

## THE SCOTT REPORT.

When seen yesterday morning Captain Amundsen, the leader of the Norwegian exploring expedition, said that he could as yet give no further information regarding what he had been doing in the Antarctic regions from the time when he was last heard of as being in his winter camp at the Bay of Whales in January, 1911, till his reappearance at Hobart on Thursday, faithful to the time fixed by himself eighteen months ago for his return to civilisation.

When questioned regarding the cablegram from Wellington, N.Z., published in yesterday's "Mercury," stating that he had telegraphed to someone in Sydney, giving the information that Captain Scott had reached the Pole, Captain Amundsen seemed somewhat amused, and characterised the report as nonsense, adding that he had certainly sent no such telegram. Asked if he had seen anything of Captain Scott recently, he replied in the negative.

The Fram remained at anchor in splendid isolation off the southern side of Battery Point yesterday. Captain Amundsen remained the only member of the expedition to enjoy a run ashore, and his time seemed to be fairly fully taken up with business matters. During the day there was one visitor from the shore, the Chief Inspector of Stock (Mr. T. A. Tabart, sen.). He was on official business, his mission being to see the thirty-nine Greenland dogs on board, twenty-one of which it is proposed by Captain Amundsen to leave at Hobart for the use, later on, of Dr. Mawson's expedition. The dogs are splendid animals, and have every appearance of being well fed and cared for. They at least have no objection to speaking out, and could be heard from the shore during the day barking loudly and joyously. If dogs could speak, perhaps some of them could tell tales.

The news that Captain Amundsen intended to leave some of these dogs for the use of the Australasian expedition came as a surprise to Mr. Eitel, who said that he much appreciated the spirit which prompted the proposal. Nothing has yet been settled regarding the landing of the dogs. Quarantine is a federal matter, and probably Melbourne has to be communicated with.

Captain Amundsen, when asked yesterday when there would be a chance of going on board the Fram, answered that it would not be just yet.