

MUSICIAN NOT IDLE — JUDGE

Pretoria Bureau

ALTHOUGH a young Johannesburg African worked without being registered at a labour bureau he earned money and was therefore not an "idle person," the Supreme Court has found.

In a review judgment, Mr Justice Cillie, the Transvaal Judge-President and Mr Justice Theron set aside the declaration of Mr Christopher Ndlovu as an "idle person".

Mr Ndlovu (20), appeared before a Bantu Affairs commissioner charged with being "idle" in terms of the Bantu (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act of 1945. An inspector of the West Rand Bantu Administration Board told the com-

missioner Mr Ndlovu was qualified to work in the prescribed area of Johannesburg but had worked for only 33 of the previous 63 months.

Mr Ndlovu said he once went to register at a labour bureau but did not carry out his intention as he was afraid of being arrested. He played in a band once a week to earn money, he said.

He was convicted of being idle and it was ordered that he be sent to a farm colony for 18 months. This sentence was suspended on condition he either found work or he left the prescribed area of Johannesburg.

Mr Justice Cillie, in setting aside the sentence, said: "It is well known that people who perform in bands frequently earn substantial sums".



● ROD HUDSON (left) and HAL ORLANDINI are the resident comedians in the "Knicky, Knacky Knoo Show" which is on the air again at 7.10 tonight.

Kongos hit ?

JOHN KONGOS, Johannesburg's pop composer, has a new single due out in a few weeks. Titled "Rangers Matthews Smith & Green", the rock 'n roll cowboy song has lyrics by Pete Leroy of Johannesburg set to John's music.

Financed and produced in France, it is sung in English and has been sold to RCA (France).

John, ever the cautious optimist, thinks it "stands a chance" and French recording circles are evidently excited about it, as John found out when he was in Paris last week.

In fact, the song has been around in John's lockers for eight years and has already been recorded twice, once by

POP

Ivy Harding
London

the top French star, Sheila. It may take off the third time.

Two more of John Kongos' songs are being recorded in France.

"France is good for me" he said.

A Big Surprise for him was an English recording company's decision to re-release his 1971 chart success, "He's Gonna Step On You Again". It reached No 3 and was re-released last Friday.

"I don't expect big things," John said. Yet the song sold a million discs round the world last time.

John still goes on equipping his recording studio with yet more wizard equipment, the latest being a R4 000 monitoring system making the studio so good it is solidly booked.

He still hasn't got going on those 200 songs of his lying around.