
The Party Organization — 3: Other Party Officials and Committees.

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The functions of the group and the group organizer were described in the previous articles in this series. Since the functions of the party officials next in order are practically the same as those performed by the group organizers, except that they deal with larger units of the party, it is not necessary to describe them in detail, but the following brief review should suffice:

The Branch and Branch Organizer.

Branches are formed by combining party groups. A branch may consist of 3 or 4 groups, but must not have more than 10 groups. Usually groups in a certain territory will be combined as a branch. The group organizers make up the branch committee and elect the branch organizer.

The branch organizer stands in exactly the same relation to the group organizers as the group organizer does to the group. It is his duty to secure the party literature from the next higher unit of the party and distribute it to the group organizers. He collects the party dues and other funds from the group organizers and transmits them to the official to whom he is responsible. He should meet with the group organizers periodically and discuss the conditions of the groups under his supervision, the work they are doing, and take such action as is necessary to stimulate their activity. It is his duty to communicate the party decisions to the group organizers and see that they are carried into effect.

The Section and Section Organizer.

When the membership of a Sub-District reaches 750 to 1,000, it will be advisable to organize sections

with section organizers in charge. For this purpose the branches in a certain territory are combined. No more than 10 branches can unite in 1 section. The branch organizers of the section make up the section committee and elect the section organizer. The duties of the section committee and the section organizer are the same as those which the branch organizer and branch committee perform for the branch.

The Sub-District.

Each district of the party is divided into sub-districts. Sub-districts will usually consist of the large cities and suburbs or a number of smaller cities, closely connected and forming an industrial unit. The District Committee is given the power to decide what territory shall form a sub-district.

The branches in the sub-districts hold conventions once each 6 months and elect a Sub-District Executive Committee. A Sub-District Organizer is appointed by the District Committee, who works under the supervision of the Sub-District Committee. The appointment is subject to the approval of the Sub-District Committee.

The Sub-District Organizer and Sub-District Committee are responsible for carrying on the party work in their district. The Sub-District Organizer secures the party paper and literature from the District Committee and distributes it to the branches. He collects all funds from the branches in his sub-district and transmits them to the District Organizer.

The duties of the Sub-District Organizer and Committee are not, however, confined to carrying on this routine work of the party. It is the business of the Sub-District Organizer to extend and develop the party

organization. It is his duty to visit unorganized points in his sub-district and to establish new organizations. The members of the Sub-District Committee should assist in this work.

There will be included in each sub-district cities and towns in which no party organization exists. The Sub-District Organizer should endeavor to secure the names of persons interested in the party work in these places and send them party literature to distribute. Such individuals should be urged to carry on propaganda in the same manner as suggested for the members of groups. Through the distribution of party leaflets and later, as persons are found, through the sale of party papers and pamphlets, such individuals can draw others in the work and gradually build up a group of workers.

The party organization must be extended. There are wide stretches of territory in which there are no organizations. Groups must be built up through work of the character described so that the party can carry on its agitation and propaganda work in every section of the country.

The District Organization.

The Central Executive Committee of the party has divided the country into 11 districts. As these districts are developed they will be subdivided into a larger number of districts.

The Central Executive Committee appoints a District Organizer for each district, who is responsible for the work of that district. The District Organizer is the representative of the National Organization and is responsible to the Central Executive Committee. He also works under the immediate supervision of the District Committee.

The District Committee is elected by an annual convention of the district, to which the sub-districts send delegates.

The District Organizer receives all party literature for his district and distributes it to the sub-districts. He is charged with the work of collecting all funds due the party. Together with the District Committee he is responsible for the organization work in his territory. He must see that sub-districts are organized and function properly. He is charged with carrying out the decisions of the Central Executive Committee in his district.

The District Organizer should follow the same plan in developing new organizations that has been suggested for the Sub-District Organizer. If there are parts of his territory in which no organization exists he should endeavor to secure the names of individuals in such territory and with these as a nucleus, build up a group and extend that group until a sub-district organization is brought into existence.

The District Organizers hold positions in the party the equal in importance to that which the National Secretary held in the open organizations. They are the only medium through which the Central Executive Committee has contact with the membership. It is through them that the National Organization functions. They must develop initiative and executive ability. They must maintain a close contact with every sub-district in their territory, visit these sub-districts from time to time and see that the work of the party is performed properly. In cooperation with the District Committees they must develop organization plans and put them into practice.

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The above completes the sketch of the party organization. The succeeding articles in this series will deal with plans and policies to be followed in carrying on the work of agitation and organization, such as developing shop committees and workers' councils, strike propaganda, etc.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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