

HONORARY GRADUATE

Ian Stewart Haggie

Ian Stewart Haggie, the son of Major Gordon Stewart Haggie, was born on 10 September 1917 in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. He came to South Africa in 1921. After receiving his high school education at Michaelhouse in Natal, he went to Trinity Hall at the University of Cambridge, where he took the tripos (the honours degree examination) in mechanical engineering. He holds the degree of Master of Arts of that university.

During the Second World War Ian Haggie served in the Royal Air Force from 1940 to 1945, attaining the rank of squadron leader, and being mentioned in despatches.

Shortly after the war, at the age of 29, Ian Haggie joined his father in the firm of Haggie, Son and Love, as the 'son'. The firm, now Haggie Limited, and the name Haggie itself are synonymous with steel cable for mine hoists in Southern Africa; and the story of the firm and of Ian Haggie are part of the story of mining and engineering in Southern Africa.

After five years Ian Haggie became Managing Director and chief executive of the company. For the next twenty-six years he devoted a large part of his energies to the running of its affairs. On his retirement at the age of 60 from his executive position he became Chairman of the Board of the group known as Haggie Rand Limited, a position he holds to this day. He is also a director of African Wire Ropes Limited of Zambia, of Haggie Wire and Rope Limited of Zimbabwe, of African Oxygen Limited, of British Steel Corporation of South Africa (Proprietary) Limited and several other leading companies.

Important as Ian Haggie's contribution to mining and engineering has been, it is not primarily in recognition of it that the University seeks to honour him. What the University wishes to pay tribute to is the remarkable service of a remarkable man in the communal and social fields - public service of the highest order. In these days much attention is paid to the social responsibility of companies. These artificial beings, so the saying used to go, have neither bodies to be kicked nor souls to be damned; but today this view has become somewhat suspect, and in any event companies are regarded as having hearts, and hearts that should not be hard. But there is a danger in stressing the social responsibility of companies, for the social responsibility of human beings may then be overlooked and, worse still, disregarded. The work of Ian Haggie serves as a model example of what can be done by a person who has the welfare of his fellow beings as a prime object of his thoughts, hopes and aspirations.

One of Ian Haggie's abiding interests has been education. He takes an active interest in the United World Colleges of Southern Africa, and the Waterford Kamhlaba Foundation in Swaziland (having been a member of the Governing Council since 1975, the Finance Committee since 1980, and the Board of Trustees since 1981). He is a trustee of Promat College (Project Matric Through Capital College, Pretoria), which is an institution for black adults studying for the senior and the matriculation certificates. The Pace (Planned Ad-

vancement Through Community Education) Commercial College in Soweto enjoys his close attention; he has been on the Board of Governors and Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee since 1982. Recently he became a member of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation of the University of Bophuthatswana. Among the other educational bodies to which he devotes his energies and gives financial support are Michaelhouse, St Anthony's Adult Education Centre, Funda Centre of Soweto and St Barnabas College. Mr Haggie has granted bursaries to many black students attending universities or technicals.

In the arts Ian Haggie has made a valuable contribution in many spheres. His leadership of the Market Theatre Foundation since he took over its chairmanship in 1977 has been inspiring. Striking development has taken place in the theatre complex, which has owed much to his initiative, drive, encouragement and active support. Today it is a vital and continually expanding centre for the arts in Johannesburg for all races and at all levels. Mention should also be made of his active interest in and financial aid to the Johannesburg Art Foundation, of which he became a patron in 1981. For long he supported FUBA - the Federated Union of Black Artists - in many ways. The Wits Theatre Foundation attracted tangible substantial support from him.

In health matters Ian Haggie's prime concern has been the Order of St John. His father made over his magnificent home *Glenshiel* in Westcliff to the Order to be used in perpetuity as its headquarters in South Africa. The Haggie Trust, of which Ian Haggie is the Chairman, administers the estate. *Glenshiel* has been declared a national monument. Ian Haggie is a Knight of the Order of St John and holds important offices in the Order.

Mr Haggie is actively engaged in the operations of several charitable trusts which make a significant contribution to the well-being of the inhabitants of this country. He is Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Haggie Trust and Haggie Charitable Trust. The latter is involved in a wide range of support in matters relating to education (of blacks and whites), health, the arts, the protection of wildlife, feeding schemes, legal aid and youth guidance. He has been one of the trustees of the Donaldson Trust since 1970 and Chairman of the Board of Trustees since 1978. The funds of that trust are administered for the exclusive benefit of the black community, with stress on education, health and particularly the arts. Mr Haggie is also a trustee of the Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Trust; of the Research and Library Trust of the South African Institute of Race Relations; of the South Africa Foundation; and of the Bophuthatswana Pension Scheme.

The preservation of wildlife is an abiding interest of Mr Haggie's, as shown by his chairmanship of the Board of Trustees of the Mlilwane Wildlife Sanctuary of Swaziland, and his membership of the Committee of the Northern Tuli Association.

There seems to be no end to the diversity of activities of Ian Haggie devoted to the well-being of his fellow man, of the country and of neighbouring countries. Suffice it simply to mention his involvement in work of the 1820 Foundation, the Urban Foundation, Operation Hunger and the Hospice Movement.

This public-spirited man has not courted publicity; indeed, he has tried to avoid it. A quiet, very private person, he says little about his many selfless activities in the interests of others, activities in which he has had the loyal and constant support of his wife Mary, who has made her own distinct contribution to welfare. So many bodies and individuals have benefited and benefit from Ian Haggie's personal concern and generosity. It is a striking record of public service. The University takes pride in being able to show its appreciation of the dedication to others of this splendid South African, who is truly rich in good works, by conferring on him the highest honour it can confer, that of the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.