

# PARTY ORGANIZER

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## Inner Life of the Units

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SINCE the establishment of the Unit Buros and their authority in the unit, the inner life of the Party has somewhat improved. But it is yet far from being satisfactory. Some of the Unit Buros are not functioning properly or are not functioning at all. This basic organizational defect creates an impermissible situation in the unit. It is true that in many units the entire buro was changed since we discussed the role and task of the buro. A discussion in the unit as to how and why it is necessary to change the situation is very important. A few outstanding bad features of our unit meetings are:

1. Meetings start half an hour to an hour later than they are called for, because the unit leadership is not there, or else we wait for more comrades to come.

2. In many units we spend hours to find out whether the last week's assignments were carried out or not, and to assign comrades for the next week's work.

3. There is too much time wasted settling for literature, tickets, *Daily Workers* and dues.

4. The report of the unit organizer includes every activity of the unit for the whole week. The unit organizer gives this report in one breath. In one unit, for example, the unit organizer, using the Section org. letter as a basis of his report, spoke about the Scottsboro case, unemployed campaign, Daily Worker Drive, Party assessment, shop activity. Then one comrade got up and proposed to accept the report of the buro and that settled the report. In the best case a very general discussion is started on all the various problems without any concrete results.

5. We have in almost every unit one or two comrades who will never miss a chance to take the floor. Their destructive criticism and petty quarrelings disrupts the work

of the unit and creates an atmosphere which makes it almost impossible to work.

6. The comrade who is assigned to lead the discussion is not prepared and many times only reads the outline. The report is dull, dry and never induces the members to discuss the problems.

No wonder that a new member is quickly disillusioned. Instead of a disciplined army of the working class he finds a loose organization.

The unit members must discuss this problem and sharply criticize the Unit Buro if it fails to prepare the unit meeting.

Criticize the Section or District Committee if they fail to give proper guidance.

Criticize the individual members if they continue to disrupt the unit meeting with their destructive actions.

Criticize the functionaries if they are not prompt, if they neglect their duties. And remove the unit functionaries if the criticism does not help.

What shall we do to overcome the very bad situation in the units?

1. The Unit Buro should work out concrete proposals to the units. The agenda should be made up on the basis of the problems to be discussed in the units—for example:

- a) Scottsboro case.
- b) Concentration work.
- c) Daily Worker Drive.
- d) Unemployment.
- e) Discussion.

The members of the Unit Buro should divide among themselves the various points on the agenda, bringing the proposals of the Unit Buro to the unit—for example the Agitprop director reports on the Scottsboro case, the unit organizer on the concentration point, the org. secretary on the Daily Worker drive, etc. After each report the proposals of the Unit Buro shall be discussed, amended and supplemented.

2. The meeting must start promptly at the time it is called. The unit functionaries must be there at least half an hour before the unit meeting. Do not wait for more members. Start with those who know their bolshevik duty. Criticize the rest for their lateness. The meeting shall not last longer than 2½ hours. The points on the

agenda shall be timed—for example: 40 minutes for the Scottsboro case; 20 minutes for the *Daily Worker* drive; 20 minutes for the concentration work; one hour for discussion.

3. The Unit Buro must prepare the individual assignments and give them out to the members quickly. Those members who are not present and who are assigned by the Unit Buro shall be informed about the assignment by the captains of the groups of five.

The check up on the last week's assignment can be done before the unit meeting starts, or even during the meeting by the org. secretary in the following way. A comrade who is assigned gets a slip of paper about his assignment. He has to bring back the slip of paper at the next unit meeting and give it to the org. secretary who checks it thru the record activity sheet. Those comrades who did not attend to their duty shall be called to responsibility.

4. The settlement for tickets, dues, etc. shall be taken care of before the meeting starts. The comrades come to the unit meeting one by one and the org. secretary and functionaries should utilize the time before the unit meeting to take care of these technical matters. A special point on the agenda for 5 or 10 minutes will make it possible to take care of those members who came late.

5. Transfers, leaves of absences, shall be taken care of by the Unit Buro.

6. The discussion shall be prepared a week in advance. The members shall be told what material they shall read during the week for the discussion. The reporter shall get guidance and material from the section agitprop director for his report.

7. Prepare special discussions on unit problems. The work of the individual members in the shop, the inner life of the unit, mass work of the unit.

8. A lot of unnecessary discussion will be eliminated if the org. secretary would know what major tasks the members have and would know about their activity in the mass organizations to which they are assigned. The up-to-date record activity sheets will solve this problem.