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41 COLONISATION CHAMBERS, WEST STREET

PHONE 66403

DURBAN

Telegraphic Address: "NEWSCUT"

AT

DATE 29 APR 1959

NATAL MERCURY

Popular Demand For "King Kong" Tickets

ALL indications are that early booking for the all-African jazz opera "King Kong," which opens in Durban on May 11, will be essential.

The show originally started in Johannesburg for a scheduled three-week run on February 2, but because of the great demand by the public, the season had to be extended. It was almost impossible to buy seats except through racketeers who bought a number of tickets which were sold to the public at black market prices.

In Johannesburg alone, an estimated 50,000 people have seen the show, and by the time the season ends in Cape Town, it is estimated that a further 14,000 will have attended in addition to

an extra 3,000 at lunch hour concerts.

Mr. Jock Duff, City Entertainments Manager, expects to be completely sold out of tickets for the first week's performances before the show even opens in Durban.

RETURN VISIT

After the Durban performances, the company will play in Port Elizabeth and then again in Cape Town as a result of the great public demand there.

All proceeds from the show are distributed between the African Medical Scholarship Trust Fund and the Union of Southern Africa Artists.