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People People People



BOOGSIE conducts Phase II Steel Orchestra on the steps of City Hall during the playing of a jazz number.

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Phase II thrills crowd at Fourth of July celebrations

BY SELWYN TARRADATH, who went on tour with the orchestra

PHASE II Pan Groove is now the toast of New York City, after performing through the length and breadth of the "Big Apple" on their prize trip, which was made possible through the initiative of the *New York Daily News*. The band started it's round of performances at the annual Queen's Fair at Flushing Meadows where over two million people passed through during the two-day festival. The orchestra performed twice each day

— first on the main stage and later in the Caribbean Village. On Monday, June 27, the band played in front of the twin towers of the World Trade Centre, New York's second tallest bulding. The next day the pannists donned tuxedo outfits to appear on the steps of City Hall where before an audience of two thousand people, Mayor Edward Koch got into the action by stepping behind a tenor pan and giving a

convincing display of shadowing (pretend to play). The next day it was down to Jone's Beach, Long Island and although the temperature was a moderate 70 degrees the steelband music warmed up the sun seekers. The tempo really waxed warm on Friday at Forres Park in Queen's where renowned flutist Bobby Humprey took the band stand with her flute and joined the band for the rendition of Milt Jackson's SKF. Her scintillat-

ing solos were matched by Boogsie Sharpe and the crowd loved every minute of it. **Went Crazy** La Bamba was the tune that really got them off their feet and it was amazing to see the mainly white, middle-aged, American crowd with arms raised high in the air, dancing to the sweet sounds of the steelband. Saturday saw the band