

PURE PRAIRIE LEAGUE

SOMETHING IN THE NIGHT

Don't keep me hangin'/ Love me again/ Hold on to our hearts/ Something
in the night/ Do you love me truly, Julie/ You're mine tonight/
Still right here in my heart/ I wanna know your name/ Feel the fire/
Tell me one more time.
(Casablanca 6480 016)

Pure Prairie League have never been one of my favourite country rock groups. The early RCA albums had that certain 'sparkle', but the band got lost in the maze of too many personnel changes.

The current line-up is the same as last year's album on Casablanca, 'Firm'up'. New boys Vince Gill and Jeff Wilson who joined in 1979 and 1980 respectively, are involved in ~~the~~ writing of nine of the ten songs, the exception being 'You're mine tonight' by Rafe Van Hoy.

Old timers, Billy Hands (drums) and Michael Reilly (bass), form a solid foundation for the group's sound, while the twin guitars of Gill and Wilson certainly know how to cook and change gear, particularly on the opening track. (Speaking of old timers, I see HE still turns up on the cover). Michael Connor is still with the group on keyboards.

In fact the opening track really sets the seal on the first side, which is concerned more with the rock than the country, and Vince Gill's vocal on 'Do you love me truly, Julie' is riddled with squeals indicative of that genre.

Side two is slightly more mellow, although you have to wait till the final track for the outstanding song. I've always been a sucker for Nicky Hopkin's piano work, and on 'Tell me one more time' he gives the song his best. If there is a potential single on the album, then this is it, the rest is pleasant but ordinary.

Written by,

JO PAUL.

JP