

Tight security for Cassidy

An audience of 15,000 teenagers is tipped for David Cassidy's sole New Zealand concert at Auckland next month by tour manager Simon Dickie, of Harry M. Miller's Melbourne office.

Cassidy, star of the popular television series, "The Partridge Family," will begin his 1974 world concert tour in Auckland on February 26 — just 24 hours before British pop star, Elton John, appears onstage at Auckland's regular outdoor concert venue, Western Springs.

Negotiations to have Eden Park as the concert venue began six weeks ago.

"We had to have a prestige venue and one capable of seating up to 20,000 Cassidy fans," admits Mr Dickie.

"And then we had to consider security facilities — Eden Park is perfect to police."

Security is a must for a Cassidy concert. Screaming, hysterical fans swamped his six British concerts at the Empire Pool, Wembley, and

his subsequent shows

Cassidy will tour Australia and New Zealand with a 19-strong entourage including his own backing band. His tour promoters promise at least a 90-minute performance.

Twenty-three-year-old Cassidy has become a pop phenomenon. His records, as a solo artist or a member of the Partridge Family group, sell into millions.

The hit single of "I Think I Love You," for example has sold nearly six million copies since its release in 1970.

To travel safely in Britain and on the Continent he resorted to private jets and helicopters.

On subsequent visits to London after airport security multiplied and hotels refused service, Cassidy took to houseboats on the Thames.



DAVID CASSIDY . . . 15,000 expected at his Auckland show.