

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Encouraging story of resolution

Behind the South African production of "The Dictator's Slippers," which will be seen in Durban at the week-end, lies an encouraging story of determination and disregard of artificial colour barriers.

The play was written by Peter Howard, a prominent British advocate of Moral Rearmament.

It was chosen for presentation in South Africa by a group of Johannesburg people impressed by the philosophy of Moral Rearmament.

NON-EUROPEAN

The cast is, with one exception, non-European, and the play was initially performed in the African townships of Johannesburg.

It was seen there by a group of students from Stellenbosch University, who were so struck by it that they arranged to take the company to Stellenbosch.

There, they met opposition from the municipality. Africans were not allowed to perform in the City Hall, the only suitable venue for the production.

The nature of the play itself overcame all opposition—and a unanimous decision of the council allowed its performance.

REGULAR JOBS

The cast of 14 all have regular jobs in Johannesburg and took leave from them to perform in Stellenbosch.

They can stay for only two days in Durban because of their commitments to their jobs. So they will fly here after finishing work on Friday, open the play at the M. L. Sultan Technical College Theatre that night and present two Saturday performances before returning to Johannesburg in time for work on Monday.