

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

ON SATURDAY 17th January, 1981, the Southern Region of Pan Trinbago held their election of officers in which case most of the outgoing Executive officers were returned to office.

On Thursday 22nd January 1981, the Northern Region had their election of Officers with Mr. Eddie Hart being returned as Chairman. . . The Eastern Region will be having their Election of Officers on Saturday 31st January, 1981 this is our first step towards consolidating the Regions.

The fact is that our financial and material resources are limited, but there is an abundance of human resources. If we are to effectively promote the steelband the improve the lives of the panmen and women, we must use the resources we have effectively in order to create favourable

conditions for this development. There must be total participation at Regional meetings so that bands can be aware of what is taking place in the organisation and can contribute to its development. A regional programme of activities must be established and we must have proper co-ordination of the programmes of individual bands and both the National and Regional programmes of Activities for maximum effectiveness.

The Convention document made the point that Unity, Democracy and participation are indispensable to the development of our Organisation. The Regions must function with these principles in mind together with a spirit of self reliance in keeping with the present direction of the Organisation.

The Drum Crisis - A Solution

At the convention Pan Trinbago once again pointed out the serious situation as far as the availability of drums is concerned. The carnival season currently in progress has served to underline the urgency of the situation in no uncertain terms. As the situation stands three weeks before panorama several bands are desperately in need of drums and have no idea from where they will be obtained. At the convention we called for quick action by the government to deal with the situation.

However Pan Trinbago is not merely waiting on the government to crank up its machinery. A factory manufacturing drums exclusively for the use of steelbands is a must by 1982. Associated with the drum manufacturing company must be an electroplating plant (ie., chroming plant) since the two companies presently operating cannot meet the present demand. An addition if the chroming of pans is left up to private enterprise panmen

will have to face a steady set of price hikes as demand increases. In fact these price hikes have already started.

Towards this end Pan Trinbago is currently engaged in developing plans to make this factory a reality in 1982 with the assistance of a company who must remain anonymous at this stage.

TUNERS' CONSULTATION

Closely associated with the proposed factory will be facilities for conducting research into all aspects of pan tuning. For such a facility as the manufacture of drums and research into tuning to be successful these activities must be done in close collaboration with the tuners. It is for this reason that the planned tuners convention must be brought forward from May as originally proposed to early April since we need to get concrete things in motion as early as possible if we are to

*Cont'd on Page 3

The Drum Crisis *From Page 2

solve this drum problem in time for carnival 1982.

But before we proceed, in the spirit of unity, democracy and participation as established over the last two years we must get the green light

from the panmen.

At present the executive has certain ideas as to the subjects to be discussed at the convention, but we are eagerly looking forward to ideas and suggestions from tuners and panmen.