

S.D.S.

S.S. No. 1 (Plain)

METROPOLITAN POLICE

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH

24th day of April 1980

SUBJECT

1. This report will deal with the current perspectives of the South East London District of the Socialist Workers Party.

2. Regular contact work at Branch level within the industrial field has failed to produce the desired response respecting the recent steel strike. It is realised this position will have to improve if the TUC 'Code of Practice' against the Employment Bill is to be adhered to. The lapse is due to members not working within the areas covered by their Branches and being inexperienced in contact work. Street and factory paper sales are to be maintained. Present sales are concentrated in the Lewisham and Woolwich areas and at the sites of Stone's Manganese, Elliotts (CEC) and Zenith Carburettors.

Reference to Papers

Socialist Workers Party

400/80/23

3. The District is sound financially with income exceeding expenditure. It is rumoured, however, that overall Party finances are in a very bad shape. The Central Committee has been forced to reduce the number of organisers and full time workers. Those remaining have had their wages reduced by £5 per week. These swingeing cuts will not resolve the Party's financial problems and the CC is calling for at least an additional £200 per month. If this is not attained, further action will be taken.

4. The Party will be unable to campaign effectively against the Tories' industrial legislation with insufficient and irregular income. To attempt to overcome this the CC is requesting all members to increase their national subscriptions.

5. A breakdown of District membership figures based on the return of the Registration Forms for 1980 is set out below:-

TO [redacted] 15 MAY 1980 PA IN

Male: 28 Female: 10 Gay: 3 Black: 1 (this was considered as racist)

Average age of members: 28 1/2 years

Unions represented:

NUT	7	NALGO	6	NUPE	5	GLCSA	2
UCATT	2	NATFHE	6	TASS	1	ASTMS	1
UPW	1	TSSA	1	NUSS	1	NUS	1
GMWU	1	TGWU	1				

Members holding Union positions: 16

Average length of membership (Union or Party?): 5.3 years

Arbitrary job breakdown:-

Education	16
Public Service ('White Collar')	9
Public Service ('Manual')	6
White Collar	2
Manual	2
Student	2
Unemployed	1

Paper Sales statistics:

<u>Branch</u>	<u>No. of Members</u>	<u>Papers taken per week</u>	<u>% Paid</u>	<u>Average sold per member</u>
Greenwich	15	150	65	6.5
Plumstead	4	30	69	5.2
Council Workers	4	34	87	7.4
Bromley	4	50	75	9.4
Lewisham	15	60	70	2.8

1 **Barry Moss** etc.
 CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT