8-31-1989

Argentina: Teachers Strike For 48 Hours

John Neagle

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/notisur

Recommended Citation

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiSur by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.
Argentina: Teachers Strike For 48 Hours

by John Neagle
Category/Department: General
Published: Thursday, August 31, 1989

On Aug. 30, Argentine teachers began a 48-hour walk-out to demand a salary hike from $46 per month in base pay to $114. Secretary general of the 230,000-member Confederation of Argentine Educators Maria Sanchez said 85% of the membership went out on strike. According to Sanchez, in many areas teachers are paid less than what the unemployed will receive from the government, and wages are so low teachers in several provinces often cannot afford bus fare to go to work. Education Minister Antonio Salonia said a raise for teachers would encourage other unions to make similar demands, thereby running the risk of again fueling hyperinflation. Estimates for the month of August put inflation at 35%. Salonia rejected the possibility of declaring the strike illegal. He said that there will be no change in teachers' salaries for the July-September period. Private schools remained open, as did many public schools. The teachers' walk-out is the first nationwide strike since President Carlos Menem took office July 8. Bus drivers, train conductors, doctors in municipal hospitals and public employees in several provinces are demanding pay hikes. The General Labor Confederation (CGT) has opposed government concessions to business owners, and has refused to rule out a general strike. [Basic data from AP, Xinhua, ADYN (Argentine newspaper collective), 08/30/89]

-- End --