

13 JULY 1962

NLP

The Queen Mother, on arriving at Highbury Estate, Grosvenor Avenue, Islington, welcomed by the mayor and mayoress (Ald. and Mrs. Stanley Bowerman). On the left is Mrs. Helen Kleily, vice-chairman of the L.C.C. housing committee.

# Queen Mother sees garden

FAMILIES on the L.C.C.'s Highbury Estate at Grosvenor Avenue, Islington, crowded the pavements six deep to cheer the Queen Mother when she called at No. 12, Hillfield House, home of Mr. and Mrs. William Leonard to see their garden on Monday evening. Welcomed by the Mayor and Mayoress of Islington (Ald. and Mrs. Stanley Bowerman) the Queen Mother was touring gardens in North-East London, under the auspices of the London Gardens Society, of which she is patron.

With a radiant smile and a cheerful wave, she showed her pleasure at the reception accorded her by the crowd which started to gather nearly 45 minutes before her car was due.

Accompanying her were Mrs. Helen Kleily (vice-chairman of the L.C.C. Housing Committee), the Lady Mary Harvey and an equerry, Sir Ralph Anstruther.

The Queen Mother was told that 60-year-old Mr. Leonard, who works at a Smithfield wholesale meat firm, won a second prize in the London Gardens Society's last spring competition, and a fourth in a contest last year.

She spent several minutes chatting to Mr. and Mrs. Leonard, and congratulated them on their garden.

## Praises decor

Shown over the maisonnette, she praised the interior decoration. She met the couple's three small grandsons and two grand-daughters, and shook hands with Mr. and Mrs. Leonard's sons, William and Roy, and their daughters, Mrs. Joyce Burdett, Mrs. Rita Fitzgerald and 17-year-old Carolyn, who is a secretary at an Islington firm. Then she smilingly allowed Mr. Roy

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# 50 families protest at Kentish Tn. clearance

MORE than 50 families in two areas in Kentish Town scheduled as open spaces by the London County Council have sent a petition of protest to the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

They argue that the clearance will add to the housing waiting list in St. Pancras and that Hampstead Heath is so near that more open space is not needed.

The two areas are bounded by Prince of Wales Road, Weedington Road, Marsden Street, and Malden Road, and by Malden Road, Grafton

Terrace and Queen's Crescent—a total of eight acres.

The land is to be compulsorily purchased by St. Pancras Council for their West Kentish Town development plan.

St. Pancras Chamber of Commerce have also objected on behalf of local traders.

The Mayor of St. Pancras (Cllr. Mrs. Grace Lee) who is L.C.C. representative for St. Pancras North, said: "The open spaces were introduced to balance high-density development in West Kentish Town."

"Either St. Pancras Council or the London County Council will rehouse everybody in the area. They are not being dispossessed—just displaced."

The main platform of the Labour Party in the May elections when they regained control of the council. Cllr. Jonas said the Labour group spent six weeks since the election in discussion and research.

The legal advice we have obtained is in many details conflicting, but the general opinion is that we are not going to be able to carry out the scheme we want.

## "LEGAL OPINION AT PRESENT IS THAT WE WOULD BREAK THE LAW IF WE REDUCED RENTS BY A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT."

If they broke the law, councillors would become responsible for the amount by which they had exceeded legal expenditure, and might be debarred from holding office for five years.

"This is the obstacle," he declared.

"I am afraid the high hopes we had cannot be fulfilled."

He attacked the system whereby discretionary powers

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## Measures

measures for residents... Swinton Street... meeting of the committee of St. Pancras Council this

away traffic scheme... Cross has created... problems.

Mr. Jonas told the "London Press" "We are worried."

along the pavement probably pedestrian would be introduced.

signals would be at the top of Road, and steps

to be taken to try to be in other places.

for a "play" had been referred to safety committee, authorities and the

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## Euston redevelopment

# 300 - TO - QUIT NOW OFFERS

meeting of tenants affected by the Euston Road redevelopment scheme is to be held to examine about techniques employed by the developers to get them to leave.

Square Tenants' Union are organising it. A petition may be sent to County Council.

in controlled flats at Wake House and Arundel House, Drummond Street, have been told they have to leave within six months.

tenants say they have received premiums of up to £1,000. They will leave earlier, if they have no offers.

or have they been offered alternatives by the man who has bought them.

## Small rents

tenants, many of them people on small pensions, are being offered small rents, in some cases only 9s. a week for beds.

Two lavatories and one water tap serve about a dozen flats.

Rose Gavin, secretary of Square Tenants' Union, said: "We are in a very serious situation."

if something is not done about it here, the same situation will arise in other areas, as the developers intend to do.

While we have advised tenants to ask for the credits of anybody who visits and to accept no offers if they have them in black ink."

County Council will be asked to consider buying the flats from the developers to provide residential accommodation in a case of people being

sacrificed in the interests of speculative building." Mrs. Gavin commented.

"Homes should come before offices."

Mr. H. Ellis-Jones, employed by the developers owning Carlisle House and Arundel House, said: "Nobody has been told they have to move in six months. It is controlled property and if people do not want to move, we cannot make them."

"We have merely offered to get people alternative accommodation or, if they can find it themselves, we have offered them financial help."

He had been calling on tenants to discuss the problem, he said.

The property owners were prepared to subsidise alternative accommodation.

The agents are Messrs. D. and J. E. Levy.

St. Pancras Council have sent housing officials to investigate the situation.

THREE BANDITS made a smash-and-grab raid on T. L. Edward's jeweller's shop in Caledonian Road, King's Cross, on Wednesday. They escaped with rings and watches.

## TWO DEAD IN FLAT

POLICE broke into a flat at St. Paul's Road, Islington, on Tuesday and found 49-year-old Mr. Robert Vandenberg Turner, and his wife, Eve, aged about 42, dead. They are believed to have been dead for three weeks. The police were called by Mr. Turner's brother, Ralph, of Hastings, after he had failed to gain admission to the couple's home.

# Shadow factories flout the law

PROTESTS by families in the Essex Road area of Islington may lead to an official investigation into the activities of get-rich-quick racketeers who have flouted the law by opening "shadow factories" with power-driven machines in houses scheduled for residential occupation.

The "North London Press" was told that substantial profits were being made by the owners of these factories, established in defiance of the Factory Acts and Town Planning regulations.

In some cases part of the premises are occupied by the landlord's relatives or by tenants who have no option but to put up with disturbances and the noise of the machines.

Residents in one street have complained about the incessant throbbing of power-operated plant used in the manufacture of garments.

Islington Cllr. Paul Grant has received complaints of factories illegally opened in private houses.

Ald. A. J. Rogers, chairman of the public health committee, said inquiries would be made if evidence was supplied.

# Watch

## 5-Star

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- ★ ALL RE
- ★ 12 MON
- ★ VERY M
- ★ PROMPT DISTRICT
- ★ TAKE A FREE IN ESTIMAT

# LESLIE DAVIS

And at King's Cross (adjoining station)

Branches: 104 Strand and