



Veteran Hand

Butch Hoyt, who left for Vietnam Sunday, July 25, dedicated most of his time home on final leave to working on the Sheridan-Almira St. Tot-Lot. Helen Martin, president of the Upper Falls Improvement Association said: "I only hope we can show our appreciation for his help. We can't give him enough praise."

Priest Lauds Fellini And His Clowns

New York — A Catholic priest writing in the New York Times has strongly praised the films of Italian director Federico Fellini, calling his latest movie, *The Clowns*, "a hymn to humanity."

The Rev. Robert Lauder, who teaches philosophy at a seminary and writes frequently on films and theology for *The Long Island Catholic*, a weekly newspaper, said in his Times commentary that Fellini "has spent his career exploring the human, mourning man's lapses and glorifying man's possibilities."

Giving much of his attention to *The Clowns*—a documentary-like look at the world of circus clowns — Father Lauder began his commentary by noting that "there is a long tradition in Christianity of depicting Christ as a clown."

Said Father Lauder of the clown symbolism and Fellini's film:

"Infinitely vulnerable but never finally defeated, the clown — by helping us to laugh at the apparent hopelessness that surrounds us — may lead us to hope once again."

"Any symbol worth its salt ought to lead us more deeply into the mystery that is man. That the symbol of the clown can still do this is shown by Federico Fellini's delightfully humorous yet deeply touching film, *The Clowns*. Almost a documentary on the meaning of man, the film is a hymn to humanity."

Fellini, who ran away from home at the age of 12 to join a circus but was sent back, has used circus characters or motifs in all his films.

In *Clowns*, which Fellini originally intended to be shown on European television, the famed director is a participant, giving

his own recollection of clowns and circuses of his childhood, interviewing retired clowns and those still active, and concluding his film with a mock funeral for a clown, a ceremony that culminates in slapstick, chaos and comedy.

Commenting on this sequence, *Newsweek's* critic Paul Zimmerman seemed to second what Father Lauder had to say. Said Zimmerman:

"In the breakdown of the ornate hearse, the refusal of the two-man horses to obey the driver, in the mock pieties of the will-reading and the general insolence of the irreverent, capricious mourners, Fellini transforms the death into a resurrection."

"Fellini is the king of his own film. He wants to repudiate the death of clowning, so he repudiates it and, like the clowns he champions, thumbs his nose at death itself."

"The ending of *The Clowns* sums up Fellini's vision," according to the priest. "After a mock funeral of a dead clown, Fellini situates a 'white' clown — a symbol of man's thrust toward the lofty — on one side of the deserted circus tent, and a tramp clown — a symbol of man's push toward the base — on the other side."

"Each plays a trumpet alternately as he descends the steps toward the center of the performing area. As the two clowns stand together in the spotlight near the exit of the tent, they serve as images of all of Fellini's lovable, lonely characters."

"With the final dissolve causing the disappearance of the clowns and leaving only the spotlight shining on the sawdust in the deserted tent, the audience is left with the invitation to fulfill the possibilities of its own humanity."

There's a Need for Loners

By THE MISSION SINGERS

There are a lot of things that can be said of Paul McCartney. One thing, though, that can't be said is that he is an average guy. For good or bad (and most people have already made up their minds about that one way or the other), Paul McCartney is a unique individual. Mediocre is not a word that fits him.

Ram, his second and most recent album, is a case in point. It doesn't contain the kind of songs that are predictable. For most people, the songs will take a while getting used to.

But in a lot of ways, that's what the best of pop music is about: continual change, development, refusal to repeat patterns simply to retain popularity. That's not to say this album is among the best in pop music; time will judge that. But at least it is different, and somewhat unpredictable.

Too Many People is the first song on the album and is the song that seems to be getting most of the radio play. It's the song, too, that appears to reflect McCartney's attitude towards individuality.

The basic idea of the song is this: In crowds, there is room only for members; no loners are allowed. But excellence, or uniqueness, demands individuality. So to achieve excellence

TOO MANY PEOPLE

Too many people going underground,
Too many people reaching for a piece of cake.
Too many people pulled and pushed around,
Too many people waiting for that lucky break.
That was your first mistake: You took your lucky break
and broke it in two.
Now what can be done for you? You broke it in two.
Too many people sharing party lines,
Too many people never sleeping late,
Too many people paying parking fines,
Too many hungry people losing weight,
Too many people preaching practices,
Don't let them tell you what you want to be.
That was your last mistake: I find my love awake and
waiting to be.
Now what can be done for you? She's waiting for me,
Copyright 1971 by Apple Records)

one has to follow this advice: "Don't let them tell you what you want to be."

Sure, one could explain for hours that it is necessary to live and work in society, that unless most people worked from nine to five, they'd have nowhere to live and nothing to live on from five to nine.

True, it is possible to say that unless there was a crowd, there'd be nothing to stick one's head out of. In other words, the only way to spot a genius is to compare him with the majority of people who are not geniuses but only "normal" people. It's also relatively easy to argue that order and organization and even — to some extent — uniformity must be

part of a relatively tiny planet that houses three billion on its surface.

But Too Many People is a song that appears to have a different starting point. The arguments cited above all concern themselves with the way in which man can live with his fellow man. Too Many People deals with the question of how a man can live with himself. The objections deal with the problem of uniformity. The song deals with the issue of excellence.

Any man more right than his neighbor constitutes a majority of one, Thoreau said. In a more personal way, McCartney says the same thing: "That was your last mistake: I find my love awake and waiting to be, Now what can be done for you? She's waiting for me."

What McCartney means, apparently, is that he has no pity for the loser in a battle of excellence. His love — Linda, his wife, surely — finds more life when she is with him than she can find anywhere else in the world. And life is measured in terms of quality, in terms of excellence.

All of this may seem theoretical, but it is more practical than many people would like to admit. "To be or not to be," said Shakespeare, but he meant much more than "to breathe or not to breathe." Too many people in this world of ours find themselves in the "not to be" category.

Too many people do share real and figurative party telephone lines. Too many people do never sleep late. Too many people do get "pulled and pushed around." Too many people are just plain, normal people.

Tramp for Trees Raises \$2,850

Wayland — The collection of \$2,850 in pledges from the sponsors of the June 6 Tramp for Trees was completed last week according to Tramp for Trees committeeman, Rev. David Franke of the United Methodist Church.

The Tramp, designed to raise money for purchase and planting of 100 young trees within the village of Wayland, nearly quadrupled its goal, the cost of trees being \$725.

Secondary pledges were made to Project HOPE and to Project REACH in Perkinsville. HOPE will receive \$700 and REACH will receive nearly \$1300. The remainder of the collected pledges will pay for the committee's expenses.

Father James Marvin, pastor of St. Joseph's Church in Wayland, said, "The Tramp has been a tremendous testimony to the citizenship and social concerns of the tramps, young and old alike. Not only did they walk 10 miles on a hot June 6, but they walked many footsteps in the days following to collect the pledges from their sponsors."

Father Marvin, who spearheaded the project with the sponsorship of the local CYO, said that the \$2850 collected represented 98 per cent return of the \$3,000 pledged. "Compared to the return percentages of other area walks, our Tramp has certainly been a huge financial success."

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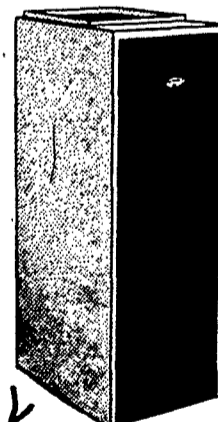
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