

August 15, 1976

Boston Teamster Fraction Perspective

By January 1st the Boston Teamster fraction hopes to have ongoing functioning work in both TDU and UPSurge. We will hope to have industrialized by that time at least 4 fraction members who will either have or be solidly on their way to having IBT cards. We hope to recruit out of our work at least 4 IBT'ers. It is reasonable at this time to target at least 4 specific individuals (G&T, freight, J, UPS, and D. warehouse). Success in industrialization, of course, will open up whole new layers of people to us, and remains the key to any long term political success not only for the I.S. in this area, but for a strong solid functioning TDU as well.

In August at the present time our focus is the joint public TDU/UPSurge meeting scheduled for the 28th. Most energy is going into building this meeting. The meeting must be used to do several things: 1. Get r&f'ers to see TDU as theirs. *GET AS MANY OF THIS GROUP AND OTHERS TO CHIEF.* 2. Convinced at least a core group of the politics and perspective of TDU. 3. Get this core group to act as an organized group, with meetings, a steering committee, regular input to Convoy, etc. 4. What will make this possible is the extent to which r&f'ers begin to see TDU as the vehicle that will bring change to their local - and begin to get a handle on what specific "changes" will be tried (a campaign to retain elected BA's perhaps in one local, changes in the by-laws in another, a r&f move against a dues increase in perhaps a third). Even more than TDC, TDU will depend on strong local groups with a developed and specific local approach. Other than the TDU program, and TDU publications such as Convoy, there exists no naturally binding national focus for the individual groups now that the MFA has already passed. At the present time, we see good prospects for TDU work in Locals 25, 42, 48, and 653. We hope in the future to include other locals, specifically 829.

The possibility of a St. J's newsletter is still being kept alive through contacts we have there. We must move through them at the present time. There is also the long range possibility of bringing out a local TDU paper. At such time

as there is a functioning local TDU, the paper would be its voice and help to build it in the Boston area. It would be logical that at the time that Boston has become a functioning TDU area, that it would also become the logical center from which to spread TDU and UPSurge to the rest of New England, through travelers, speakers, local meetings etc. Convoy and whatever local TDU or r&f papers develop, in addition to UPSurge in UPS, would also play a key role in this work. A likely first area of expansion would be W. Mass., because of contacts that already exist there and that can be further cultivated.

Recruiting contacts in the IBT to the I.S. requires that they at least subscribe or buy WP regularly. The fraction will go on a campaign to convince the r&f'ers we work with of the absolute necessity of their regular reading of the paper. We will keep especially in mind IBT contacts in the event of political dinner informal meetings with national I.S. members who come through, women's dinners and women's caucus events, etc. We will look forward to the earliest opportunity to build a broad I.S. forum around and pitched to IBT'ers. In the meantime we will make good use of both smaller "events" and one-to-one contact work.

The local branch will back up the fraction's work by contributing personnel at necessary times. Also, through its already functioning jobs committee, it will systematize the search for IBT jobs. Although there seems to have been some initial success in this area, it remains a top priority for all fraction members and all available branch members not in this fraction. The branch WP co-ordinator will also move to expand WP sales among area Teamsters.