain Amundsen that he had decided first to visit the Antarctic.

Dr. Mawson severely criticised Captain Amundsen for concealing his intention of becoming a rival to Captain Scott in the race for the South Pole. Captain Amundsen's action, Dr. Mawson asserts, will affect him in the estimation of scientists.

Dr. Mawson's own plans for his forthcoming expedition included the landing of a small party where Captain Scott landed, but his main parties would be distributed over the coast to the westward.

Dr. Mawson concluded that he was quite sure that Captain Scott can, and will, reach the Pole, either before or after Captain Amundsen.

Lieutenant Shackleton also considers Captain Scott's prospects of success as excellent. Captain Scott, he explained, is likely to start on his Polar journey much earlier than he intended, but whether he would reach the Pole before Captain Amundsen was a moot question. Sir Ernest, however, thinks he has a better chance, owing to his superior equipment.

#### ARCTIC CAPTAIN'S VIEW.

LONDON, March 29.

Captain J. K. Davis, who commanded the *Nimrod* during the Shackleton expedition, told an interviewer yesterday that he believed Captain Amundsen would succeed in his search for the Pole. He, as a Norwegian, was born to work as no Englishman could, and his wonderful team could take him anywhere. He had been called the "hardest nut" in all Norway, and his daring was shown by his landing where huge tracts of ice frequently break away. He was the leader of a body of men whom no difficulties could turn back.

### GERMAN EXPEDITION.

#### LIEUTENANT FILCHNER LEAVES IN MAY.

BERLIN, March 29.

Lieutenant Filchner's Antarctic expedition leaves on May 2. It is expected that the party may encounter Captain Scott's expedition, in which case an exchange of members of the scientific staffs will take place.

## RACE TO THE POLE.

### Scott or Amundsen.

#### Still Another Expedition.

LONDON, March 28.

Regarding the astonishing news of Capt. Amundsen's presence in the antarctic as a rival of Capt. Scott in the dash for the south pole, and the further surprising information that the English officer has landed a party at Cape Adare—the point mapped out as Dr. Douglas Mawson's intended starting place—the last named explorer has given a further interview with a London paper.

Dr. Mawson severely criticises Capt. Amundsen's action in concealing his plans for becoming a rival of Capt. Scott, and he holds that the Norwegian's conduct will affect him in the estimation of scientists. Dr. Mawson points out that his own plans included the project of landing a small party at Cape Adare, where Capt. Scott has put men ashore, but that he intends that the main parties should be distributed over the coastline to the westward.

#### WHO WILL BE FIRST?

##### SHACKLETON'S AND MAWSON'S OPINIONS.

LONDON, March 29.

In the course of an interview yesterday Sir Ernest Shackleton, the commander of the British Antarctic Expedition, which in 1909 reached "Furthest South," expressed his opinion that the prospects of the British expedition under Capt. Scott were excellent. He considered it likely that Capt. Scott would start out on his dash to the pole much earlier than he originally intended. Whether he would reach the pole before Capt. Amundsen was a moot question, but Sir Ernest thinks the English explorer has a better chance of doing so owing to his superior equipment.

Dr. Douglas Mawson, of Adelaide, who was with the Shackleton expedition, and is arranging to lead an expedition to the antarctic, has also been interviewed concerning the relative prospects of the two expeditions now in the south polar regions. Dr. Mawson is quite sure that Capt. Scott can and will reach the pole, either before or after Capt. Amundsen.

#### THE GERMAN EXPEDITION.

BERLIN, March 29.

The German expedition, in command of Lieut. Filchner, will start on its voyage to the antarctic on May 2.

Lieut. Filchner, who is known for his exploring work in Tibet, proposes to attack the unknown area from the Weddell Sea, and by advancing as near as possible to the pole itself to throw light on the general form of the antarctic continent, and to ascertain whether East and West Antarctica are united or separate.

#### SCOTTISH EXPEDITION.

A somewhat similar plan is before the Scottish expedition about to take its departure under the command of Dr. W. S. Bruce, who proposes to sail to the Weddell Sea, where he has already done notable work, and, starting from Coats' Land, to attempt the crossing of the antarctic continent. It is thought that the Scott and Filchner parties may meet.

#### CAPTAIN AMUNDSEN.

##### "HARDEST NUT IN ALL NORWAY."

LONDON, March 29.

Capt. Davis, interviewed regarding the possible success of Capt. Amundsen's expedition in the antarctic, expressed his belief that the Norwegian explorer will succeed in reaching the south pole. "Amundsen," he says, "as a Norwegian, was born to work as no Englishman could. His wonderful team of dogs will take him almost anywhere. He is the 'hardest nut in all Norway,' and his remarkable daring has been shown by landing where huge tracts of ice frequently break away." Capt. Davis concluded by saying, "The Norwegian explorer is a leader of men that no difficulties will turn back."

The London Morning Post, of October 2 last, published the following cablegram from its correspondent at Christiansia:—"Capt. Roald Amundsen, the well-known arctic explorer, in a letter dated from Madeira, says that his ship, the *Fram*, is about to leave there southward bound on an antarctic expedition. This, he says, is only a development of his primary plan, but he has not communicated his intention even to those who participated in the equipment of his expedition. He cannot yet say whether the *Fram* is going, but will send a letter from Punta Arenas, which is the first port he will touch at after leaving Madeira. The *Fram* will afterwards proceed to Buenos Ayres, where she will probably arrive in February, 1911. From that time news of the expedition cannot be expected until February or March, 1912. The expedition then returns to San Francisco, in order to prepare for an expedition to drift over the north pole." A later message stated:—"Capt. Roald Amundsen's message from Madeira, that his plans for his scientific expedition have been completely altered by his intended departure for the antarctic regions, has created a great sensation here. Dr. Nansen, however, declares that Capt. Amundsen is the man to realize his gigantic ideas, and that the expedition is sure to be of great scientific importance."