

She trains unusual singing group

MISS JANE HOPCRAFT (right) of Kenya, a graduate of the Royal College of Music, London, and formerly a lecturer at the East African Conservatoire of Music in Nairobi, is at present on a visit to Pietermaritzburg in the capacity as musical director to the Moral Re-Armament Group. With a group of 50 young vocalists, she will direct the first Natal "sing-out" at the Rowe Theatre on September 24.

Originating in the United States, a "sing-out," as described by Miss Hopcraft, is "something that grew out of a musical explosion. It is a programme of original songs with a winning quality and a universal flavour, produced with actions and movement to a lively accompaniment of guitars, saxophones, drums and piano," she explained.

Earlier this year, the first South African "sing-out" was presented, under the name of "Springbok Stampede," in Pretoria and a similar group toured the Cape and the Karoo during July, performing always to enthusiastic and capacity houses. A tour of "Springbok Stampede" on a very

much larger scale is now being prepared for December.

"We have the names of hundreds of young people who are interested in taking part," she told me.

Miss Hopcraft is responsible for the musical direction and conducting the choir in rehearsal.

Booking for this concert is now open at Reid's Radio.



MISS JANE HOPCRAFT