

"Desperadoes Aim To Rise Above Second Best" Trinidad Star Jan 23 Jan. 1959, p.9.

Desperadoes' Aim To Rise Above Second Best

Guardian Staff Reporter

A gravelled backyard, serviced by a short boulder strewn entrance creased with water-carved ruts that descend almost vertically to Picton Road, give an untamed look to a recently tamed locality, half-way up the Laventille Hill.

This is the "home" of the Desperadoes, who are busy preparing for carnival.

After work on evenings members of the 45-man steel band trek uphill to practise.

These energetic young men are intent on improving last year's carnival contest rating as the second best steelband. The ambition is amply supported by selections that find their sources from calypso tents to backyard inspiration.

"Calypso Succi", their own composition, has been skilfully arranged by bandleader Sylvan "Grant" Morris into a road

march that can hold its own. Their choice of masquerade will have a renown of its own.

"Highlights of Noah's Ark" though not of the standard the de Mille bible epic, will be outstanding mainly because of its unique position against a hotch-potch background of Indians, Sailors, etc.

W. Harrison, speaker of the carnival community project, gave full details. Initially, community leader, George Yeats, was bound by protocol in the system-conscious group, not to reveal any of the band's details.

"All information from Speaker".

Ross Cumberbatch, a beefy individual with a prominent nose, will be Noah. The patriarch sports a white lowly wrap and peacock shawl. Goatskin sandals, parchment and hoary complete the picture.