

Sir Douglas Mawson OBE

The honorary degree of Doctor of Science was conferred upon Sir Douglas Mawson by the Chancellor Sir Charles Bickerton Blackburn KCMG OBE at the ceremony of conferring of honorary degrees held on 29 August 1952 as part of the University of Sydney's Centenary celebrations.

Sir Douglas Mawson, OBE, BSc BE *Sydney* DSc *Adel*, FRS, Professor of Geology and Mineralogy in the University of Adelaide and formerly Antarctic explorer.



The Dean of the Faculty of Science Professor T G Room (on left) presenting Sir Douglas to Chancellor Sir Charles Bickerton Blackburn for the honorary award, a *Sydney Morning Herald* photo, with copies held by the University of Sydney Archives.

Citation

Presented by the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor T G Room:

Mr Chancellor, the name of Douglas Mawson is to all Australians synonymous with Antarctic exploration.

Three times he has spent periods of up to three years on the Antarctic continent. He has climbed Erebus. He has camped on the South Magnetic Pole. The maps he drew, and the geological surveys he made (as well as the dumps of mighty Christmas puddings and other supplies that he established) have been of inestimable value to all later expeditions. On his work rests Australia's very substantial claim to Antarctic territory.

For his very great contribution to our knowledge of the Southern Continent, and to the whole science of Geology, and as the idol of young Australia, I present to you, Mr Chancellor, Douglas Mawson, Knight Bachelor, Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, and Fellow of the Royal Society of London.

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