



**Mausica proposes
UWI pan department**

MAUSICA Teachers' Training College has proposed that the steelband be formalised and institutionalised "in such a way that it embraces the society in a total way."

In a Paper placed before the National Consultation on the Steelband at Convention Centre, Chaguaramas, yesterday, the residential teachers' college suggests that the steelband movement should be made "part of our education system" with specialist teachers devoting full time to teaching children who have the necessary interest, ability, initiative and discipline in the art.

The teaching should run from the primary through to junior secondary and secondary schools, youth camps, teachers' training colleges and the UWI, St. Augustine.

The College also proposes establishment of a "pan technology centre" where pan making and tuning would be carried on.

One of the College's proposals is that "rooms suitable for music teaching in general and pan music in particular" be built into the two new teacher training colleges to be constructed in the near future.

PILOT SURVEY

The proposal adds that both the Mausica College and the Caribbean Union College at Maracas should be fitted with complexes for the teaching of music and pan music in particular.

The reason is that both institutions stand on extensive grounds of several acres which can accommodate the complexes and the sound of pan.

However, before putting pan on the school curriculum, the Mausicans recommend that a nation-wide pilot survey be carried out to "test the practical feasibility of the programme and to give time for more persons to be trained to implement the full-scale programme when it is launched."

The University at St. Augustine is also to play its part in the Mausica "pan plan." It is recommended that a representative of the Faculty of Engineering which has conducted certain experiments in pan techniques should be included in the team to draft proposals for establishment of the proposed institute of pan technology.

Under the section titled "Long term aspects of the programme," Mausica suggests "the establishment at UWI of a Pan Department in the Faculty of Fine Arts which already exists at Mona.

Mausica claims that this would, "in an intelligent and sophisticated way, extend the range of pan to adult and higher education levels—thereby deepening understanding and appreciation of and respectability for pan."

The rationale for pan at the

University adds that "it would cater for and serve the needs of nationals and regionals who opt for pan as their area of specialisation in musical education."

And finally that "it would, in collaboration with the Pan Technology Centre, ensure our continual comparative advantage in pan."

The College notes that "we have to be very mindful of the increasing interests which metropolitan countries are taking in pan—interests backed by superior technology."