

# STEAL SOUTH WITH THE STEEL BAND

by ROLF J. SCHULTZ

"Down the way where the nights are gay  
And the sun shines brightly on the mountaintops . . ."

And so, to the tune of "Jamaica Farewell," I dropped in the nearest travel agency for information regarding a vacation trip to the tropical West Indies, and to the sing-song of \$1.50 exclaimed, "Zis mus' be zee place," as my economy fare rotated the propellor of a 1945 J-3 Cub past Castro's Sugarland towards the bright and sparkling calypso music of Trinidad. The musical notes, emitted from the various steel bands, filled the sunny Caribbean and made Castro's sugarcane sway back and forth to the beat of the "Better Days Are Ahead, Cha Cha Cha."

Having safely arrived at my destination, I immediately ventured forth in search for a guide and found satisfaction in Fitz-Malcolm Ralph, a pre-med student from Dalhousie, who was spending a leisurely mid-term recess sunning himself under the tropic of cancer.

After a short tea-break, which consisted of three bananas and a jug of Jamaican Rum, we were royally entertained by Larry Felteronte and the Shaggies, a renowned steel band that occupied 5 minutes on television following the "Night-Owl Matinee" each night and possessed a rating of 23 of all possible 29 TV sets in the area served by WCHA-TV. This naturally aroused my curiosity and thus I decided to satisfy my musical taste by inquiring as to the history and organization of a steel band.

### Birth of "Marianne"

"About 15 years ago the first sounds of a melody entitled 'Marianne' filled the evening trade winds and carried them along the sun-kissed Gulf Stream onto the hollow cravasses and sleepy lagoons, trailing off in the twinkling twilight past the shores of Bermuda," began

Fitz-Malcolm, while tapping his feet to the evolving sounds from the curve-topped oil drums, which consisted of one tenor, two piano alto and soprano, and two guitar pans, mixed well with 4 bases and a slight touch of maraccas. Add to this one hip-swinging, pelvis-turning geisha and serve to a semi-sober audience at 11:20 p.m. If your audience so much as snickers, you're sure to be destined for success.

The melodious tunes lingered in the tropical banana trees throughout the remainder of the night and, early the next morning, I was to learn the delicate art of making the instruments which form a steel band.

Well, first you take some tins  
Now calypso begins . . .  
Then you take a base  
Man, now we're gettin' some  
place . . .

### Instrument Making an Art

After cutting the oil drums to their various lengths, the bottoms of them were heated white-hot and sections of various sizes were marked out by a coal chisle designing the various notes desired to be obtained. The final touches were made by thinning the various steel sections and tuning them to the piano. But please be careful, the work is

# WUS - Impartial Assistance In A Divided World

What is WUS?

World University Service is an international university organization dedicated to the ideal of a university community transcending all barriers of race, nationality, and creed.

The work of WUS first began 40 years ago in the period after the First World War. Thousands of European students were provided with material assistance by WUS, enabling them to resume their studies and to contribute to the reconstruction of their war-torn countries.

During the years which followed, while universities were being rebuilt, WUS continued to create an atmosphere for learning and international cooperation within the academic community.

The Second World War again brought devastation and suffering to university students, and WUS was called upon to channel its efforts toward emergency relief to students in internment camps, or in need of food, clothing, or medical treatment.

With the end of the war, the WUS international program took on new directions. The emphasis shifted from post-war rehabilitation to programs of mutual aid and technical assistance. While maintaining extensive refugee relief operations in Europe, WUS began to expand its activities to South east Asia and the Far East. Here, the serious and pressing needs of a rapidly growing student population posed a challenge which continues to demand the full and urgent attention of the organization.

In countries where students suffer from tuberculosis and other chronic diseases, WUS has aided in the construction of sanatoria and student health centres and has furnished medicaments and equipment. Where students suffer from shortages of accommodation or the lack of adequate nourishment, WUS has helped establish hostels and cafeterias and has furnished food supplies. Textbooks and educational equipment have also been provided and efforts are being made to promote the formation of co-operative stationery and book stores and self-help enterprises.

As the WUS program in Asia gained in stability, contacts with the new university communities in Africa were expanded and WUS Committees formed. Plans are now being made for the extension of WUS activities in Latin America.

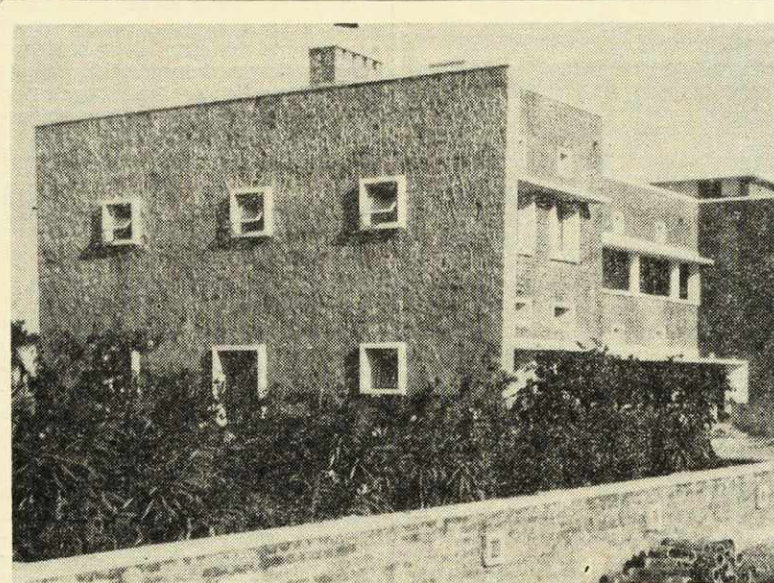
Throughout its history, WUS has carried out its work in the belief that aid should be given on the basis of proven need alone and that it should be neither careless charity nor the result of prejudiced politics. International aid has been extended to help encourage, support and promote local and national action to meet outstanding problems.

Through the mutuality of its activities and the promotion of a sense of sharing in a joint enterprise for the material and intellectual well-being of the international university community, WUS has endeavoured to contribute to a greater understanding and cooperation among universities throughout the world.

## McGill Debaters Top U.S. Teams

MONTREAL (CUP) Feb. 13—McGill University overcame 45 American teams to tie for first place at a debating tournament held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology last weekend.

The McGill team of Ralph Stein and Myer Shimelman was one of two to finish the contest with a perfect record. They tied with Harvard and Bates Universities for first place. The team debated "Resolved that the United States adopt a program of compulsory health insurance for all citizens."



Through Share Campaigns, Canadian University students contributed toward this student health centre. With this start the Delhi W.U.S. Committee was able to raise \$25,000 from their government, small industries, and public. The result: 10,000 university students who have somewhere to turn in a time of medical need.

. . . because you SHARED!

tedious and hot, designed only for the best of piano pickers.

To any calypso music lovers who are longing for an impending vacation in the sunny south, just a word of caution. Seldom will you hear the old familiar tunes introduced to us by Bellafonte but rather a greater variety of local capers and lyrics that would even make the most accustomed Wildroot hair stand on ends.

"Gina, Dinah, Rosita, Clementina, 'Round the corner posin' . . ." tells the innocent story of four geishas selling their more desirable virtues of life (by the hour), while "Marianne" wasn't really the sweet little 5 foot 2 sitting by the seaside sifting sand. But I leave it to those interested in the real lyrics to find out for themselves.

### Strains from Distant Shores

Four days of vacation well spent, I proceeded to return to 'the waste land' of Eastern Canada via tugboat and generously tipped the first mate 10 hems on reaching the port of Halifax. It was evident that the climate had changed tremendously and so had the atmosphere. What once was a tropical heaven became a grey and misty metropolis, covered with last year's soot and "Oh Henry" wrappers.

For just a second it made me wonder how people could possibly enjoy themselves in these murky, uninviting surroundings, and looking southward once more, could only exclaim that:

" . . . I was sad to say  
That I was on my way  
And won't be back for many  
a day."

Touches of recent memoirs are still remembered when hearing the Dalhousie West Indies Steel Band playing such favorites as "Wheels," "Marina," "South of the Border" or "Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White."

The next time you feel upset, why not take in a West Indian Party and humm along to the sounds so identical to and reminiscent of the islands which Columbus first discovered in 1492.

## Chips are Down For Card Players

HAMILTON (CUP) Feb. 13 — Another university has cracked down on card playing on the campus. McMaster is the second university to outlaw card playing as a result of complaints.

Earlier this year McGill students banned card playing from their union building and the common room in the arts building.

At McMaster Vice-president Dr. H. G. Thode issued two directives, reminding students that "gambling anywhere in the university is contrary to university regulations and is subject to the severest penalties." The other directive orders the card players out of a back room in the student centre.

Cards were banished in the McGill union as a result of a complaint from a father who claimed that his son had lost money gambling. The McGill Bridge Club was not affected by the ruling. There has been no evidence that excessive sums of money have been lost at McMaster, but visitors to the university have complained about the card players.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Dalhousie - King's

ELECTION OF OFFICERS  
Saturday, March 11, 1961  
12 noon

East Common Room, Old Men's Residence

All students of both Universities are able to vote and urged to attend the short meeting.

## MUNRO DAY LIBRARY HOURS

MacDonald Memorial Library will be open for circulation service only, from 9 to 5 on Munro Day, Tuesday, March 14.

The law and medical libraries will be closed.



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