

Pan pioneers plan reunion

They were each bonded by Justice George Collymore in the Port of Spain Third Assize Court following pleas for leniency by their counsels Desmond Allum, Osbourne Charles and Harry Ojer.

They were accused of stealing the cows from the home of Dhanwat Ramjattan the mother-in-law of Pan-

Paloooshigh and his in-law has settled their differences and he had paid her compensation for the animals.

The court also heard that the owner of the cows did not want her son-in-law go to prison.

Justice Collymore, in placing them on bonds, said the court never stood in the way of people who wanted to live a good life.

A grand re-union programme is being planned for surviving members of the Trinidad All-Steel Percussion (Taspo), the first steelband group to

perform outside Trinidad and Tobago.

The series of activities, in honour of the 10 members are due to come off between July

6 to 11 this year and will include a pan concert at Woodford Square and other venues at San Fernando, Tobago and Arima.

At a Press conference at Holiday Inn yesterday Pan Trinbago spokesman Abdul Hamid said various business places would be approached to help make the reunion a success.

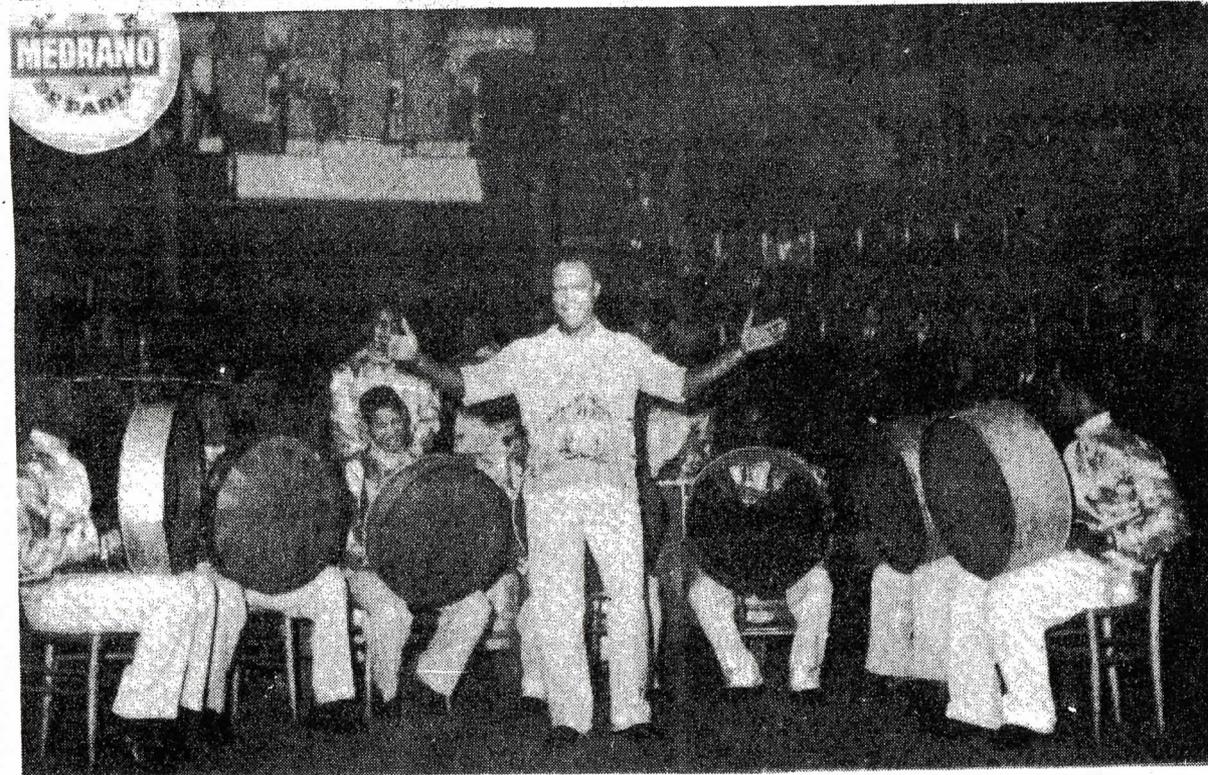
BWIA, Mr. Hamid, said would be asked to sponsor the flight of the eight TASPO men who live abroad.

Old timers may well remember the 12-man "TASPO-ites" who performed in England 30 years ago, for the first time putting steelband on the globe.

Two members Sgt. Joseph Griffith, musical director of the group and Winston "Spree" Simon have since died.

Another two, former Pan Am North Stars leader Anthony Williams and Sonny Roach, currently reside in Trinidad.

The other surviving TASPO members are Ellie Mannette, Theo Stephens and Ormand "Patsy" Haynes, all currently living in New York, Andrew "Pan" de La Bastide (Los Angeles), Sterling Betancourt and Philmore "Boots" Davidson (London), Belgrave Bonaparte and Dudley Smith (Nassau, Bahamas).



THE late Sgt. Joseph Griffith (foreground) with the TASPO group during a performance in Paris in 1951.