

873 Broadway
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New York, N.Y. 10003
September 30, 1970

TO ALL FINANCIAL DIRECTORS AND BRANCH ORGANIZERS

September 1970 Financial Notes

Dear Comrades,

Branches that have made progress on the sustainer system since the July chart (see Aug. Financial Notes) are BOSTON -- they raised their sustainer to \$13 per capita in August and will increase to \$14 per capita as of October; CLEVELAND raised from \$5 per capita in July to \$8 as of September; WASHINGTON, D.C. is raising from \$5 per capita to \$7.50 as of October; DETROIT raised from \$8.50 in July to \$10 in August and then to \$11 per capita starting in September; NEW YORK has raised from \$13 in July to \$14 as of August.

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Branch debts to the national office are down almost \$2,000 since the end of August. This brings us back close to the debt level we were at prior to the Oberlin conference. But, we still have \$10,350 outstanding in branch accounts. Let's try to whittle that back another \$1,000 or more during October.

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One suggestion coming out of the financial discussions at Oberlin was that the Per Capita Sustainer Base figure on the Monthly Financial Reports be figured as a weekly amount based on the situation the last week of the month reported on. Figuring the Per Capita Sustainer Base on a weekly level will make comparisons between branches more accurate. To calculate this figure for September, for example, add the total weekly pledges to the branch as of the last week of the month and divide by the total number of members on the books for that week. This figure is one of the key indicators of branch financial performance and should be recorded on the Monthly Financial Report.

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Another area of inconsistency in branch financial functioning concerns the Dues Form. Branches should send in only the dues they have collected in a given month with the form, not dues based on the book membership of the branch. Thus, for example, if you actually have 42 members in your branch but only collected \$80 dues and initiations during September, you should send in \$80 with the Dues Form, not \$84 (42 members x \$2). This goes without saying that branches should collect those unpaid dues as soon as possible.

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Boston is trying out something to raise consciousness and systematize the work of getting contributions from sympathizers. They are mimeographing a "Sympathizers Form" to be filled out by every YSA and SWP member. Questions asked on the form are every sympathizer's name, address, phone number, areas of political work. Also included on the form are the name of the comrade who knows the sympathizer and other relevant information. The financial committee in Boston hopes to increase the conscious work with their periphery by utilizing this information.

Comradely,

Judy White

Judy White
National Financial Director