

EDWARD JOHN CRAIGIE

Among Australian Georgists there will be for a time "a lonesome place," as E. J. Craigie of Adelaide will be sadly missed. He died at the age of 95, having given sixty years or more to the work of the Henry George movement. As early as 1909 he was able to influence his home city of Moonta to adopt land value rating as the basis for raising municipal revenue—it was the second town in the state to adopt that principle which has been retained to the present.

Mr. Craigie served the Henry George Foundation in official capacities, and represented them at the international Georgist conference held at Edinburgh in 1929 and at the centenary conference in New York in 1939. At that time he was elected president of the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade, and held the office until 1949. He was for 11 years a member of the South Australian House of Assembly, winning the seat

as a straight-out advocate of Henry George's principles and heading the poll at each election with a majority of preference votes.

He was editor of The People's Advocate from its inception in 1921 until it merged with the Melbourne paper, Progress. He traveled to every state in Australia and addressed meetings related to site valuation, and in 1955 he visited England and India. In addition to all these formal duties he found time to write thousands of letters to the city and country newspapers and to publish many books and pamphlets.

Mr. Craigie was a Georgist of quality and vast knowledge. His influence was tremendous and distinguished throughout his long and useful life. All Australia can be proud of him, for his contribution to that country's forward-looking tax reform cannot be measured. His spirit and the vigor of a new country blended together and are now part of history.