



MEMBERS of the Trinidad All Steel Percussion Orchestra which created a great stir in England and France posed on board the C.N.S. Lady Nelson shortly after the vessel docked alongside the pier this morning. They were welcomed on board by Mr. W. Minshall, Mr. L. Pierre, Mr. J. Kerr and Mr. U. Nesbitt, all members of the "Operation Britain Committee." Left to right in the picture are Mr. W. Minshall, manager of the Tourist Board, Mr. L. Pierre, of the Youth Council, Andrew de Labastide, Winston "Spree" Simon, Ormond "Patsy" Haynes, Dudley Smith, Philippe Bonaparte, U. Nesbitt, Philmore "Boots" Davidson. Standing behind are Anthony Williams, Theodore Stephens and Ellie Manette.

TASPO Plans Trip To Europe Next Year

Band Given Rousing Welcome At Docks

To the tune of the "Blue Danube," nine members of the Trinidad All Steel Percussion Orchestra (TASPO) waltzed through the Customs amid rousing cheers from the hundreds of well-wishers who had gathered at the docks this morning to welcome them back home after a successful tour of England and France.

Sporting woollen overcoats and sweaters and looking in the best of health, the boys expressed some regret — they had to return home.

They told the "Evening News" however, that they will be returning to Europe after the Carnival season.

Members of the band who returned were Andrew de Labasade, Winston "Spree" Simon, Ormond "Patsy" Haynes, Philmore "Boots" Davidson, Belgrave Bonaparte, Theodore Stephens, Dudley Smith, Ellie Mannelle and Anthony Williams. Sterling Betanourt, the other member of the team remained in England and Lt. Griffith, the band leader stopped off in St. Lucia.

RETURNING TO EUROPE

Members of the band said they thoroughly enjoyed their trip abroad and they were very sorry to leave Europe, but "we had to come back." They will be returning to Europe after the carnival season.

They were greeted on board ship by Mr. Wilson Minshall, manager of the Trinidad and Tobago Tourist Board, Mr. Lennox Kerr, Mr. U. Nesbitt and Mr. Gayle Kerr, all members of the Operation Britain Committee, who made arrangements for the trip.

One of the members of the team said the band got the biggest reception when they played at Glasgow and Edinburgh, but, "we were given a big hand when we played

for the Festival," he added. Before sailing from Bordeaux for Trinidad, the band fulfilled a two-weeks engagement at the Medrano Circus in Paris.

"We were offered several engagements to play in Belgium, Switzerland, Italy and even the United States of America. We would have gone to Italy but our Bandleader's leave was up, so we had to come back and then too, Carnival" he added.

"Scores of people in England flocked us as they all wanted to know the secret of the "pans", but we did not let it out. One person offered us £1,000 (\$4,800 B.W.I.) for a pan, but we did not sell.

NOT MUCH PROFIT

"The band as a whole made a good sum of money, but most of it was spent on hotel and travelling expenses. We do not know how much money has been saved, but "it is not a large sum."

One of the members said while they were in England they were mistaken for Jamaicans.

On their way down to Trinidad from St. Lucia, the band played a few tunes for the tourists on board the Lady Nelson, which they thoroughly enjoyed.

As they made their way through the Customs, they were besieged by the huge crowd, to "beat a few tunes for them, which they willingly did. They played the "Blue Danube", "Mambo B" and a colypso composed by Boscoe Holder.