

MORAL WORK CONVERTS REDS

Great work done in India

MORAL REARMAMENT was playing a vital role in checking the spread of communism in India, and had already claimed a number of extreme communists, Mr. K. Gladwin, a Port Elizabeth man who has recently returned from working with the Moral Rearmament team in India, said today.

Mr. Gladwin spent six months in India together with Dr. Frank Buchman, the founder of the movement, and a Moral Rearmament team of 200, who worked in India at the invitation of government, labour and industrial heads.

Mr. Gladwin said his section of the team concentrated on the university students—of whom there were 250,000 in India.

Most of the students were communists, he said, and were influenced by extremist cells in the university which, in turn, were controlled by the Communist Party.

The Russian Embassies, too, invited students to "cultural evenings" and promoted study tours to Bucharest and Peking.

Altogether the Moral Rearmament team visited seven universities and 28 colleges. They put on plays, including "The Forgotten Factor," and were encouraged to address the students.

"The response was excellent. Young people who had given all in the fight for independence yet were frustrated by the ensuing division and confusion saw in the principles of Moral Rearmament an ideology superior to communism."

Mr. Gladwin said the success of their tour was illustrated by the arrival of an Indian delegation of 25 leading students at the Moral Rearmament world assembly in Switzerland.

He gave examples also of individual communists who had been converted to Moral Rearmament.

One 21-year-old student was "beaten up" and thrown out of his home when he adopted the principles of Moral Rearmament.

Another student who spent two years in prison for inciting the peasants of Hyderabad to rise attended the world assembly. While in prison this student had staged hunger-strikes and caused a great deal of trouble.