

REARMS MOVEMENT

# M.R.A. film has lapses — but — it's thought-provoking

THE film "Voice of the Hurricane," based on a play of the same name by Peter Howard and Alan Thornhill, was given a showing in Bloemfontein on Saturday morning by the Moral Rearmament Movement. The film, which has just completed a successful two-week season in Johannesburg, is on its way to Cape Town.

Twenty-five members of M.R.A. in Bloemfontein attended the show.

The action takes place in the White Highlands of Kenya at the time of the Mau Mau uprisings, when a young journalist, Richard Lord, returns to his father's cattle ranch after an extended stay in London. On the plane he meets a Mr Pearce, a British M.P. who is going to the colony on a fact-finding tour. Richard invites Pearce home.

In a few effective scenes the camera conjures up the beauty, the magnificence, terror and bewilderment of the Highlands. At the time, when the Mau Mau scourge first erupted into a cancer of malicious hate.

The film makes no attempt to soft-pedal the screaming emo-

tions which were rampant before independence. However, in its enthusiasm to present a realistic portrayal of the conditions— which according to the plot were the main cause of the dissatisfaction—stereotypes of the worst kind are resorted to.

## A LESSON

Perhaps the film can be excused these very real lapses for it aims to be didactic — it attempts to teach a particular lesson and by pretending readily understandable characters in a too-well appreciated situation, hopes to achieve this end.

Whether or not the audience will accept the carefully calculated denouement or fashion their own interpretation according to the way they feel, is of no great importance. For the film is most decidedly thought-provoking and presents its little pill in an entertaining manner.

There is a story, the actors generate a certain sympathy and the right emotions — all of which succeed in pitch-forking the audience into a dramatic situation where they presumably, must put their own thoughts in order.

D. H.