

100 FAMILIES WOULD BE
MADE HOMELESS

A PROPOSAL for the complete redevelopment of the Tolmers Square area, Euston, which would entail the building of blocks of offices, and mean the displacement of about 100 families, is being strongly opposed by the tenants' association.

Mother of four dies in crash

An Islington mother of four, Mrs. Jean Fowler, aged 33, of Thorpe House, Barnsbury Estate, N.1., was fatally injured when a car driven by her husband, Mr. Henry Ignatius Fowler, aged 39, crashed into a drinking fountain and a lamp-post at the junction of Kentish Town Road and Camden Street on Sunday morning.

Mr. Fowler and a passenger, Mr. Leslie Palmer of Werrington Street, N.W.1. were seriously injured. They were taken to St. Mary's Wing, Whittington Hospital, where Mrs. Fowler was found to be dead.

All three were trapped in the car and the fire brigade were called to free them. It was not until Mr. Palmer had been released that it became known that Mrs. Fowler was in the car.

Broken neck

An inquest was opened at St. Pancras on Wednesday and, at the request of the police, adjourned for a month for inquiries to be made.

Dr. F. E. Camps, pathologist, said Mrs. Fowler died of a broken neck.

Evidence of identification was given by her sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Jenkins, of Dickenson Street, Kentish Town.

Mr. and Mrs. Fowler were among the first to move into Thorpe House five years ago. Mr. Fowler's parents arrived from Bristol on Tuesday and are helping to look after the children. They are Paul, aged 14, Keith, aged 12, Barry, aged ten, and Ann, aged nine.

Said a neighbour, Mrs. Lydia Sharp: "Mrs. Fowler was a very pleasant person. Everyone round here has been shocked by this dreadful tragedy."

30s. "ROCKET"

Mrs. Brenda Hart of Caledonian Road, Islington, was fined 30s. at North London on Tuesday for selling fireworks to a child apparently under 13. She pleaded guilty by letter.

They have sent a petition to the L.C.C. and St. Pancras Borough Council calling on them to refuse planning permission for the development.

The area comprises the whole of the land bounded by Euston Road, Hampstead Road, Drummond Street and Gower Street. The proposals provide for the area north of Tolmers Square, bounded by Hampstead Road, Drummond Street and Gower Street, to be redeveloped for residential accommodation. The plans were submitted to the L.C.C. by Lewis Solomon, Kaye and Partners.

Demolition

The area south of Tolmers Square is proposed to be developed for commercial use, with two-storey office blocks and a 24- and a seven-storey tower blocks. Total office space would be 178,000 square feet.

There would also be an underground garage beneath the south side, with its entrance in Tolmers Square. The proposals involve the demolition of practically all the property at present in the area—most of it old residential property—including the old Tolmer Cinema in the middle of Tolmers Square, which was at one time the Tolmers Square Congregational Church.

The L.C.C. planning committee have not yet considered the application, but an outline application for part of the proposals was considered at the last meeting of the borough planning committee and approved.

Mrs. R. Gavin, secretary of the tenants' association, said that if the development were permitted it would be a disastrous blow for the people who would be displaced.

'Greed for profit'

"Many of the people have to live near their railway workers, people catering services—and if houses are demolished is little chance of any accommodation where round here."

She pointed out that many new office blocks have been built in the area since the war. Nearly one and a half million square feet of office space was provided between 1948 and 1955 alone.

"We believe there is no other reason for these proposals than greed for rent and profit."

The L.C.C. were proposing to spend enormous sums of

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money to remedy existing traffic congestion, but these proposals, if successful, would mean a further 2,000 to 3,000 office workers, many with cars, travelling to and from this area.

The fact that part of the area was proposed for residential accommodation would be of no help to the present residents.

"It is plain these flats will be let at high rents for the greatest profit of the developer and that the families to be displaced would not be able to afford them."

The association felt the L.C.C. should acquire the whole area and use it for their own housing deve

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