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BUILDING DE

the weekly newspaper for the building team

George Henderson threatens to leave construction

GROUP OF EIGHT IS TO STOP PUSSYFOOTING

ANGRY union boss George Henderson is to tell his Group of Eight colleagues that he will leave if they don't stop pussyfooting and start putting the boot in.

He is to deliver what amounts to an ultimatum to the construction industry lobby group. Either the group starts a tough, radical assault on the Government or his union — the building branch of the Transport and General — will sever its links and campaign alone.

I want a change in the attitude and I want it

now," he said. "It is failing to recognise that it's being kicked in the teeth by the Tory Government."

He is to put forward a three-point plan to the traditionally

By Ian Martin

moderate group "at the earliest opportunity".

He wants:
● A concentrated propaganda campaign by and on behalf of the group in marginal Tory constituencies between now and the next general election. The publicity would be directed straight at voters and would strongly attack Conservative construction policy.
● Demonstrations by the

group at any exhibition or public platform given to the industry in a bid to win the support of the community.

● Press advertising to spell out the group's attitude to cuts in construction expenditure and unemployment in the industry.

If his colleagues don't go along with this, he says, they will go along without him.

Henderson first warned he would leave in December, when a group meeting with Chancellor Geoffrey Howe left him bitter and frustrated. His attitude contrasted strongly with that of RIBA President Owen Luder — group chairman — who thought the meeting had been a "useful dialogue".

Said Henderson: "We have

had all the ammunition, it's just that some people in the group are not prepared to do anything with it. I am not going to go along just to be used any more. The Group of Eight showed no reluctance during the last Labour government to attack national policy, why the silence now?"

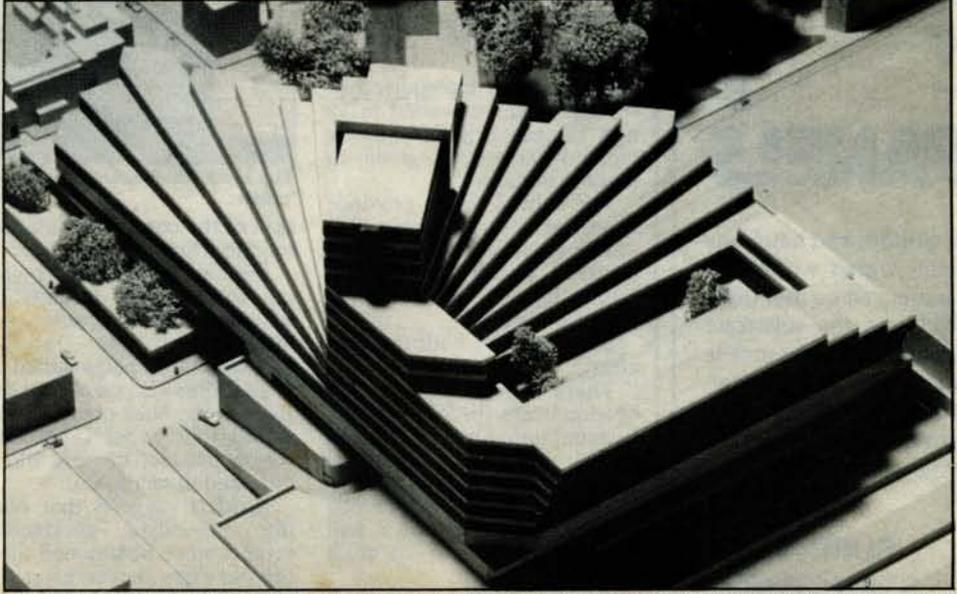
Representatives on the group include those from building trades employers, building material producers, civil engineers and their contractors, chartered surveyors and another construction union, UCATT.

Luder was reluctant to comment on Henderson's proposed strategy. "It's not for me to say," he said. "The group's views are a consensus. I would cer-

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HOTEL HOPES FOR EUSTON

This is what the first Hyatt International Hotel to be built in Britain could look like. Perched on top of a corner of Euston Station, London, and straddling a road, the fan-shaped building is nothing if not spectacular. The designers are Perry Architects of London, with structural engineers Ove Arup and Partners. The model shown here is a feasibility study for Hyatt International Corporation. Because the site is immediately available and comes with planning approval for a hotel, the only problem is whether it would pay. With the chance of a direct rail link from Euston to London's third airport for the future, Hyatt could well take the plunge.



Life ends for Airey homes