Special Report -- USLP Electoral Campaign

Polls Show Gibbons to Make Boston Run-off

by Paul Arnest

BOSTON, Sept. 20 (IPS) — If the Boston Mayoral election took place today, U.S. Labor Party candidate Robert Gibbons would receive 38 per cent of the vote among the city's public workers, assuring Gibbons a place in the run-off race between the top two candidates. A straw poll of the city's 25,000 AFSCME workers, taken by the union and leaked to the Labor Party by knowledgeable AFSCME sources, gave Gibbons 38 per cent of the vote, the non-entity State Senator Timilty 52 per cent, and incumbent Mayor Kevin White, the CIA's favorite son, a pitiful 10 per cent.

According to one union leader, the 52 per cent vote for Timilty is a protest vote by workers still too timid to go communist.

The poll results have dealt a severe blow to CIA plans to rob tens of thousands of USLP votes in Tuesday's primary.

The Labor Party's own straw polls reveal a voter strength in key districts ranging from a base-line 15 per cent to upwards of 75 per cent in working-class districts.

Tonight the Gibbons campaign is

making preparations for Gibbons' appearance tomorrow before a mass meeting of the Boston Teachers Union. The teachers' contract extension expires at midnight Sunday, and Gibbons will call on them to include the call for a debt moratorium in their demands. White, his LEAA-orchestrated school busing race riot scenario reduced to shambles by the Labor Party, is now pressing ahead with his attempt to lay off several thousand teachers without even a pretense of a liberal cover. "I would go further than (New York Mayor) Beame" in slashing services to pay the city's banks, White told an interviewer last week.

At the same time Gibbons is preparing an offensive against White's LEAA-funded citywide methadone brainwashing and slave labor apparatus. Gibbons' initial targets will be a prize LEAA project, the "Treatment Alternatives Screening Center" (TASC), which runs a comprehensive methadone addiction and slave labor brainwashing program for the youth driven out of the schools by White.

The growing revolt against the White administration has produced substantial press coverage for Gibbons by

all major media outlets but the Boston Globe. Television news clips have given heavy coverage to Gibbons' frequent appearances on the USLP picket line at the downtown Kresge's.

In polls taken in the heart of Boston's key working-class centers, Gibbons has consistently scored 75 per cent of the working-class vote. A worker contact who organized her own campaign tour in black working-class Mattapan polled 20 workers and found 100 per cent for Gibbons.

However, Gibbons campaign staffers said, when the votes of those who are afraid to speak to USLP organizers, as well as those of the petit bourgeoisie and rich, are added to the total, Gibbons' massive pluralities will diminish. In Boston's "black belt," Roxbury. North Dorchester, and Mattapan, where the USLP won 12 per cent in Congressional races last year, the USLP expects to win 40 per cent of the turnout. In Boston's South End and South Boston, where the USLP won 14 to 25 per cent last year, the USLP projects 30 per cent, with an even split for the other two major candidates, and in working class East Boston, 25 per cent for the USLP.