



## The Duke's Men

Studies by the South African artist Oliver Caldecott during the recent Duke Ellington concert tour of Britain. The Duke is at the piano.

immediately; they even go so far as to suggest that autonomy will not be obtained *without bloodshed* . . . What a sad mentality! We must reject these ideas wherever they come from." (pp. 162-163, *Italics* are Lumumba's.)

THE REST OF THE BOOK'S 200-odd pages suggests such daring reforms as the abolition of whipping (pp. 92-95), equal pay for equal work (pp. 32-37), a wider extension of special privileges to the *évolués* (pp. 55-62), less reliance on traditional chiefs for administration (pp. 81-88), an extension of freehold rights for Africans (pp. 112-116), closer social relations between Europeans and Africans (although racial segregation in towns "is justified by sociological factors", and is "in the interest of Africans themselves as well as Europeans") (pp.

120-121), and better education for children and women (pp. 122, 127-143). In regard to education, Lumumba praises the civilizing role of the Whites and goes so far as to note that African concubines of Europeans after several years of cohabitation with their exalted lovers "are admirably transformed and surpass by far women who learned on school banks, but who live as 'natives!'" (p. 123.)

LUMUMBA'S BOOK makes the Progressive Party platform in South Africa appear dangerously revolutionary. Indeed, both in its abject style and in its contents, the book is an apology of colonialism, with its entire battery of rationalizations (including the argument about "white agitators corrupting the natives"). The

book utterly shatters the heroic image of the Lumumba who on June 30, 1960, spoke of "the mockery, the insults, the blows submitted to morning, noon and night because we were niggers", of "the atrocious suffering of those who were imprisoned for political opinion", of "the humiliating slavery which had been imposed upon us by force" and which was "our fate during eighty years of colonial rule", and of "the hangings or the firing squads where so many of our brothers perished". Ultimately, however, the contents and tone of Lumumba's book are not an indictment against him, but against colonialism which committed the one unpardonable crime, namely the utter destruction of a man's self-respect and his reduction to the self-debasing, frustrated, cringing, hateful sycophant that the book reveals. ●