

Man with mission to stage play

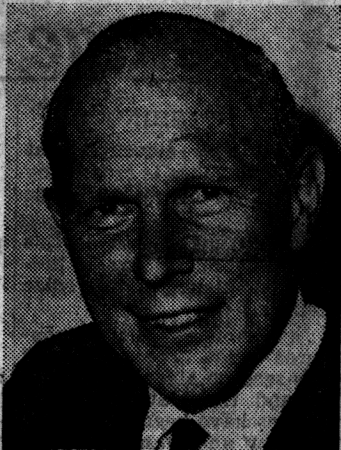
Herald Reporter

A MAN whose father-in-law was buried alive by the Mau Mau as a human sacrifice, is in Port Elizabeth to prepare the staging of a play aimed at fostering peace between peoples.

The play is "The Dictator's Slippers," which opens in Port Elizabeth on January 6. The man is Mr Bremer Hofmeyr who has worked for Moral Rearmament since he left Oxford in 1934. Mr Hofmeyr and two of his brothers, Murray and Will, are Rhodes Scholars.

He has served Moral Rearmament in 50 countries all over the world.

He was in the Congo for a year before independence and he was arrested under the



Mr Bremer Hofmeyr

Lumumba regime. On another occasion he was held at bayonet-point by Congolese troops. His house was burgled five times, and one night he was attacked by three men who held a knife at his throat, but he managed to fight them off.

Mr Hofmeyr's father-in-law was a highly-respected Kenyan farmer whom all Kikuyu considered a good man. Even at the height of the Mau Mau trouble he never carried a revolver because he trusted the tribesmen.

On one occasion strange tribesmen confronted him and he gave them his Kikuyu name and they released him. He met his end when a prophetess told the tribesmen that a good man

was needed as a human sacrifice.

They broke into his house, murdered his wife and carried him up Mount Kenya, where he was buried alive.

Mr and Mrs Hofmeyr feel that unless "we can create something absolutely new in race relationships on this continent, all Africa could very easily become Mau Mau."

Mr Hofmeyr said the Moral Rearmament movement was trying to help Africa make a distinctive contribution to "a world in division, and resolve a fundamental deadlock between East and West."

He said that Kenyatta had responded to these influences in Kenya.