

## It's 'Easy' Only at the End of the Big Jump

By THE MISSION SINGERS

Rick Nelson, who sings "Easy to Be Free", used to be Ricky Nelson, of "Ozzie and Harriet" fame.

In an interview a few weeks ago, he described where he was at for the past five or six years. Up to that point, he said, he'd been popular on his parents' show, and he'd been gaining even more success in the movie and record industries.

But, he says, he came to a point of decision. He had to either continue on the path he was going on, or not. To go on would involve a lifetime of singing "finger-snapping" songs, other people's songs in nightclubs and cabarets. But to not go on would involve who-knew-what?

"Did you ever want to know things you've never known before?" Apparently, Rick Nelson wanted to. So he did. He decided that rather than walk further into something he was not sure he wanted, he would take some time off to decide what it was he really wanted.

So "I stood and waited where the river runs. It felt so good to feel the morning sun. And after all is said and done, I'm free." After five or six years, he's back, sing "Easy to Be Free."

In the meantime, though, a lot of people — young and old — go through torment in their attempts to do the right thing with their lives. There's an advertising slogan that says, "Getting there is half the fun." Like most advertising, the slogan is only half true.

"Getting there" — with all the troubles and uncertainty that's involved in travelling over an unknown road — might be half the fun, but it's also half the misery, too. "Did you ever want to go where you've never been before?" Sure. Everybody wants to try something new. But is it worth the trouble?

Some men have described life as a "great leap." They say life is like standing on the edge of a cliff on a moonless, pitch-black night and having to jump. Okay, you've already decided that you're going to jump, and you know for sure that you're going to jump as high and as far as you can. But you'll never know whether or not you're going to safely land until — and if — you do.

That's the great leap. It's the only way freedom comes. If a person wants to have a happy life, if he wants to be free, he has to jump.

"Did you ever wonder why people tell you not to try?" Maybe it's because they're afraid to try it themselves, and anyone else's attempt is proof of their own cowardice.

But what is "free"? What does it mean to "want"? A kid wants to fight the draft system. Should he do it? A kid wants to stay out of school today.

### POETRY CONTEST

#### SPONSORED BY CDA

A poetry contest sponsored by the local chapter of the Catholic Daughters of America drew 130 entries from 11 schools.

Ten poems were selected for the state contest. Winners will be announced at the state convention, to be held at the Flagship, Rochester, May 18-22.

Court Our Lady of the Cenacle announced these local winners: Roseann Del Medico, Jean Amico and Cecelia Anne Fox, all of the St. Ambrose fifth grade; Richard Tantillo of St. Cecelia; Larry Kardos and Kathy Waser of Holy Rosary; Donna Sickels, Mary Jo Holland and Connie Maid, all of Bishop Kearney High School, and Sister Mary Alice, a teacher at Mt. Carmel.

# THE MUSIC BAG

## 'EASY TO BE FREE'

Did you ever want to go where you've never been before?  
Did you ever want to know things you've never known before?  
I'll take you there with me and maybe then you'll see  
It's easy to be free, yeah.

Did you ever want to fly over rainbow skies so high?  
Did you ever wonder why people tell you not to try?  
I'll take you there with me and maybe then you'll see  
It's easy to be free, yeah.

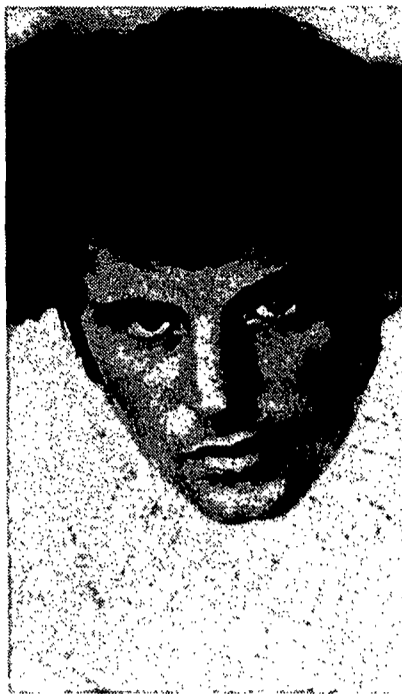
I stood and waited where the river runs.  
It felt so good to feel the morning sun.  
And after all is said and done, I'm free!

Did you ever want to know things you've never known before?  
Did you ever want to go where you've never been before?  
I'll take you there with me and maybe then you'll see  
It's easy to be free, yeah.

(Published by Joe Sutton Music, BMI)

Should he do it? A kid wants to become an artist. Should he do it? A kid wants to become an addict. Should he do it?

In a lot of ways, everybody wants everything. We're all pretty greedy. But like the Rolling Stones say, "You can't al-



RICK NELSON

ways have what you want, but if you try, sometimes you just might find you'll get what you need."

(Catholic Press Features)

## Local Group Disc in Stores

A record album featuring 10 folk hymns by the Blessed Sacrament Parish Folk Group—recorded a month ago in the parish church — is now available.

Titled "It's a Sign of Love," the record may be purchased for \$4.50 through Patrick McCarthy, 106 Gregory Hill Road, Rochester 14620, or Mrs. Luke Parisi, 63 Culver Road, Rochester, 14620.

Established two years ago, the 17-member aggregation includes nine instrument player-singers and nine singers. They provide music at each Sunday's 12:15 p.m. parish Mass.

The group believes that a "singing together" will bring "a world in which people really love each other."

Highlighting their record on a Century label are songs titled "It's a Sign of Love," "For Baby," "Gonna Sing My Lord," "The Song Is Love" and "My Way."



You've got a lot to live  
Pepsi's got a lot to give

What we mean is this: living isn't always easy, but it never has to be dull. There's too much to see, to do, to enjoy. Put yourself behind a Pepsi-Cola and get started. You've got a lot to live.



PEPSI-COLA™ AND "PEPSI" ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF PEPSICO, INC.

Bottled by Pepsi-Cola Companies of Elmira and Rochester under appointment from PepsiCo., Inc., New York, N. Y.

Wednesday, April 15, 1970

Page 9-B