

D.R.C. MAN IMPLIES THAT APARTHEID IS A FLOP

The Friend Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG, Monday.

THE REV. F. E. O'B. GELDENHUYS, Moderator of the Northern District Synod of the Dutch Reformed Church of the Transvaal, implied that apartheid was a failure when he addressed the Moral Re-armament World Conference at Caux, Switzerland recently.

"Die Transvaler" accordingly criticised him and Moral Re-armament in a leading article.

In his address, the Rev. M. Geldenhuys said:

"Our time in South Africa is becoming short. We must raise people of all races who together will seek their common destiny in Africa."

He said that after 300 years' experience of race relations—he was speaking of the Afrikaans section of the nation and particularly the more nationalistic section — his people honestly and sincerely believed that they knew best what was right.

"But it is apparent that many or most of the Bantu races do not agree with us," he said.

NEW QUALITY

"It has become clear to me that even if we have the right answer, no idea which does not also have the support of people of goodwill of all races, will have any hope of success.

"I can be convinced that our basic approach is right but unless people of both sides agree with that view we are wishing for the moon and it will never succeed."

"We Afrikaners of European descent have thought much too much from the viewpoint of how we can save ourselves.

"We must live a new quality of life in our families, our church and in our communal life. To save the world, the Church must again become the Church militant and the Church militant must in turn become a Church aflame.

"My religion was just not big enough to shake my people awake and get them marching. The fault does not lie in my religion but in the manner in which I lived it.

"The innate inertia, selfishness and self-righteousness, especially in us Afrikaners, has blinded us completely as to what is happening in the world today.

RESPONSIBILITY

"We have a responsibility towards our era that we cannot dodge. We must move out of confusion to clarity."

"Die Transvaler" says Dr Geldenhuys seemed to consider, from new insights won at Caux, that the non-acceptance of the Union's racial policy by a section of the non-Europeans was sufficient ground for regarding the policy as a "desire for the impossible" and thus a failure.

Dr Geldenhuys had apparently come to the conclusion that the Afrikaans religion, as applied in the Union, was inadequate and especially too cold and too non-militant.

"From this we must assume that liberalism now also comes in a religious guise to sow doubts about our faith as hitherto practised and to suggest that our religion falls short of the needs of the time, the continent and our country.

"CUNNING"

"We reject Moral Rearmament claims that they have the power to reform man's nature and to solve world problems purely by the application of moral principles.

"Liberalism is cunning in all its guises but in its quasi-religious guise it may well be at its most dangerous, because it there causes people to doubt proved truths. For the Afrikaner and the White man generally in South Africa it may well mean nothing but suicide in the long run.

"That is why it is our duty to warn our people against these second conversions at Caux."