

SPRINGBOK STAMPEDE

Springbok Stampede has been to the Strand and has left its impress on all who witnessed it.

Yes, it was a stampede. Suddenly the hall was in darkness, then as suddenly it was flooded with light and there was the sound of urgent footsteps as from the back of the hall the young performers stampeded up the aisles and bounded into their places on the platform.

The uniform was simple but gay. The girls wore brilliantly coloured slips over white blouses. Then to the accompaniment of their own instruments they began to sing with full-voiced joy and enthusiasm, their own words, their own tunes, their own convictions and purposes.

Great principles were tersely expressed and put over with joyous conviction. Where there was speaking it was their own matter, quick, concise, and again convincing.

In their brochure they set out their aims which are summed up in the words "To strive that God be restored to leadership as the directing force in the lives of men and nations". They have been sent into a most unacceptable world.

They wish to build a new world.

They wish to go back and forth and to and fro drawing youth (they are all young) into a crusade to build a world ruled by God.

They had their audience with them whole-heartedly and at the end applauding deafeningly. Then suddenly the youth in the hall rose as one and went up on to the platform and joined in the singing, capturing the eager joyful spirit of the crusaders.

It was a great moment; the climax of a great show with a great purpose.

The writer is well aware of the dangers of emotional uprisings, but these young people have felt a strong urge to strive after a high ideal. They have seen a vision and lest it be a moving of the Spirit surely we cannot but support it prayerfully.

(A member of the Editorial staff of the "District Mail" who was present at the Stampede, heartily endorses the sentiments expressed by the writer of this article.)