

SMITHtalk Back In Town

# SO NOW YOU KNOW, ALL YOU PAN LOVERS, WHO INVENTED THE DOUBLE TENOR

TIME to settle the argument and I have the proof to do just that.

This is the message I have for those "know-it-all" debaters at the Ibis Restaurant on Oxford Street, where I spend some time each week taking in their healthy discussions.

In most cases I listen to their views but this time I have to put in my mouth because last week's argument centred around WHO INVENTED THE DOUBLE TENOR for steel bands?

"Bertie Fraser", shouted Wellington.

"Man, you mad, it was Spree Simon", shouted someone else — and so the names were bandied about.

Well, here are the facts and the caption taken from the "Trinidad Guardian" dated August 23, 1952.

"Dixieland Steelband yesterday revealed the result of



\* Ernest Ferreira

tenor and bass booms.

Constructed of two pans welded together by iron rods, it has two complete scales of three octaves in E Flat. Any tune can be played on it just as on a first pan.

"The idea of this pan originated with Dixieland's Leader/Pro, Ernest Ferreira and the builder was steelpan maker and tuner Percy Tomas (seen in



Percy Thomas... steelpan maker and tuner

