

The paper which has grown up in a great community, nourished by its resources, reflecting in a thousand ways its spirit and its interests, in a real sense belongs to it.—C. P. SCOTT

TUESDAY JULY 16 1974

## Bitter lemons

CYPRUS has a history which would leave any country punch-drunk. Wave after wave of invaders have overrun this prettiest of Mediterranean islands, colonised it, used it, and gone.

Even in that long pagan war and conquest the present coup is a nastier episode than most and might have more dangerous implications for the rest of the world.

Greek officers of the Cyprus National Guard, acting it seems with the knowledge if not the approval of the Greek Government, have overthrown President Makarios, set up an ex-terrorist in his place, and now claim that they control the island.

First reports that Makarios was dead have now been denied. His supporters have rallied and are fighting the National Guard.

### Counter-attack

If Makarios is alive and well enough to lead a counter-attack he might, with judicious help from British and UN forces on the island and from other interested parties, regain power.

The Greek Government would then express horror and shock at the conduct of its officers and disclaim all responsibility for them. The rest of the world would pretend to believe this and Cyprus could resume its independent way.

If the National Guard is firmly in control in Nicosia the future might be much darker.

Turkey is pledged to protect Turkish Cypriots, who form about 20 per cent of the island's population, and might take protection as far as open war with Greece.

### NATO

But both countries are members of NATO and any disagreement between them would be of great concern to America and to other NATO countries. And to Russia, which is keenly interested in the affairs of a non-aligned country so close to the Middle East.

In the international manoeuvrings the fate of Cyprus itself might not get the priority it deserves.

Makarios was a wily ruler who became so used to walking a tightrope that he refused reasonable opportunities of coming down to earth. In the past few years he could have made faster progress towards Cypriot unity and cut off the island from Greece.

But he was a popular ruler, leading a free and prosperous state. The Greek Colonists have overthrown democracy in their own country and they must not be allowed to export their dictatorial repression to an independent island.

## Greatness thrust upon them

First of two articles by FRED HACKWORTH on the people who are thrust into the limelight of events for a brief time—and then disappear as swiftly as they came. Our society lifts them up as folk heroes—often during times of industrial dispute—and then drops them down again. But what becomes of them after that? And what do they think of their few days of greatness with the benefit of hindsight?

## Our instant heroes



Mrs Esther 'Grannie' Brookstone

### A warrior among the wives

CAROL MILLER, a quiet blonde housewife, is thinking of having her hair dyed to avoid recognition. She led the march of the car workers' wives last April in Cowley and played a major role in getting the husbands back to work. And no one has let her forget what she did.

Husband Barry, an assembly worker at the British Leyland factory, had not brought home a full pay packet since Christmas. Strikes, walk-outs and lay-offs had followed hard on the heels of the three-day week.

For the first time in her life she started making a noise. Something had to be done about those trouble makers at the factory. So she got up on her shapely pins and told them straight.

But even though hubby was 100 per cent behind her, others were not.

There were so many nasty telephone calls that she has now gone ex-directory. Her story did not end when at last peace was restored to the Cowley factory. She was instrumental in forming the Wives Action Group which now has more than 50 members.

"We are trying to keep industrial peace at the factory between the unions and management. We will support genuine strikes but not stoppages led by troublemakers."

"Sheer temper."

"I only did what I did out of sheer temper, and I don't feel any different now. But I have made new friends among other wives, and it does help a lot to be able to discuss problems with each other."

Not much else has

THERE is perhaps only one certainty about the current controversy over pay beds in NHS hospitals and that certainty lies in the formidable figure of "Brookie" as she is known to all and sundry in the Charing Cross Hospital.

Granny Brookstone, branch secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, has demanded the shutdown of what she calls the "Fulham Hilton," the ward which houses the 174-a-week private patients.

Pointing to the private wing she says: "I don't care who is up there, Elizabeth Taylor, Richard Burton, Ted Heath or even Barbara Castle. It makes no difference. If people want private medicine they can get it outside the NHS."

Then, more confidentially, she tells you that despite her size, her four children and three grandchildren, her husband still chases her around the bedroom. Brookstone is learning what it is like to stick your neck out in an image-conscious society; a society which holds up its heroes on television poles for all to worship and then just as quickly chops them down again.

We take a look at some of the instant heroes of the recent past; ordinary people pushed on to the stage to say their piece, and then vanish on instructions from the director.

Most of them went quietly, but just a few stayed on because they had other cards to play.



ABOVE: Carol Miller in the thick of a daring fight against the car man's strike at Cowley.

RIGHT: At home with her children as the mountain of mail about her shod began to come in.

changed about her life. She still worries about giving her four children the best of everything, as the still does her part-time cleaning job.

The one big thing she says it taught her was that so many other Cowley wives feel just as miffed at times over what can go on in the name of workers' rights.

"When I got there for the march it really took me. There were about 300. And after I did that radio broadcast my telephone never stopped ringing for a fortnight with calls from other wives."

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### Vic Turner's kind of war

VIC TURNER could still hear the shouts of support from his dock mates outside in the cold as he settled in for his first night in Pentonville Jail.

He had read about his arrest in the evening newspapers while having a bath in his East London council home. A bit perturbed, he went along to demonstrate outside the gates until he was duly hauled in.

The real meaning behind his five days "porridge," he says, was the crippling effect of property speculation and containerisation on the dockland work force.

When Vic first started 22 years ago, there were 32,000 men in the London docks, but now only 9,000 remain.

There was a time, two summers ago, just after he and his mates, when he felt a bit embarrassed walking to his local. More than one newspaper called him the "working-class hero."

But this has worn off now, though everyone down there still knows who he is.

Yes, of course he'd go through it all again, if it came to the crunch. "We always felt the working class would react against injustice," he says, beating his drum at the bar with his pint.

ABOVE: Vic Turner's moment of glory—refused from Pentonville Jail, thanks to the Official Solicitor, after the refusal by his dock mates to obey the National Industrial Relations Court in 1972.

BELOW: Vic making a point as he rallied the dockers in support of their fight.

of the Temporary Unattached Register, known as the dumping ground for dockers once their employers moved away and the wharves closed down.

"It could so easily happen again. The report holds nothing for London. What I and the others achieved hasn't meant much, just dockers working at places like Chobham Farm and Barking, but this is only scraping the surface."

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## THE HEALING TASK

WHILE all churches pray for the sick, more of them are trying to achieve a deeper understanding of what the healing ministry means. Sale Baptist Church, for example, now holds a healing half-hour on the first Monday evening in the month and has planned a healing weekend in November to include discussion and worship.

At Chapel-en-le-Frith, a group of Anglicans and Methodists has met regularly for prayer and study for several years.

### Evidence

"I told the man that I felt that if Jesus were around he would have the answer and would heal. He agreed. I arranged to call again, and spent some time in prayer in church while the sick man was praying at home. Then, when I was with him, I had an impulse to put my hands on him. He said 'I feel better for that,' and within 14 days he was walking round the parish. Later, in my ministry there were other cases of healing, in which people were healed."

With the opportunity of a course at Oxford, Mr Lawrence decided to study the biblical evidence of divine healing. He felt increasingly that the Bible was a book about healing at the deepest level, touch-

NORMAN BROOKS continues his investigation of the rediscovery of healing in the Christian Church today, which those involved stress is an example of the concern of Christ for the whole of life, and his power to heal and save it.

## Faces of joy

"Dozens of lives have been touched. We have been told of physical healings and have seen people with their faces lit up in a way that we have never seen before."

ing body, mind and spirit, and that the Church should give itself seriously to rediscovering this truth in its own experience. It seemed right that we at St George's should make time to investigate healing. Two years ago we set aside the first Sunday evening service each month for this purpose. We particularly studied Luke's Gospel, the Gospel account which has the greatest concern for healing.

After the sermon I would make available to people the laying on of hands—usually there were two pairs of hands, clergy and lay—and I was surprised to discover with what readiness people came forward to receive it. "An odd thing, however, was that for two years, as the Church was investigating healing in this way, there were no obvious cases of physical healing in the parish. It could have been that we were on to something and that we were under attack by the powers of darkness."

What was happening, however, was the quality

of worship in the healing services. As the Church's studying progressed, an answer became clearer. It was decided to seek help from someone who could possibly answer them. The Rev George Bennett, of the Church Healing Ministry Trust, was invited, and he led a mission at Hyde last month.

### Vital

"We had a remarkable three days, and lovely things happened," Mr Lawrence told me a few days afterwards. "People received blessing in all sorts of ways. Dozens of lives have been touched. We have been told of physical healings and have seen people with their faces lit up in a way that we have never seen before."

Time will tell how deep has been the effect of that healing mission on the people of St George's parish and on the life of

### Part two

The Rev Roy Lawrence, vicar of St George's, Hyde, in front of his church. Picture by TONY COMOT.



### Tomorrow

"We believe God healed us—two members of the Rev Geoffrey Griffith's congregation in Chapel-en-le-Frith speak about their own experience."