

SUCCESSFUL LECTURE TOUR BY F. A. W. LUCAS

On January 2 a number of British Georgists gathered on a Liverpool dock to bid good-bye to Judge Frank A. W. Lucas, as he sailed on the M/S City of New York for his native South Africa, brining to a close a six months' visit to Great Britain and the United States.

Judge and Mrs. Lucas left their home city of Johannesburg last July. They attended the Ninth International Conference of the International Union for Land-Value Taxation and Free Trade, held in St. Andrews, Scotland, August 15-20, 1955, and on August 18, Judge Lucas was elected President of the International Union by unanimous vote.

On September 24, Judge Lucas enplaned for New York to fulfil what was originally planned as a two-month lecture tour but which stretched into almost three. This tour was arranged for him and sponsored by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, American publishers of the books of Henry George.

In the United States, Judge Lucas visited 15 major cities from whence he fanned out to smaller towns. He also visited Ottawa and Montreal in Canada and made a trip to Sherbrooke in the Province of Quebec.

Almost as soon as he arrived a formidable schedule of travel and appointments was handed to him. To this original list were added an almost equal number of engagements made after the tour officially commenced. In all, Judge Lucas addressed large groups of students and faculty members at 17 colleges and universities and spoke before 65 business clubs, church and other representative groups. **He appeared 6 times on radio and participated in 5 television programmes.**

The tense situation in South Africa, created by the Union's widely criticised policy of race segregation—called "apartheid"—placed Judge Lucas in great demand by American

audiences eager to have a first-hand explanation of this inhuman policy. Judge Lucas, who spoke lucidly and effectively without notes, gave a clear picture of how this policy had grown out of the violence suffered by early settlers, and the present fear that as a minority group those of European origin will be displaced by the non-whites, who represent a majority of the population. Pointing out that there is room and opportunity for all in South Africa's expanding economy, he pleaded for a system which would free the land and encourage co-operation between peoples, regardless of colour. "South Africa cannot progress economically," he said, "without an increased labor force, and that means the training and acceptance of non-whites."

Speaking at Columbia University, New York, on December 6, before an audience of a thousand, Judge Lucas recalled that when the late John Dewey, one of the most famous philosophers ever to teach at that university, visited South Africa in 1935, he said, "the remedy for South Africa is to be found in Henry George."

Judge Lucas visited many of the Henry George School extensions, and the co-operation of these extensions and of the Home School tributed greatly towards the success of the tour.

Judge Lucas was the second foreign lecturer to be brought across the Atlantic by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation in the past two years. In the spring of 1954, Dr. Viggo Starcke, leader of Denmark's Justice Party, made a successful ten-thousand-mile tour which carried him from New York to California, and northward to Canada. Both these outstanding Georgists, Viggo Starcke and Frank A. W. Lucas, are warmly remembered in America, for what they gave of themselves, as well as for their inspiring messages.

—V. G. PETERSON.