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NEW PLAY IN CITY SOON



A SCENE from the play, "The Dictator's Slippers" by English author Peter Howard, which will be produced in Port Elizabeth by Moral Rearmament in January. In the picture are (left) Manasseh Moerane, who plays the part of Dr Hippocrat and Maxwell Ntombela, who plays Saturn.

Leading Africans in stage production

Herald Reporter

SEVERAL African leaders from Johannesburg are included in the cast of the play, "The Dictator's Slippers," which will be staged by Moral Rearmament at the Opera House from January 6 to 11. The play has already had successful runs in Johannesburg, Durban, Pretoria and Stellenbosch.

The members of the cast, most of whom had never before acted in a play, include a headmaster, teachers, municipal workers and factory employees. There is only one European in the cast.

They decided on their own initiative to produce the play after seeing a Moral Rearmament film called "The Crowning Experience."

They felt that the play, by English author Peter Howard, would help to create unity of all races in South Africa. "This is what our country needs," they said after reading the script. They chose it from a list of plays submitted to them by Moral Rearmament.

The play, which was first produced in Geneva during an international conference, describes the struggle for power in a totalitarian state after the dictator dies.

NATURAL ACTORS

It has been produced and directed in South Africa by Norah Caulfield, who came out from England specially for the production. She said the Africans were natural actors and had given the play a completely different character.

The play was produced in Stellenbosch at the request of a number of Stellenbosch University students, who had been very impressed when they saw the play in Johannesburg.

Three professors at the university were so impressed with the play and the actors, that they asked members of the cast to give talks to students at the university.

The play has been favourably received at all the centres it has visited.