



SPRINGBOK STAMPEDE: A foursome from the 80-strong cast of "Springbok Stampede" seen at practice. From left to right are: Rodney Mould, Stuart Scott, Hamish Scott and Arthur Hill. All four are from Natal.

'Springbok Stampede' comes to the Cape

NEARLY 300 young men and women from all parts of South Africa have gathered in Stellenbosch this week-end for a conference to launch a musical show, "Springbok Stampede".

Mr. Nico Ferreira, director of the "Springbok Stampede" movement, officially opened the conference in the Stellenbosch Banqueting Hall on Saturday morning.

What is "Springbok Stampede"? According to its organizers it is "a musical explosion"—aimed at "expressing the spirit of the new, young South Africa".

The show is presented by Moral Rearmament and has a cast of 80. These young people live at the group's headquarters

on Bryanston, Transvaal, under the supervision of their director, Mr. Nico Ferreira.

S.A.'s ROLE

The musical's theme is "the building of a nation"—expressed in songs written by members of the cast.

Mr. Jonathan Harrod, one of the organizers, yesterday described the show as "an expression of our faith in South Africa's future and her role in the world".

"We love our country and want to build it up. We believe that South Africa has a special part to play in Africa's future. For these tasks we feel that our generation needs training educationally, technically and, above all, in faith and character."

The movement began 18 months ago and already membership exceeded 800.

"Springbok Stampede" was first performed in Durban and Johannesburg in 1966. It will be seen in the Western Cape for the first time on Thursday and will be staged till January 20.

TOP SPEAKERS

The launching conference, which began on Saturday, includes lectures and discussions. Speakers include Mr. Eric Rosenthal, the South African historian, Sir Richard Luyt, principal-designate of the University of Cape Town, and Mr. Piet Beukes, a well-known journalist.

Mr. Harrod said that it was hoped this year to have a permanent cast of more than 80 young people travelling round the country with the show.

Many of the present group were students and high-school pupils and a special "high school on the road" had been created to cater for them, he said. The six full-time students with the travelling school studied six hours a day. The students continued their studies by correspondence and many had received good results.