

New Song Takes Poke at Super-Patriots

By THE MISSION SINGERS

Credence Clearwater Revival has become America's version of the Beatles. Like waves constantly pounding the sand, hit after hit rolls from the boxes of the group's electric and acoustical guitars. Using basic hard rock as its starting point, Credence Clearwater has struck oil in a music land that often feels gas is really better.

"Fortunate Son" is one song in their latest pair of hits. While "Down on the Corner" — their other chart climber — is a pleasant, bouncy description of life in some bayou town, "Fortunate Son" lashes out violently against hypocrisy in America today.

"Some folks are born made to wave the flag, oh they're red, white and blue." There's nothing especially wrong with being a patriot, is there? But according to the song, some "super-patriots" spend much of their time pointing their flag-draped cannons at others.

The song sounds pretty bitter. It seems that if you're going to attack the flag-wavers, you'd better be prepared for the hurricane of protests that arises from the wind stirred by that flag-waving.

Yet the singers willingly attack.

But the song isn't as radical as it might sound, even though it seems to be accusing some people of singing no "Hail to the Chief" but "Hail to the Chief." For all that, "Fortunate Son" is probably not a Communist plot.

People who make a show of waving the stars and stripes, who put "America — Love It or Leave It" bumper stickers on the backs of their red, white and blue Javelins — these people don't have a monopoly on patriotism. Patriotism like anything else, can be used or abused.

It seems that some folks use patriotism for their own purposes and desires. But this is nothing new. Even way back, Samuel Johnson — looking at some of the people who wrapped themselves in his country's flag — said, "Patriotism is the last refuge of scoundrels."

When John Fogarty, Credence Clearwater's lyricist, says, "I ain't no senator's son," he could be echoing the eminent Doctor Johnson.

"Fortunate Son" is not attacking America; it's attacking problems in America. It's complaining about double

standards. For example, take those folks who "are born (with) silver spoon in hand. Lord, don't they help themselves!" The singers don't despise wealth, just as they don't condemn real patriotism.

Instead, they knock people who have money and then make a big show of 'povertry' in order to save on taxes. Well, after all, everyone cheats on taxes, right? So what's the problem?

Here's the point: on one hand, the song is telling us, you see people who demand that everyone follow a strict, narrow brand of patriotism, and who are open to no other viewpoints. On the other hand, you see some of these very same people trying to pull the wool over their "beloved" government's eyes by playing games with their tax returns.

The song asks: How are you supposed to react to that? The answer comes loud and clear: Just step back from that scene, smile and say, "I'm not one of those; I ain't no fortunate son."

"Fortunate Son" can rightly be considered an extreme song. It is, however, simply a reaction to extreme positions on the other side. The value of extremes is that when you know the two ends of a line, you can find where the center is.

(Catholic Press Features)

the music bag

"Fortunate Son"

Some folks are born made to wave the flag, Oh, they're red white and blue. And when the band plays, "Hail to the Chief," They point the cannon at you.

It ain't me, it ain't me, I ain't no senator's son. It ain't me, it ain't me, I ain't no fortunate one.

Some folks are born, silver spoon in hand; Lord, don't they help themselves! But when the tax man comes to the door The house looks like a rummage sale.

It ain't me, it ain't me, I ain't no millionaire's son. It ain't me, it ain't me, I ain't no fortunate one.

Some folks inherit star-spangled eyes. Oh, they send you down to war. And when you ask them, "How much should we give?" They only answer, "More, more, more."

It ain't me, it ain't me, I ain't no military son. It ain't me, it ain't me, I ain't no fortunate one.

(Published by Jondora Music)

Bp. McCafferty 12 Will Deliver Talk in Corning

Corning — Auxiliary Bishop McCafferty will speak in Corning Sunday, Jan. 18, on "Keeping your balance in the modern Church."

The program sponsored by the Christian Formation Board for the Southern Vicariate will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Knights of Columbus Hall.

The Bishop said he would try to bring into perspective the doubts and fears of many Catholics who are well formed in their faith, love their Church, but are confused by some of the developments and pronouncements made in the name of religion today.


Topics which the Bishop plans to cover are: Confused Catholics today; Christ founded a Church with authority; The U.S. Conference of Bishops.

The Corning-Port Jervis committee for adult religious education plans a series of three programs. The second will be Thursday, Feb. 19, with the Rev. Mr. Michael Cole speaking on "Communication Within Marriage."


The committee consists of Richard Wardell and Father John Mulligan of the Christian Formation Board and parish representatives. Mrs. Joseph Daley and Andrew Jackson of St. Vincent's; Norman Smith, St. Patrick's; Donald Smith, St. Mary's, and David Schirmer, Immaculate Heart of Mary.

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Notre Dame Campaigns To Increase Student Body

Elmira — Notre Dame High School has embarked on a campaign to build the student body from this year's 570 to a capacity crowd of 750.

The initial goal is to increase next fall's freshman class by 24 to 200.

A financial report at a board of governors' meeting last Sunday led Principal Warren Tessier to comment "at this point we're holding our own for this year."

Tessier noted that increased enrollment would require a larger facility, but said the cost of added salaries could be offset if there was "a significant increase" in the number paying tuition.

John D. Frawley was named chairman of the board, succeeding Tessier. Louis J. Mustico became vice chairman, succeeding Frawley.

Student committees opened the recruiting campaign, visiting area parishes to talk with

Deaths

Sr. Ottilia, Oldest SSJ.

Sister Ottilia Kassman, the oldest member of the Sisters of St. Joseph, died Jan. 7, 1970, at the age of 93. The funeral was last Saturday at the Motherhouse.

Sister Ottilia's last teaching assignment was a 17-year stay in St. Bridget's parish. On three separate assignments, she spent a total of 25 years at Holy Trinity School, Webster. She taught also at St. John's, Greece; St. Alphonsus, Auburn, and in Dansville and Wayland.

Surviving are a brother, George Kassman and nieces and nephews into the third generation.

Marciano, Clay Face Computer At Auditorium

Boxing's all-time Super Fight — Rocky Marciano vs. Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay) — will be matched on full-color film at the Auditorium Theatre, Rochester, at 10 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 20.

The two great champions fought 75 rounds, of three minutes each, which were filmed during a two-session, five-day shooting schedule in the privacy of a Miami studio. The last day of filming took place just three weeks prior to Marciano's shocking and untimely death.

A computer calls the winner. Maximum security measures have been taken to assure that the winner is known to nobody until the end of the film.

The Super Fight is an out-growth of the recent All-Time Computerized Heavyweight Championship Tournament over 600 radio stations.

Fr. Dowhovich Succumbs at 86

Elmira Heights — Mass repose of the soul of Father Waldimir B. Dowhovich, 86, former pastor of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church here, was celebrated Jan. 7, at St. Mary's Church in Troy.

Father Dowhovich, pastor of St. Mary's, died there Jan. 3, 1970. He served the Elmira Heights church from 1939 to 1959.

Bishop Joseph Schmondiuk of the Ukrainian Diocese of Stamford (Conn.) officiated at the funeral Mass. Born in 1884 in the Western Ukraine, Father Dowhovich came to the United States in 1909, two years after his ordination.

Memorial Mass For Fr. Staub

Rochester Branches, Catholic Central Union of America and National Catholic Women's Union, will observe the 47th anniversary of the death of Father Jacob Staub by attending the 11 a.m. Mass at Holy Redeemer Church this Sunday, Jan. 18.

Father Staub was a zealous leader in the work of the organizations and the members of the two local branches annually commemorate his death, which occurred on Jan. 15, 1923.

Canisius Names Elmira Aide

Horseheads — Lawrence G. Healy, a development engineer at Westinghouse here has been appointed Canisius College's Elmira area representative.

Healy, a 1956 Canisius graduate, will serve as liaison between the college and its alumni, friends, schools and organizations in the Elmira area.

Mr. and Mrs. Healy reside with their two children at 316 Ridge Road, in Horseheads.

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ALL IN A Little Co

By Sarah Child

We had to call a plumber the other day and I served to remind me all over what we Americans have lost: disappearance of the little man.

It took him two hours to fix and put back together what generally referred to on his sheet as "water closet."

Our younger child had a tin cookie cutter with a handle down the bathroom sitting two trips on the part plus a couple hours of work.

When he presented his bill more than reasonable amount.

"If I were to charge you a smile, it would be dishonored."

A self-employed tradesman lives in our village, he then that too often he himself is at the wrong end of an installment as presented by other notorious repairs.

"And when that happens, visited, you should refuse them." He departed with my thanks not only for doing quickly, efficiently and in but for coming at all.

In the age we live in, if job or service call is one of the commodities to come by.

One never has a problem the largest appliance. If you have any money, the store has been taught to tell you installment rates can be arranged.

Once the new washing machine conditioner or television in the house, however, the

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