

Sunday Times

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FIVE thousand delegates from 52 nations, including statesmen, churchmen and soldiers, and members of Parliament from 21 nations, met last year at Caux-sur-Montreux, in Switzerland, to listen to a message which BREMER HOFMEYR and a team of 17 moral re-armers was last week giving to South Africans. It was a message which was claimed to rise above politics and class struggles. At Caux, Dr. Arthur Norval, chairman of the South African Board of Trade, had called it "the only answer and hope for a frustrated and bewildered world." Bremer Hofmeyr, born in Stellenbosch and a Rhodes scholar, called it "inspired democracy." Last week in Johannesburg the team met and addressed members and officials of the South African Mineworkers' Union. Their message was: Moral re-armament means better production, better relations between workers and executives. Hofmeyr's team could quote figures to show that moral re-armament had boosted Britain's dwindling coal production at a critical time, and that in pits influenced by the re-armers absenteeism dropped 17 per cent. and production rose. For the mass of South Africans Hofmeyr's message was that of William Penn, American reformer: "Men must be governed by God or they will be ruled by tyrants."