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PRETORIA NEWS

A Big Idea Wanted, Says M.R.A. Man

What South Africa needed today more urgently than anything else was an idea big enough to bind her people into true nationhood, said Mr. Ray Foote Purdy, the executive director of Moral Re-Armament in America.

Instead of being on the defensive, South Africa needed to get on the attack — not with arms, but with a plan for Africa bigger than Communism offered.

“What South Africa and the rest of the world needs more than money or military hardware,” he said, “is moral strength under which unity above political parties or personal advantage could be formed.”

Mr. Purdy was speaking at a luncheon in Pretoria yesterday.

A former Administrator of the Transvaal, Dr. William Nicol, said in reply to Mr. Purdy's address, that although South Africans were steeped in tradition they were not bound by it. He welcomed the thoughts and interest.

The lunch was attended by the Mayor, Mr. B. M. van Tonder, police chiefs, representatives of the Provincial and City Councils, the Defence Force, and leaders of commerce and industry.