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AT

DATE

13 JUN 1959

P. E. EVENING POST

King Kong to make tent — tour on Rand?

A MODIFIED version of King Kong will tour platteland towns near Johannesburg.

The African jazz opera finished an outstanding two-week run in Port Elizabeth last night.

More than 13,000 people in Port Elizabeth saw the show—including 10,000 people in the first week. Gross takings of the production are expected to be about £6,000.

Now King Kong will go back to Johannesburg to run in the City Hall. From Johannesburg it will move to Durban for the July season.

Then will come the road show to the platteland towns.

The biggest worry for the organisers of the road show will be finding a theatre. Most

theatres and halls in the platteland towns are not licensed for African performers.

A tent will most probably be the answer, said one of the organisers today.

He said the idea of putting on King Kong in a tent originated with Mr. Ian Bernhardt, a member of the organisation committee and Chairman of the Union of Southern African Artists. Mr. Bernhardt thought of the idea when the Pretoria City Council refused to let the show appear in the City Hall.

Under these difficulties the show will do about two towns a week. The tour is planned to cover about 20 towns — including Pretoria.