

Basic Detail Report

ANMS1541[021]

Title

Telegraph to the New Zealand Prime Minister from Joseph Stenhouse on SY AURORA

Date

1916

Primary Maker

Joseph Russell Stenhouse

Medium

ET. No. 2. COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA. No. 3
POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT, TASMANIA.
This Message is presented for transmission subject to the Post and Telegraph Act and Regulations.

Stamps to be affixed here, and they must not overlap. DATE MARK

Radio Aurora from South Island U32

A receipt for the charges on this telegram can be obtained.—Price ONE PENNY.

No. of Words 22 Addressed to Prime Minister Wellington

Our deep debt of gratitude to the Harbour Board for the generous offer would appreciate the support of the shipbuilders

Time Lodged From Stenhouse Aurora

By / / 1916

paper

Dimensions

Overall: 179 × 202 mm

Name

Telegraph

History

The AURORA was built as a wooden auxiliary barquentine of 580 tons in Glasgow in 1876 by shipbuilders Alexander Stephen & Sons Ltd for the Dundee Seal and Whale Fishing Company, which sailed annually from Dundee to the Newfoundland whaling grounds between 1876 and 1910. The vessel, built specifically to withstand ice, was used by Sir Douglas Mawson on his Australasian Antarctic expedition of 1911-1914 after which it was refitted in Sydney when sold to Sir Ernest Shackleton as the supply vessel for his Imperial Trans- Antarctic Expedition of 1914-1917. During this time AURORA was beset in the ice and drifted for nine months in the Ross Sea before limping to New Zealand. Young radio officer Lionel Hooke was on board and made repeated attempts to contact both the land party, now marooned and shore stations eventually making contact with radio receiver at The Bluff in New Zealand's far south. In 1917 AURORA was repaired and returned to the Antarctic to rescue the surviving members of the Ross Sea party from Cape Evans. In total the AURORA made five voyages to the Antarctic between 1911 and 1917.