

Union Artists

PRODUCERS OF KING KONG

P.O. Box 8162
TELEPHONES 835-7261/2/3
JOHANNESBURG

13th April, 1963.

Mr. Alan Paton,
23 Lynton Road,
Kloof,
NATAL.

Dear Alan,

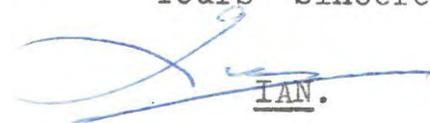
I am afraid catastrophe succeeds catastrophe. Despite the usual magnificent press in Kimberley there were endless problems arising from the damage to our equipment, and the public support was poor. More non-whites proportionately than elsewhere, but again a loss of over R1,000.

Then Bloemfontein. On the day we open the Commissioner of Police withdrew permission for whites to enter the location which meant that the Friend could not revive us, and we lost a considerable part of our audience. The remaining all-African audience found the play quite beyond their comprehension and kept boeing and asking for more music and more girls. On Tuesday night we took R270 but on Wednesday this dropped to R26 and even that hand-full of people hated the production and asked for their money back. We therefore decided to bring the company back here, and have cancelled the rest of the Bloemfontein run and also the Kroonstad run. It is still our intention to try and play in the local townships, but we want to cut a ~~bar log~~ ^{the ~~bar log~~} and have a variety programme in the second half of the evening.

I am afraid that the Cape Town statement has not yet arrived, nor has Maritzburg and I am going to be away the whole of next week. I have again sent out urgent requests to the various centres and have instructed our new bookkeeper to chase them up during next week if they have not arrived. I will be back in the office on the 23rd and hope by then to send you full information.

During my absence Bob Leshoai will be continuing with the plans for the Pretoria Locations. We are due to open in Atteridgeville on May 1st and in Vlakfontein on May 8th. Perhaps this new scheme will work. I certainly hope so. With all best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



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