

PAUL JONES says BANNED PICTURE IS NOT

LIKE CHRIST

PAUL JONES is angry! He spent three hours in a studio with noted fashion photographer Ronald Traeger, after seeking him out to do a session. For two hours they got nothing much. Then in the third hour they started to get results.

One of the many pictures taken pleased both Paul and Ron very much. It's on the left. Paul chose it as the cover of the EP he did of the songs in his film, "Privilege." But EMI executives took one look at it, shuddered at the implications and said "No." They chose a shot from the film which you see on the right. Paul told me this week:

"It's not like Christ and never was meant to be. But bearing in mind the themes of the film, I thought I would have a picture taken that was Byzantine in style . . . you know, everyone had his picture painted in those days with a sort of halo effect behind his head.

"Anyway, what's so special about a halo? Leslie Charteris' detective character, the Saint, is made of matchsticks and he has a halo. I think the picture is very artistic.

"Both Ronald and I are in the

By ANDY GRAY

'Why Not' school. We like to experiment and move ahead if we can. Pop music shouldn't be too careful, and I think the banning of this picture is being unnecessarily careful. I don't think it is offensive. We were just experimenting with lights.

"Perhaps after people have seen 'Privilege' they'll understand why I chose this picture more. Have you seen 'Privilege'?"

Pause

I said I had. There was a pause. "Oh blimey," I think were his words. "What did you think of it?" I said I thought it would cause a lot of controversy. And I asked Paul how he had built up his speaking voice,



This is the cover picture chosen for Paul's "Privilege" EP.

which reminded me of a Cockney mumbling like Marlon Brando in "Waterfront."

"I didn't consciously try to create an accent or voice. I just thought myself into the part and that voice came out," he said.

In that case, I congratulated him. I asked him if he thought of reviving the act he does in the film, in which policemen whip him with their batons and lock him up in a steel cage.

He laughed: "No I think that might be a bit difficult to re-stage. Yet I'm sure the boys who played the police would like to hit me around again. But the NME Poll show is no place for sadism." I agreed.

REVIEW OF PAUL'S FILM EP

PAUL JONES' EP of three songs from "Privilege" (HMV; 7EG8975), features his recent single hit, "I've Been A Bad Bad Boy," which is heard on the film as a song coming from the radio (it's on ALL stations!).

"Free Me" is worked into the picture itself. It's a rock-type beat number which Paul sings inside a steel cage on the stage during one of his concerts, while "policemen-warders" hit the bars with truncheons.

"Privilege," the title tune, is another beat number in which Paul sings his thoughts aloud, telling how everyone is honoured to meet him, how he is famous and how his fame makes him a captive, and how he longs to be free.

The fourth tune ("My Poor Heart Is Surely) Breaking," is not from the film. It's a throbbing beat ballad about breaking up a romance.

Paul's performance is very vital and alive throughout, and he gets top rate beat backing from Mike Leander, who did the arrangements. ALLEN EVANS.



This is the picture of PAUL JONES that Paul wanted to be the cover for his "Privilege" EP—but EMI officials thought otherwise.