

people. David knows he is stepping in where Bobby left off, that the kind of success he is now experiencing happened to Bobby first. But when his turn is over, he's ready for it, to go on with his career as an actor. He won't miss it, he insists.

Judy says of her romance with David, "I hate to talk about it really because we were more friends than sweethearts. But he's groovy and I always had a wonderful time with him. He's **with it!**"

His stepmother, Shirley Jones, who is also his co-star in **The Partridge Family**, says that at first David did get turned on to himself, that his head swelled up a little, but then he came down to earth. "David is really a very intelligent boy," she added. "And he is also very logical."

He returned from making a scene and sat down to watch others in the cast work. "I don't really have time to fall in love with one special girl right now. Maybe I should say I don't have the energy." You know that he was very ill a while back, that he had his gall bladder removed and that he took to the road and those concerts which are jammed with young girls who love him soon afterward. "But I owe it to them," he explained. "I love every one of them, and I hope they know it."

So you know he's having a kind of love affair with his young fans, that he treasures their letters to him and answers as many as he can. Traveling so soon after the operation was very exhausting to him. "I got so tired of getting up at six o'clock in the morning," he admitted.

He has a nice relationship with pretty co-star Susan Day. "We're not romantic," he said, "but we're not like brother and sister either. I guess you could say we understand each other. She's a doll." His eyes wandered toward her, in deep discussion with the director.

What of the future? Does he want to fall in love and, eventually marry? "That's far off," he was quick to say. "I have my career and it's the most important thing in the world to me right now. When the young girls get older, they'll forget me. They don't think so right now, but they will. And I have the acting thing in my blood." You know that David appeared on the Broadway stage in **The Fig Leaves Are Falling**, briefly because the show closed in a few days, but it didn't deter him in the least. He'd found himself and he knew what he wanted from life.

And he'll be cautious about marriage because he knows all about divorce, about the terrible heartache it can bring. His father, Jack Cassidy,

and his mother, Evelyn Ward, were divorced and both remarried. And he has seen some tense moments in his father's marriage to Shirley Jones. He is afraid to be married just yet. He feels that he must be very, very sure before he takes this all-important step.

"Why talk about it?" David asks, smiling. "It's way in the future. It wouldn't be fair to a girl to marry her now. I wouldn't have time to spend with her. And that's not the way to start a marriage."

But you get the idea that the time will come when David will fall in love with one girl, and marry her, and want children of his own.

Until then, though, he's satisfied to date different girls, like Judy Strangis, who understands him so well, and likes him as a person.

And he's more than satisfied with all of his wonderful fans, and with giving them what he can. When he sings **I Think I Love You**, he means it.

He really does love you—and that's enough for now. ●

DONNY

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"Suppose I was going steady with a girl I really cared about," Donny says. "And suppose she heard or read something about me and another girl. Think how she'd feel."

True, if she were the right kind of girl, she'd believe Donny when he said there was no one else. She'd have faith in him. But still, such rumors could hurt, particularly at the beginning of a relationship.

"That's why, for now, I'd rather not go steady," Donny explains. "That's why I want more than one girl."

But we know that someday, when the right girl comes along, Donny will change his mind. And once he's found her, he won't look at anyone else—that's the kind of boy he is. ●

PEGGY LIPTON

