

After the arrival in Noril'sk of the Minister of Non-Ferrous Metallurgy of the USSR, V.A. Durasov, and the Chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Labour and Social issues, I.I. Gladkiy, an agreement was worked out that met the basic demands of the miners. But the group that initiated the strike made a new condition: They wanted a 30 percent increase in pay. The condition could not be met, however, owing to the conversion of the Noril'sk Plant to new economic management conditions. And so the strike continued.

V.A. Durasov and the First Secretary of the Krasnoyarsk Territorial Committee of the CPSU, O.S. Shenin, appealed to the workers and all the working people of the city. They assured the miners that all the conditions that had been put forth would be carefully examined.

And in the end common sense won out. In spite of stubborn resistance from a small group of miners, who called on others not to end the strike, the workers came to the surface.

"We realized that we would not solve our problems by striking", drilling team leader Aleksandr Nemcheko told our TASS correspondent. "By prolonging it we could have placed the entire plant in a difficult situation. The appeal of Ministry and Krasnoyarsk Territorial Party Committee leaders to start work convinced us of the need to search for new ways of solving the conflict".

A large segment of the workers realized that to prolong the conflict would be to play into the hands of those who wanted to profit from the strike, "said electrical fitter Vasilii Kolomiyets, breaking into the conversation, "and that did not fit in with our plans".