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WORLD PEACE IS AIM OF FOUNDATION

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JOHANNESBURG. — The human mind had proved itself capable of sending men to the moon and back and had devised weapons capable of blasting all life from earth but had failed to solve the problem of illiteracy, poverty and squalor bedevilling more than half the human population.

The president and founder of the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation, Mr Herbert Armstrong, said this at a Press conference here.

Referring to himself as "an ambassador, without any political portfolio, for world peace", Mr Armstrong, 84, said he was invited to South Africa by Dr Jan Marais, banker and head of the South Africa Foundation.

During this, his first visit to the country, he will meet the State President, Dr N. N. Diederichs, members of the Cabinet and homeland leaders, and would give talks to business, industrial and cultural organisations.

POVERTY

Mr Armstrong said heads of governments had come up with recipes for world peace for the past 4 000 years, but no one had found a solution.

More than half the world's population lives in abject poverty, perhaps

more than half are illiterate, and in some nations from 80 to 85 per cent of the population is illiterate.

"Because of the high birthrate in India, for example, the percentage of illiteracy is increasing in spite of compulsory education in the lower grades."

He was not in South Africa to discuss politics, Mr Armstrong said.

SELFLESS

"I want to show human beings how to get world peace by ridding themselves of human nature, which is responsible for the poverty and illiteracy in the world today.

"We are never going to find world peace as long as we have selfish motives. The foundation tries to achieve world peace through promoting the mutual understanding of people for one another."

The executive vice-president of the foundation, Mr Stanley Rader, said the foundation hoped to start a branch in South Africa by January, 1977.

"This may help to clear up some of the misunder-

standings about the country."

He said the foundation had permanent projects in more than 25 countries, had access to news media in the United States and in a few years should increase its radio access to 2 000 stations.

Its monthly publication, "The Plain Truth", was distributed throughout the world in five languages, and 3 000 000 copies, of which 100 000 were circulated in South Africa, were printed.