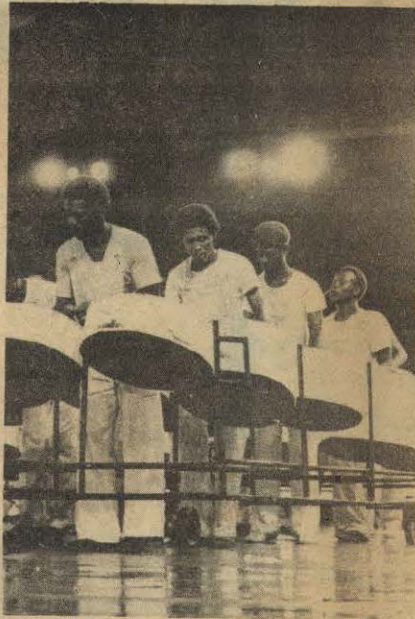


It would give our talents exposure and could be financially viable

Wanted: A pan, Carnival Museum



It would be a permanent outlet for our talented people

SAYS

ELMA

REYES

NOTHING is wrong with us having a Carnival mentality. Carnival is after all, our national festival, and it is one of the items used to sell Trinidad and Tobago, on the tourist mart.

The other selling items-steelband and calypso - have been borrowed generously by the other Caribbean islands to sell their sun and sea as well, and if there is anything deplorable about our calypso-steelband-Carnival mentality it is that we have so far refused to take any of them seriously as genuine expressions of ourselves.

Why for instance, there is not established in some part of Port-of-Spain a "Steelband Museum?"

Exhibits

There are lots of roomy old houses and abandoned government buildings which could be easily renovated to house exhibits which will tell the story of the steelband from its noisy disreputable beginnings to its sophisticated but still unsatisfactory present level.

One of the chief causes of dissatisfaction, according to Pan Trinbago officials is that most of this nation's panbeaters are either unemployed or under-employed.

There is little doubt that the establishment of a "Steelband Theatre" can help in changing this situation.

A building such as the old Fire Brigade Headquarters on Hart Street would be ideal for the establishment of such an institution.

Here for a reasonable sum, visitors and citizens could spend hours browsing around looking at reproductions of oldtime steeldrums, and photo-