

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.