

Pirie although Port Pirie has a greater population than the other two towns combined. The impression gained from this talk is that a new valuation will surely be made this year.

It will be seen from all this that Mr. Craigie is not being permitted to rust out. On the contrary he is a veritable knight in shining armour.

Mr. A. G. HUIE RETIRES

After 52 years of continuous and strenuous service as secretary of the New South Wales Land Values and Free Trade League and editor of the *Sydney Standard*, Mr. A. G. Huie retired on December 31, 1953.

Chief among his achievements must be reckoned the part he took in making Land Value Rating a reality for local government purposes in New South Wales—a reform which gives every promise of permanence. He was largely responsible also for the advance made in Australia during the last thirty years so far as Proportional Voting is concerned. It was appropriate that the first general local government elections in New South Wales under P.R. should have been held on the eve of his retirement. The system had been adopted previously for the Senate, and the Legislative Council, and also for a time for the Legislative Assembly but had been abandoned. It is devoutly to be hoped that it is now firmly established and that the old discredited and unjust voting "systems" will never be revived.

Concentrating on duty and purpose, and forsaking prospects of material advantage and gain, Mr. Huie never received a financial reward worthy of his service. In this respect he was a true follower of Henry George, and personally illustrated the truth of the famous words in *Social Problems*: "What, when our time comes, does it matter whether we have fared daintily or not, whether we leave a great fortune or nothing at all, whether we shall have reaped honours or been despised—as compared with how we may have used that talent which has been entrusted to us for the Master's service?"

His fruitful tours in the country, his ceaseless effort in editing and issuing the *Standard* for so many years, his constant application to the duties of secretary and organizer and money-raiser in the League, his work of deputations and interviews, letters and circulars provide an example that will always be an inspiration to his successors in office.

Nil sine magno vita labore dedit mortalibus, said the poet Horace. It is the lesson that nothing worthwhile can be achieved without great effort. It is echoed by Edwin Arnold: "What good gift have my brothers, but it came from search and strife and loving sacrifice?"

A public meeting will be held early in the New Year with a prominent citizen in the Chair, to make a presentation and to render due homage to Mr. Huie.

W. A. DOWE.

PRACTISE WHAT WE PREACH

The International Relations Section of the Commonwealth Club of California has been engaged on a special study of the topic: "What positive foreign policy and applied practices do we need to improve our foreign relations and promote national security from Soviet imperialism." Report on this study and of the meeting to hear it is given extensively in *The Commonwealth* of October 26. Speaking in the discussion, Mr. J. Rupert Mason said: "If Mark Twain were still among us, there is little doubt he would write another book about 'Innocents Abroad' in the light of our confused aims, especially since military victory over Nazism in World War II. Victor Hugo is usually credited

with having once said: 'More powerful than military might is an idea whose time has come.'

"Instead of seeking to block Russia, or Germany, or Korea, or Iran, or Spain, or the politico-economic system temporarily in control over the people anywhere outside of our own republic, is it not wiser to devote more effort in supporting the basic principles set down in our own Declaration of Independence, which is also law (1 U.S. Stat. 1), Preamble to the Constitution, and the U.S. Constitution, and giving respect to our responsibility and duties, as well as our rights, about which we to-day hear so much more?"

"The idea 'All men are created equal' is still 'revolutionary' in many nations. 'Equal rights for all, special privilege to none,' is clearly an idea which those who have written our tariffs and federal, state and local tax statutes have all too often lost sight of.

"Hitler, Mussolini and Japan constructed a military force on which they depended in their combined effort to 'Block Russia.'

"Germany, France, Italy, Japan, Iran, Korea, Philippines, China, India, Egypt, South Africa and the people in all other nations are filled with unrest and disquiet.

"Some think it but an extension of our 1776 revolution.

"The basic politico-economic principles guaranteed by our own Constitution are not yet firmly established, and instead of spending so much effort trying to block Hitler, Stalin, or Russia with bombs to destroy buildings and men, women and children wholesale, should we not be wiser to join ranks to ring again the Liberty bell louder than ever before, and begin practising in earnest what we preach?"

CORRESPONDENCE

Commemoration by Postage Stamp

Mr. Robert Clancy writes from New York: "Many of our friends in the U.S. have written to our Postmaster General requesting him to issue a special postage stamp in 1954 commemorating the 75th anniversary of *Progress and Poverty*. If some requests came from other countries it would further impress the Postmaster."

Mr. Clancy suggests that those who write should mention the influence of George in their own country and asks that they should do so without delay. Success will mean that millions of stamps will be used. *Write to:—*

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, WASHINGTON, 25, D.C., U.S.A.

Meanwhile we learn from Dr. Martin Pfannschmidt, Germany, that he and several friends have already petitioned the U.S. Postmaster General.

Economic Study Classes in Ottawa

H. G. Barber, Ottawa, writes: "Our Henry George School study class in *Progress and Poverty* is not a very large class but it is very good. It includes four university graduates and a member of the staff of the Embassy of India. Miss Mary Rawson is helping in the teaching."

A Dutch Engineer's Discoveries

A most interesting note comes from Miss V. G. Petersen, Secretary of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, New York: "A Mr. Ir J. J. Pott, of Slikkerveer, Holland, has made two calls here, the second time just before he sailed for home. He is a sincere Georgeist. He came to the idea independently and then read somewhere (in a newspaper, I think) something about Denmark that showed that these ideas of his fitted into the Henry George philosophy. He wrote a letter addressed to 'Henry George, Copenhagen' and got no reply, but in course of time he got a copy of *LAND & LIBERTY*. In it, or in a form letter accompanying it, he saw the names of two of his countrymen listed (A. Sevenster and J. Wiersma, editors of *Ons Erfdeel—Our Heritage*—published at St. Anna Parochie) and got in touch with them. Mr. Pott is an engineer. He came here four months ago on business for his firm and has spent most of his time in Chicago and Montreal. In Chicago he visited John Monroe whose name he got from Alice Davis, editor of the *Henry George News* to which by that time he had become a subscriber. In Montreal he got in touch with Miss Strehel Walton merely by looking at the telephone book to see if there were any Henry George groups listed."