

# ISHIA BULLETIN

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■ TOE, NORAMİN MELAMİN, HURMA ELECTRONIC

are in strike.

■ TÜRK-İŞ says "No" for referendum.

■ HARB-İŞ managers are in hunger strike.

■ Metal workers are preparing the strike.

■ 600 mine workers started to strike after their lock-out.

■ The first collective bargaining of TURKEY was signed in 1963.

■ Doctors and workers develop new processes in support

with strikers.

MONTHLY BULLETIN OF LABOUR MOVEMENT  
AND TRADE UNIONS NEWS FROM TURKEY

# ISHA BULLETIN

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## editor's note

Dear Readers,

*The Council of Presidents and the Central Board of TÜRK-İŞ tried to give an impression as if they are ready to pull down the bridges between government and trade unions by the brown votes for 'No'. It was not enough for them. They permitted trade unions to arrange many actions all around the country, to prove that they are not depending on the sentences of Trade Union Law, the fossil of the 12th September Administration, which didn't allow any political actions for trade unions. This point of view shows that the government is the only source of badnesses for the working class and it seems very favorite among the trade unions. At the other hand, TÜRK-İŞ Administration didn't depend on themselves by giving support to DYP (True Road Party-Gn.Pre. Süleyman Demirel) nor to SHP (Social Democratic Public Party-Gn.Pre.Erdal İnönü) as an alternative. TÜRK-İŞ Administration and Presidents were aware of the cooling and distance between themselves and he advanced and militant workers, because they couldn't stage the "great action plan" and May 1st action, such 'as if' actions. At one side, advanced workers and trade unions directors who don't wait for any solutions from the parliamentary parties for crisis and problems which are deepening day by day, and at the other side, the opposition parties who want to approach the parliamentarian canals of those opposition. TÜRK-İŞ administration is not determining their political manner in the middle of strikes, possible strikes and preparations of the congress in all levels. The problems and the responsibilities are growing in the syndical nion, the trade union administrators and workers are to be prepared for a hot autumn and winter after a hot summer. Class activity in Turkey has the characteristic of being the most hot ring in Europe.*

The Editorial Board

## DOCTORS AND WORKERS DEVELOP NEW PROCESSES IN SUPPORT WITH STRIKERS



*WHA doctors  
in medical control*

- The risks and suppressions are continued in the living and working conditions of Turkey's working class.

İŞÇİ SAĞLIĞI DERNEĞİ(WHA) realised a health control system for the worker families and the strikers. İşçi Sağlığı Derneği started the health control system for the strikers and their families with the aim to support the widespread strikes. The directors of the association inspect in the name of the health control the trade union centers. Furtheron they are visiting directors of trade unions of those work places on strike. As known, the trade union law does not allow the strikers to have financial contributions, so they pitch a tent nearby and the strikes go on close to the factory. Against this, the public, being very sensitive to be in support with the workers who are on strike, develop new processes for support. The strikes in two Istanbul work places, members of OTOMOBİL-İŞ and in three work places, member of PETROL-İŞ, BASIN-İŞ, ÇİMSE-İŞ of TÜRK-İŞ are continued. The health control was applied to the 230 workers in those strikes. WHA directors said that the support for the strikers is an interesting campaign. Posters have been hung up on the walls of work places and trade union branches. Thousands of medicine boxes were already delivered to the center of the WHA. These have been given by hand and of descriptions from the doc-

tors to the sick workers. The other interesting subject was, that workers and directors of trade unions were very friendly and showed hospitality to the WHA inspite of their insufficient conditions (not enough med. instruments etc.). Many workers tell us, that they have never seen such a good dialogue between the workers and the doctors. Mr Ali Akyar, one of the directors of the ass. and metal worker, said that if we take into consideration that doctors in the SSK (Social Security Org.) spent only two minutes per worker, we understand why the workers are pleased about the health control. WHA directors think that new strike waves are very close. They point out that they will try to provide support in every level from the national and international worker organisations and from democratic associations which are interested in the medical services, medicine and medical instruments.

A big area where the working class lives is deprived from municipal services, modern education and medical organisation.

The old technology, raw materials which are carrying the illnesses and occupational accidents are signing the general view of the industrial production.



## TÜRK-İŞ SAYS NO

■ The sentences of the Constitution against the freedom of democracy and the majority must be modified.

■ We say "No" because we haven't forgotten the statement of Mr. Özal: "Am I so foolish that I raise the Prices before the elections."

The Council of Presidents of TÜRK-İŞ decided to say 'No' to the referendum and arranged various actions with that purpose all over the country. In the declaration, which was presented after the meeting of the Council, it stated about the referendum that TÜRK-İŞ is well aware of its targets and responsibilities to arrange all the actions necessary for a 'No' in the referendum. After the meeting, which lasted 4 hours, Şevket YILMAZ, the General President of TÜRK-İŞ announced their decisions in a declaration as follows: 'The main aim of the government is to preserve the minority's great political and economical interests and to se all sources of the country for the benefits of this happy minority. The realisation of this purpose and the stability of the order is due to the preservation of the sentences of the constitution degenerating democracy. As a result, the overnment tries to make replacements for its own political benefits in each proposal stated for a change in the Constitution.

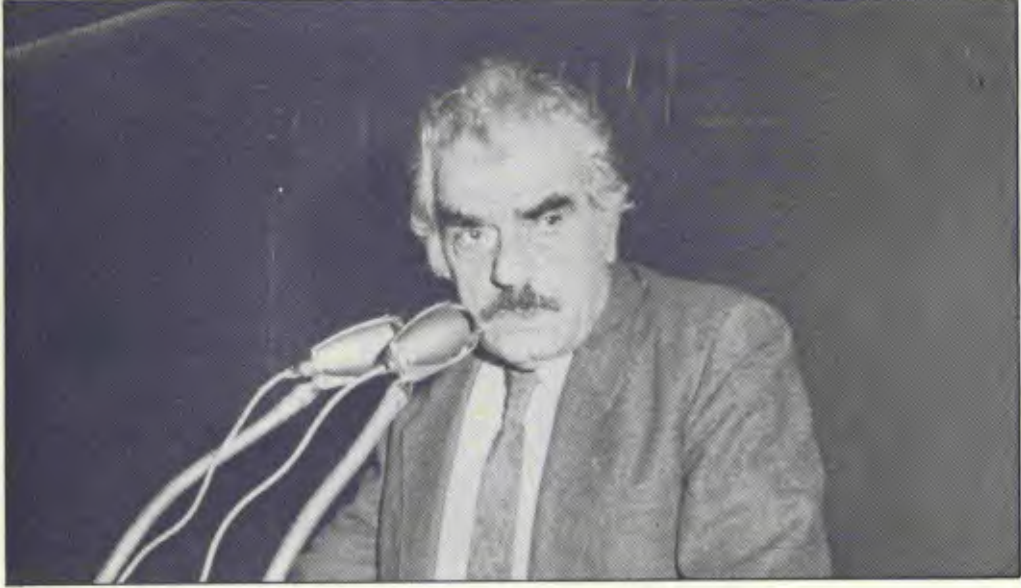
The referendum on 25th September 1988 is just a new trial for this purpose. The principal aim of TÜRK-İŞ is the foundation of political and economical democracy with all its institutions and rules. Within this limit, TÜRK-İŞ has some proposals today: - The sentences of the Constitution against the freedom of democracy and the majority must be modified. - The limitations for the freedom and rights of workers must be abolished. - A new order depending on the principles of social justice and social state must be installed. All these, lead the abolishment of the mortgage - that the government tries to preserve - and the viability of the social and economical rights of the poor majority; in other words the acceptance of freedom.' In the declaration the attitude of TÜRK-İŞ for the referendum was stated as below: "The decision of making a referendum on the 25th September 1988 restates the contradiction between two aims: The government does not aim to solve the problems of eco-



*TÜRK-İŞ,  
Executive Council*

news

## TÜRK-İŞ SAYS NO



*Şevket Yılmaz, General President of TÜRK-İŞ*

nomically weak people, to reconstitute the balances in economy or to construct an order like in the western democracies. The only target is to get a result suitable for its benefits so that it can insist on the economical applications in the presence of the opposing majority of our nation. TÜRK-İŞ will reach its target by doing all the effective actions for 'No' votes in the referendum. The Press Public Prosecutor's Office of Ankara have started an investigation because of the 'No' propoganda of TÜRK-İŞ, it's an political action. Hayri TAYHAN, the Vice Prosecutor, declared that the investigations which have started for the statement made by the Council of Presidents of TÜRK-İŞ, have been concluded. Mr. Tayhan said that an investigation would be held for the administrators of TÜRK-İŞ because of their opposition against the law no.2821 (this law prohibits politics for trade unions). On the occasion of the announcement for brown 'No' votes made after the meeting on 26th Aug. by TÜRK-İŞ - the Council of Presidents - the public prosecutor's office demanded to see the decision book. The administrators of TÜRK-İŞ told the person in charge who brought the formal declaration, that there was no such decisions about

that meeting in the book and they didn't give the decision book to him. By a formal letter signed by the Vice Governor of Ankara the book was also requested to be sent to the Attorney Generalship of Ankara. Therefore Şevket YILMAZ sent his opening speech of that meeting and the text of that declaration to the governor. In this formal letter Şevket YILMAZ also stated that there were no decisions and writings about that meeting in the decision book of the Council. In a brochure prepared by TÜRK-İŞ the slogans for the referendum were as follows: "No to the modification of the Constitution only for the local elections since there are many other anti-democratic sentences in it which needed to be changed." "We say 'No' because we haven't forgotten this statement of Mr.Özal: 'Am I so foolish that I rise the prices before the elections?'" "In order to stop this government doing everything for only its own benefits, but never for the country; we say 'No!'" "In order to dismiss Mr.Özal who: had burnt out our kitchens, had found no solutions for hunger, unemployment and poverty, had always supported the bosses against trade unions We say 'No'."

## DISMISSALS ARE INCREASING

To be a member of a trade union is being the only way for workers whose wages melt down against the inflation and so get more and more poor. But in that case, they face the employer's pressure. And then, of course discussions and actions are starting. Here are a few of them:

### 97 COAL-MINERS ARE FIRED FROM THE DEMİREL'S COALPITS

97 coal-miners who worked at the KOVATAŞ COALPITS of DEMİREL BROTHERS have been sacked for their memberships in MADEN-İŞ ( Mine Workers TU): Süleyman DEMİREL, president of DYP (True Road Party) and ex-prime minister, is the owner of the Coalpits. Mustafa ORHAN, the General President of MADEN-İŞ, protested the employer by a press statement- 85 of 145 coal-miners who worked at the KOVATAŞ COALPITS have been membered to MADEN-İŞ on June 27, 1988. Upon this, the employer forced the coal-miners to resign from the TU by applying various pressures on them. Meanwhile, 97 coal-miners are fired. All of them are members of TU or are applying for a membership. 10 coal-miners were dismissed by the employer's pressures and resigned from the TU. Mustafa ORHAN said in brief about this subject: "This work place has a past over 35 years and it has been run by Demirel Brothers for 10 years. It has been paid always minimum wage to the coal-miners who take out the lignite from approx. 150m. under the ground. There have been similar cases at that work place in 1979. Those who criticised the Constitution don't show respect even to the basic rights of workers. They don't believe in syndical rights of workers so have no right to say any word about democracy. We charged ourselves with the duty of showing the real faces of those democracy disciples before the public opinion once again. We will apply every kind of legal way to protect the rights of our workers."

### THEY ARE FIRED FOR BEING MEMBER OF TU

5 woman worker of MAYDIN STOCKINGS

FACTORY (Istanbul) were fired on August 15, 1988 for being a TU member. All 30 workers of the factory have been on holiday and became in this period a member of the TEKSİF TU of TÜRK-İŞ (Textile, Knitting and Clothing Industry Workers TU). The TU informed the employer acc. to the law about these new members. After the holiday the employer began to apply some pressures upon the workers so that the most of them resigned from the TU. YETER IRMAK, Habibe YILMAZ, Nuriye YALÇIN, Çiçek YALÇIN and Hatice ÜNVER, which didn't resign, were sacked. The employer gave a change of work place as the reason. Hakkı YILDIZ, the President of Zeytinburnu Branch of TEKSİF, said, "The employer's reason didn't reflect the truth. It is quiet an obstacle against the syndicate." Hakkı YILDIZ pointed out that similar ways were applied at the READY MADE CLOTHES FACTORY where 70 workers are employed.

### 3 WORKERS WERE SACKED FROM THE BOTTLE AND GLASS FACTORY

3 workers were sacked on August 3, 1988 from the SINOP BOTTLE AND GLASS FACTORY. The employer gave no reason. 1.100 workers at the same work place boycotted their lunch and refused to get on the service bus in protest against the sackings. The workers said that they will continue their actions until their friends will be back. Sazi MERTOĞLU, the General Accountant of KRİSTAL-İŞ (Glass Industry Workers TU) protested the pressures upon the workers and pointed out that they decided to start some actions at the other glass factories.

### ACTIONS SPREAD TO OTHER FACTORIES

Actions like lunch boycotts and refusal to use the service busspread to 10 glass factories of the GLASS COMPANY. 13,000 workers participated in these actions.



## news

# THE FIRST COLLECTIVE BARGAINING OF TURKEY WAS SIGNED IN 1963

Social and political crisis happened in Turkey in 1960 and before. The working class fought to have through the Strike and Lock-Out Law in 1963. The workers carried out the first collective bargainings

### COLLECTIVE BARGAINING ACCORDING TO THE YEARS

Year	Number of Coll.Barg.	Number of Workers	Year	Number of Coll.Barg.	Number of Workers
1963	969.462		1976	2.408	476.000
1964	1.078	436.762	1977	2.173	590.000
1965	872	436.762	1978	2.225	484.000
1966	1.152	334.388	1979	2.914	314.000
1967	2.339	188.765	1980	1.813	330.000
1968	1.332	418.297	1981	647	465.353
1969	1.419	234.486	1982	3.221	1.169.804
1970	1.516	550.951	1983	991	261.264
1971	1.442	342.255	1984	1.185	340,095
1972	1.603	426.000	1985	2.721	919.810
1973	1.921	443.210	1986	2.667	707.230
1974	1.724	601.779	1987	2.343	923.090
1975	1.893	300.518			

new rights. In 1960, the student affairs reached their top level. The political power changed hand with a military putsch. After three years from that point, the working class have got new rights

through their TUs. The right of collective bargaining of workers are ceased by the 12th September military coup. The collective bargainings were arranged by the Supreme Arbitrator Council.

# THE WORK PL



*TOE workers in strike*

## **NORAMİN STRIKE**

230 workers has been in strike since April 24th, 1988 in NORAMİN MELAMINE CORP. Noramin workers had been organized in LASTİK-İŞ TU (Tire Ind. TU) before 1980. The result of to be stopped the actions of DİSK, they were organized in LASPETKİM-İŞ TU (Tire, Oil, Chemistry Ind. Workers TU) which was to be founded in 1983. The outline of Collective Agreement was prepared by the workers. They said they would continue the strike till the employer accept their demands. They also want that their TU interest with their problems. The employer had announced an illegal lock-out in August 8th, 1988. The working conditions are very hard and unhealthy. The employer do nothing and last various pressures. Spite of those pressures the workers said that the struggle would continue.

## **HURMA ELECTRONIC STRIKE**

There is strike in HURMA ELECTRONIC CORP. since July 4th, 1988 in İstanbul. In this workplace is produced that TV amplifier, antennas of satellite, and various electronic systems. The number of workers are 18. The workers was membered to the OTOMOBİL-İŞ TU (Otomotive and Metal Things Production and Montage

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- 230 NORAMİN workers has been
- There is strike in HURMA ELECTRONIC
- TOE workers: "Our success is the

Ind. Workers TU) spite of many pressures by employers. The last collective agreement outline was prepared by the workers with initiative of the TU (the former one had been determined by Supreme Arbitration Committee). But the employer's response was negative. So, the workers initiated the strike. Most of the workers has been working with minimum wage. Muzaffer ŞAHİN, Topkapı Branch President of OTOMOBİL-İŞ TU: "Our workers are living the exploitation in high level in their workplace. They are only slaves according to employer's mentality." Muzaffer ŞAHİN continued: "The police has picked up the nylon wraps and such things which are used in rainy days by the workers." The financial support came from the other trade unions is to be dispensed to the strikers. The president of Branch: It will be arranged various campaigns. As a result we will bear till the end.



# CES IN STRIKE



## *Hurma Electronic workers.*

HAK-İŞ Confederation. Share of 90% of TOE belongs to ZİRAAT BANK and the other 10% belongs to an American businessman and MKE (Machine and Chemistry Ind.). TOE, with its fundamental construction is classified "private section" by the ministry as it should be a public economic enterprise. It was not supported for TOE by various governments which was gone through a crisis at the end of the 1970s. Before the crisis, most of the shares had belonged to OYAK (Military Mutual Aid Org.). And later, those shares were to be sold to ZİRAAT BANK. The workers said that they worked many years for this factory but no one solved their problems. After Sept. 12th 1980 Military Operation, their collective agreement was determined by Supreme Arbitration Committee for three years and so they lost their rights which were obtained. The fundamental support to the strikers is coming from the workers worked in other factories. They wish solidarity from the foreign countries as well as Turkey. They say, "our success is the other nation's worker's success." One of the workers threw himself from the tower of factory and the other burnt himself with benzine one year ago. The workers made various actions for those affairs and pointed out they would continue strike till the employer accept their demands.

strike since 24.4.1988.

NIC since 4.7.1988.

ner nation's workers success."

Of course, we are calling all friends of worker to solidarity with strike."

## **TOE STRIKE**

In Turkish Otomotive Industry Factory has been produced motorized instruments for 33 years. 500 workers are working in the factory and average seniority of workers is 12 years. Average wage is 692 TL/hour, TL 110.000 TL/month. The workers demand to increase their wages 100% for first year and 65% for second year. But there is no any second person face to them. 500 workers has been in strike since Aug. 15th 1988. In strike voting day, 430 workers said "yes" and the others said "no". It's mean, "yes" is very high. In addition, all workers are member of ÖZDEMİR-İŞ TU (Otomotive and Metal Things Production TU) affiliated to

## 90.000 METAL INDUSTRY WORKERS IN DISAGREEMENT



Imren Aykut, Minister of Labour and Social Security and Mustafa Özbek, General President of T. METAL-İŞ.

The collective bargaining negotiations which covered 90.000 metal industry workers, working in 260 different work places and started on June 16, 1988 between Türk Metal Sendikası (Metal Industry Workers TU) and Türkiye Metal Sanayicileri İşverenleri Sendikası - MESS (Metal Industry Employer TU) ended with an disagreement. The workers are preparing the strike. Only in a view points an agreement was reached. The employers said in the negotiations, that they are facing the danger of failure. But 64 corporations which are members of the Chamber of Industry İstanbul and MESS with their incomes, provided from the exports and 50 corporations paying the corporation income tax, have taken the "supreme success rewards". They couldn't reach an agreement over 58 items. The wage increase was in average 30% in 1987. But because of the inflation, the workers lost from their wages 40%. The trade union demands an wage increase of 90% + TL 110.000.- for this year and 95% + TL 120.000.- for next year. In addition they demand that the wages should be drawn up into two groups instead of four. MESS proposed an wage increase over 50% + the social support is 100% for the first year, and for the first six months of the second year 20% and for the second six months of the same year further 20%. The employer TU want to continue the four wagegroups. Türk Metal TU declared that if it isn't possib-

- The negotiations between Metal Industry Workers and MESS ended with disagreement.

- They couldn't reach an agreement for 58 items.

- The workers are preparing the Strike.

le to provide any positive results during the official talks they will start strikes in the metal industry step by step.

### THE WORKERS PROTEST MESS

The workers began to protest MESS upon the disagreement of negotiations mentioned above. The workers visited the newspapers barefooted and said that they couldn't buy a pair of shoes with those wages. UZEL factory workers on August 24, 1988, BORUSAN and KERİMÇELİK workers on August 25, 1988 and HENDEK AMBALAJ factory (mostly women) workers protested MESS by not eating the lunch.

### SOME APPLICATIONS OF MESS

In the work places of MESS, the wages were in average TL 221 per hour. It was increased to TL 458.33 for the period of 1984-1986. It was necessary to reach TL 800.33 per hour, an increase of an average of TL 342. The wages per hour are in average TL 552.- in the metal industry, according to the research of MESS. As you can see there is a big difference between TL 552.- and TL 800.-. They provided an average of TL 552 per hour instead of TL 800.- - they sacked qualified workers and employed new workers with minimum wage.



## HUNGER STRIKE OF HARB-İŞ

- Managers of HARB-İŞ started to a hunger strike all over Turkey in 3 Sept. 1988.
- Kenan Durukan, The General President of HARB-İŞ: "We want to warn the employer who never think an extend increase in wages. Our strike will last 30 hours."

The Council of Managers of HARB-İŞ decided to initiate a strike at American Bases after the end of the procedural time interval by confirming the Presidents' Council's advice. In the session of Presidents' Council in which the decision of strike have been taken in alliance, Kenan DURUKAN said that, "By the end of the procedural time interval, strike is going to be started." He also added that "I've said that strike was on our agenda. Collective bargaining negotiations of nearly 4500 workers working at 18 military installations which are operated by American State has left the phase of the mediator and has just arrived the strike. We aren't enemy of capital. But by the end of the procedural time interval which is tried to be protected with great effort by the friend of capital, our Presidents' Council will decide to strike and our Council of Managers will apply it which is on agenda. So the commandership of HNST, TUSLOG and the Company of AAFES and CONTACT and COMBUSTION employers will do their collective bargaining contracts by themselves." DURUKAN stated that there was 75% increase in wages in April 1986 but during the 2 years until 1988 purchasing power of workers was decreased by inflation. He added that, "at least the level of the purchasing power of us in 1986 must be caught, that is our main demand." DURUKAN reminded that, also Mr. ÖZAL has accepted to give 5% as a share of progress, and he added that, "we even didn't demand it from Americans. We want that the price of dollar which is monthly determined by Central Bank will be used. Employer tries to restrict our right to be a member of a trade union and this is another reason for disagreement. There are arbitrarily behaviours about the transportation

problem of workers after and before overtime. Employer made some of our social rights invalid. The wages of workers that especially started working after October 1984 are so low. We will overcome all of those problems. There are some workers still working without any staying and working acceptance. Spite of General Staff want them to leave Turkey. The number of these Americans is on rise by adding the people coming from Greece because of the same reason. If they might be employed during strike, than we will complain about them to the officials. I think, at that time nobody can hide realities." Managers of HARB-İŞ started to a hunger strike all over Turkey in Sept. 3rd, 1988. The General President of HARB-İŞ, Kenan DURUKAN said, "We want to warn the employer who never think an extend increase in wages. Our strike will last 30 hours." The General President of TÜRK-İŞ, Şevket YILMAZ who visited the General Center of HARB-İŞ said, "blind employers will be effected by this action."



*Kenan Durukan,  
General President of HARB-İŞ*



## STRIKES LIST (Acc. to 31.8.1988)

Trade Unions	Work Places	Number of Workers in strike	Start Date
<b>MINE</b>			
T.Maden-İş	Türk Maden Şirketi A.Ş. Kavak Krom ve Bahtiyar Tavas Köyceğiz	975	1.8.1988
<b>OIL</b>			
Petrol-İş	Doğu Galvaniz Kocaeli	106	17.9.1987
<b>WOOD</b>			
Ağaç-İş	Elsan A.Ş.	60	1.8.1988
<b>PRESS</b>			
Basın-İş	Turkish State Mint	333	23.6.1988
<b>GLASS</b>			
Çimse-İş	Yıldız Porcelain Fact.	350	6.6.1988
<b>PAPER</b>			
Selüloz-İş	Motif Duvar Kağıt. Adana Kağıt Torba	50 105	30.10.1987 30.06.1988
<b>METAL</b>			
Türk Metal	Civas Civata	66	1.08.1988
<b>FOOD</b>			
Toleyis	Elyaf Yemek Fab.	20	24.08.1988

## ADDITIONAL INCREASE

■ TÜRK-İŞ started actions for additional increases for the workers of state enterprises.

■ KAYA ERDEM, Ass. to Prime Minister: "Now, TÜRK-İŞ directors explained the subject's conditions of today. I said to them I will be talk to my friends about this subject, and will try to reply as soon as possible."

TÜRK-İŞ started actions for additional wage increases for the workers of state enterprises. KAMU-İŞ (Employers of the state enterprises TU) refused the additional increase demandes because of the high inflation by TÜRK-İŞ. But Kaya Erdem, The Ass. to Prime Minister, gave instructions



*Mustafa Başoğlu,  
Education Secretary of TÜRK-İŞ*

to the KAMU-İŞ for studying the proposal of TÜRK-İŞ. This subject was discussed in a meeting lasting 45 min. between Emin Kul, TÜRK-İŞ General Secretary and Kaya Erdem, on August 12, 1988. In the discussion, TÜRK-İŞ directors proposed Kaya Erdem to give an additional increase to the workers working in state enterprises because of the climbing inflation in 1987 and 1988, because the 28% increase of the 1978 contract is melted. TÜRK-İŞ didn't propose any rate of increase but reminded of the government's principle decision which was reached in the discussions over the point last May about an additional increase, if the inflation ses over the worker's wage. After the discussion, Emin Kul answered that the question "Did the Ass. to Prime Minister respond to you positive or negative about the additional increase?" this way: "The government certainly demand the advise of KAMU-İŞ in that subject. Maybe they will decide from political point of view by theymselves. But the reason why they are demanding their advise is technical." Kaya Erdem made the following explanation: "As mentioned after the meeting which was held on April 30, 1988 in chairmanship of the Prime Minister, there was a demand from TÜRK-İŞ about the additional increase against the high inflation and the Prime Minister said that this subject will be investigated and then be decided. Now, TÜRK-İŞ directors ned the subject's conditions of today. I said to them I will talk to my friends about this subject, and will try to reply as soon as possible."

## NEW COURTCASES AGAINST UNIONISTS

Munzur PEKGÜLEÇ from DERİ-İŞ (Leather Ind. Workers TU); Meral EKİM, the General President of BANKS TU; Ahmet OKTAY, Istanbul Branch Secretary of LASPETKİM-İŞ (Tire, Oil, Chemistry Ind. Workers TU); Veysel CİN-GOZ, Rep. of Istanbul Branch President of TEZ KOOP-İŞ (Commercial and Clerical Employees TU) are to be trailed for violation of the Turkish Criminal Code 312/1 by means of publishing. All those unionists had participated in the anniversary-panel of the Working Class Action in June 15-16th, 1970.

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## UNDER SUPERVISION

Yildirim KOC, the Education Director of YOL-İŞ (Road Workers TU), and his assistant İlhami ALKAN were taken into custody by authorities of the political department of police during their education studies in Amasya. Later, they were released as a result of the initiative from the union's solicitors.

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## NEGOTIATIONS IN DEAD-LOCK

Collective bargaining negotiations which are continuing since July 20, 1988 ended with disagreements between TEKSİF (Textile Ind. Workers TU) and Turkey Textile Ind. Employers TU. The negotiation covered approx. 100.000 workers in 180 workplaces. Sait BURCUN, the Ass. of General President of TEKSİF said the following: "... the employers are trying to eliminate even the basic rights of workers by every kind of obstacles. We are going to strike without hesitation, if it's necessary."

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## THE WORLD BANK

In the report of the World Bank named 'Turkey Country Economic Memorandum' is indicated that the real wages decreased over 30% after 1980

and it points out that the real wages in the production industry in 1985 are on the same level as the real wages in 1965.

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## UNDERSIGNED PROTEST

The 1100 workers of the Ankara ŞEKER-İŞ Branch (Sugar Ind. Workers TU) affiliated to TÜRK-İŞ, protested against their union with a petition because the union didn't take the workers view into consideration.

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## DISMISSALS FROM HÜR- RİYET OFFSET

HÜRRİYET OFFSET PRINTHOUSE IND. CORP. dismissed 10 workers, members of BASIN-İŞ (Journalists and Press Technicians TU). This corporation is publishing the highest circulated newspaper of Turkey. Hasan TUFAN, the Istanbul Branch President of BASIN-İŞ, pointed out that he was forced by the workers to resign.

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## THE HUNGER STRIKE

The General President of LİKAT-İŞ (Longshormen TU) and the Executive Board began a hunger strike for three days because the employer didn't confirm the collective agreement in current. The explanation of the union: "We protest the violation of collective agreement between our union and the Directorate of Port Department of Turkish Railroads, especially in the item 6 and 28."

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## EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Istanbul Branch of TGS (Turkish Journalists TU) demand to go to the Extraordinary General Assembly with an letter undersigned by 92 workers. The letter claims that the union prevented the member's words and decisions about the collective bargaining which is continued.



## 600 MINE WORKERS STARTED TO STRIKE AFTER THEIR LOCK OUT

- Mustafa ORHAN, Gen. Pre. of MADEN-İŞ: "The constitution defines strike as a right but there is no similar definition about lockout in it."
- Ekrem SAMİ, Gen. Sec. of MADEN-İŞ: "We can bear strike for an infinite time, but employers can't easily give up having sweet profit."



*The workers in strike*

600 members of T.Maden-İş (Trade Union of mine workers) working at Eskişehir/Mihalıççık Kavak Chromium Plant of Türk Maadin Company which have partners from Sweden were locked out on 14.7.1988 and started to strik on 1.8.1988. No agreement was reached between the two sides about wages and social benefits during the collective bargaining negotiation. The mean gross wage was going to be 3359 TL starting on the 1.3.1988 according to the new term collective bargaining agreement. In total 900 workers are working in Kavak, Tavas and Göçek plants of Turk Maadin Company. But the employer locked out only 600 workers working at the Kavak plant. Other plants are working normally because special agreements. The Union then started the strike against the lockout. General President of T.Maden-İş, Mustafa Orhan noticed that on the syndical platform, created after military coup on 12 September and lasts till today, employers becoming more impertinent and he said: 'Employers are free and independent in the pinkish world which is created by the government for them and workers have nothing to do in it. After the struggle which lasts centuries, workers have taken their right to strike, but now it becomes useless by several regu-

lations in laws. Employers are attacking, by using the lockout law but in reality it is a tool for defence not a tool for attack. Locking out the workers before a strike will demolish the equilibrium between labour and capital which is trying to be set. The Constitution defines strike as a right but there is no similiar definition about lockout in it.' On 1.8.1988, the General President of T.Maden-İş Mustafa Orhan and General Secretary Ekrem Sami wore the shirts of strike watchmans and started the strike with the music of traditional music instruments similar to drum and obua (davul, zurna). In his speech during the opening, General Secretary Ekrem Sami said that: 'Through lockout employers can reach nowhere. We are the one who produce. We can bear strike for an infinite time but employers can't easily give up having sweet profits.' The General President Mustafa Orhan said: 'This plant isn't the special property of that Swedish Firm. Everybody has a right on this plant. We must protect the honour of tthat we represent. It is impossible to live in the economic policy of Prime Minister Özal. Mine workers take official minimum wages. The employer thought that he could make us afraidthrough lockout. A worker who is not pleased and is hungry can't be efficient.'