



Members of Silver Stars relax in front of Queen's Hall.

No longer a social outcast

'A lad with a foot in the door'

MANY doctors, engineers, and other professional men have at one time or another beat pan with Coca-Cola Silver Stars.

Silver Stars was started in 1952 by a group of students from St. Mary's College at a time when the steelband was regarded as a social evil, fit only for society's outcasts.

Unmindful of the stigma attached to the steelband, the Newtown boys, under Ramon Young, continued to beat their pans for the sheer love of it.

Within two years Junior Pouchette — its present leader — had taken over. The band's ranks had swollen as it achieved public acclaim.

Silver Stars really shot to the top in 1960, when it played "Salut D'Amour" on the road. Since then, it has remained a top band.

are much better tuned."

The tuner? Allan Gervais. Arranger? Pouchette himself.

Regarded as one of the finest arrangers in business, Pouchette began exhibiting his talent in this direction

when the band's original arranger, Selwyn Gomes, migrated to Canada.

The band's latest overseas trip was in November last, to the United States, Virgin Islands.

Pouchette has been to the

U.S. with the National Steelband, and to Vietnam on coaching missions.

"Flower Children" (a hippie band) to the title of Silver Stars Carnival Monday presentation, Tuesday: 21 Hundred AD.

A threat

As one which has been able to get into almost every Panorama Finals, Silver Stars was always the band to pose a threat.

The band's players — drawn from as far East as Tunapuna, and far West as Diego Martin — aim to pose more than a threat this year.

Pouchette explained: "We have been knocking on the doors for a long time. We feel that this is our year.

"We are coming with one of our largest ever membership steelband — with 80 instruments. And our pans

Silver Stars leader, Junior Pouchet.