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DATE

NATAL MERCURY

# S.A. GROUP TO HELP REST OF AFRICA

Staff Reporter

**Y**OUNG South African volunteers will soon be spearheading an ambitious plan to give practical help and advice to developing countries in the rest of Africa.

The scheme is the brain-child of Mr. Nico Ferreira, a director of the Moral Re-Armament organisation. He has called it the Springbok Stampede — which is also the name of a musical show opening in Durban today to raise funds to put the plan into operation by January.

Mr. Ferreira's mission is to recruit young teachers, farmers, engineers and other experts to form the backbone of a voluntary service which would initially go to work in neighbouring countries. Later, with Government approval, it could be expanded to States which are now strongly anti-South African.

a real interest in South Africa.

"With South Africa's skills and resources and with our unique understanding of African conditions, particularly in agriculture, our young people can achieve a great deal."

## TRAINING

Already Moral Re-Armament has started work on a R30,000 headquarters building from which the stampede will be run near Johannesburg. A group of 25 young people is being given courses in leadership to fit them for work outside the country.

## VITAL ROLE

The "stampede" over the borders into neighbouring States will help South Africa to play perhaps its most vital role in Africa — giving guidance and expert instruction to less fortunate countries.

As soon as field workers are available for voluntary service outside South Africa the organisers will have discussions with the Government to obtain its approval.

Mr. Ferreira feels that it is easier to make contact with African States through a private organisation than through the Government.

## REAL INTEREST

He brings a wealth of experience in African conditions to the "stampede." He founded and ran a leadership training college in Nigeria, a country not noted for its hospitality to South Africans.

"At Government level there is criticism of South Africa," he said. "But I have found that when one gets to know the leaders as people there is