

# STEELBANDS PLAN CONCERT SERIES

The Executive of the Steelband Association will approach Government with a view to obtaining assistance, financial, or otherwise, to launch its programme of a series of concerts, sports meetings and other social activities in the near future.

Interviewed, a member of the Executive stated: "We intend seeking any kind of aid from Government to overcome the great difficulties in promoting a venture of this kind."

He explained that the idea was born after intensive investigations among the steelbands of the colony, and it was their firm opinion that such a step will go a long way in creating harmony and earnest friendship among the various bands.

## PUBLIC CAN AID

It was further stated that the main cause of the clashes among bands was due to lack of employment, and the public could do its part by patronising these shows, and thereby assist the members in making their art worthwhile.

The Association also plan to make representations to businessmen and employers to use their power and influence in seeking positions for steelband members in lines fitted to their abilities.

"I trust," he went on, "that employers will not be antagonistic towards these young men."

## PADDLE OWN BOAT

Turning his attention to steelbandmen, he stated that they ought to co-operate by behaving in a creditable manner and so gain the admiration of the community.

There are about 100 bands in the colony, and it is a very disturbing sign that most of the incidents involve a mere six or seven. It was his belief that this problem could be overcome by acts of sincerity by members of the community.

"We propose," he said, "pro-

viding whatever assistance we can afford to steelband members with matters now before the courts."

"But," he added, "we will not condone intolerable behaviour by anyone, therefore, anyone involved in future disturbances 'will have to paddle his own boat!'"

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