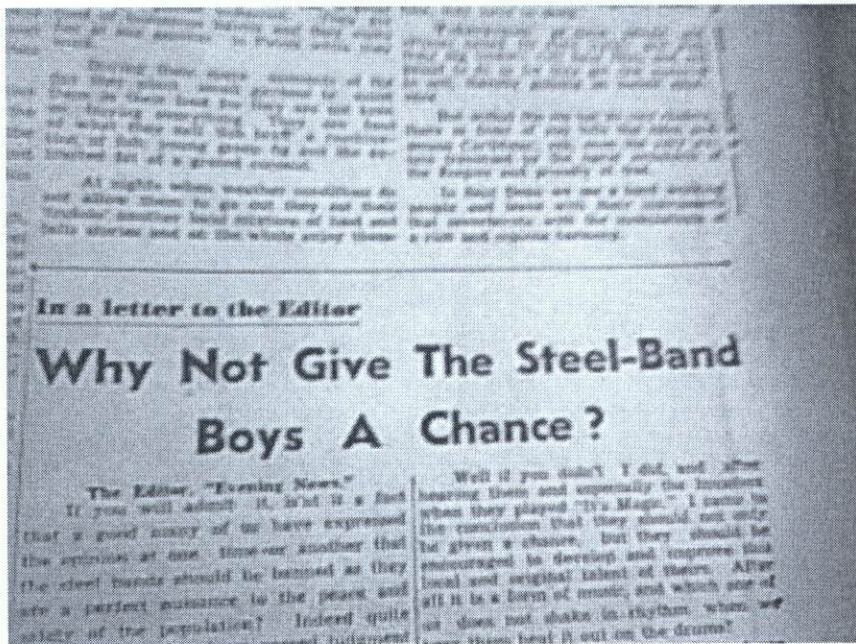


Sacky "Why ^W not give the Steelband Boys a ^C Chance?" Evening News, 10 March, 1949.

3. Print.



Letter to the editor

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Why Not Give The S Boys A Chan

The Editor, "Evening News."

If you will admit it, isn't it a fact that a good many of us have expressed the opinion at one time or another that the steel bands should be banned as they are a perfect nuisance to the peace and safety of the population? Indeed quite a good many of us have passed judgment on these boys, but have you ever taken time in fairness to them to give the matter some serious thought?

Have you ever considered how much pains they take to have the pans cut to the right size and the right indentation

Well if y hearing them when they pl the conclusio be given a e encouraged local and or all it is a for us does not hear them b

They b society, and theirs, can't play the m ments, why want to d

a good many of us have passed judgment on these boys, but have you ever taken time in fairness to them to give the matter some serious thought?

Have you ever considered how much pains they take to have the pans cut to the right size and the right indentation made in the right spot to produce the notes of the scale necessary to play what we all accept as music? Have you ever thought of how much time they spend practicing in the back yards so that they can orchestrate into a harmonious unit, or better still did you by radio or sitting at the Savannah on the choosing of the "Carnival Queen" have the opportunity to hear these boys display their talent on the drums?

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Chance ?

Well if you didn't I did, and after hearing them and especially the Invaders when they played "It's Magic." I came to the conclusion that they should not only be given a chance, but they should be encouraged to develop and improve this local and original talent of theirs. After all it is a form of music, and which one of us does not shake in rhythm when we hear them beat it out on the drums?

They belong to a certain class of our society and if they, through no fault of theirs, cannot afford to buy and learn to play the more acceptable musical instru-

as does not shake in rhythm when we hear them beat it out on the drums?

They belong to a certain class of our society and if they, through no fault of theirs, cannot afford to buy and learn to play the more acceptable musical instruments, why not give them some encouragement to develop what lies within their means? Who knows perhaps this may be a means of getting them to develop some pride and respect for their talent, and thereby get rid of the rebellious and roguish element that is associated with steel bands, or perhaps it may even go a long way towards making them into better and more useful citizens of this island.

SACKY.

ETN010-C