

# 'PANYARD' TRACES HISTORY

"Panyard" is the title of a play by St. Clair Wesley Dorant which was written in 1963.

The author failed to get it produced through lack of financial backing but, as he himself points out in the foreword, "love for those who like reading a play," made him decide to publish it himself.

As its name suggests "Panyard" is the story of the steelband and the early steelbandsmen who had nothing going for them in those days and had to fight family, friends, the state to remain in the business.

The story is simply told, moving from the start of a

steelband in someone's backyard through its victory in a competition, the fights, the injuries and even death of some of its members.

Dorant's play deserves a public performance by a theatrical group and it is indeed a pity that we do not give some attention to the literary works about carnival. A play such as this could, for example, be performed during the carnival season, both for entertainment and enlightenment.

Perhaps Casablanca's Panyard Theatre could be encouraged to stage it at some time?