

Birthday Boy

Birthday card manufacturers the world over must be grateful to people like David Cassidy!

He was, of course, twenty three years old last month - narrowly missing Friday 13th by the skin of a day! And I reckon he must have received just about a thousand cards for every year he's been around so far . . . Not bad going at all!!

Actually, that is only a rough estimate . . . David declined to count, and nobody volunteered to do it for him! Well, it's not everyone who wants to spend a couple of months counting through somebody else's Birthday cards!

PARADISE

David's house and the offices at Columbia Ranch were a stamp collector's paradise for the weeks before and after the great day . . . Postmarks from Australia, Japan and Germany jostled with stamps from Africa, Malaysia — and, of course, Britain! In fact, as you might have guessed, the British contingent was noticeably strong!

David was just knocked out by this deluge of good wishes . . .

SAM HYMAN thought and thought . . . What can you give someone who has everything?

"It made my Birthday seem to last for weeks on end," was his smiling comment a few days after his twenty-third. "The cards and presents have been arriving almost non-stop ever since I got back from Europe and they're still going strong. I just can't get over it. And you know why it affects me so specially? . . .

GIFTS GALORE

"Well, you know how it is . . . Every cynic would say that folks only give gifts at Birthdays and Christmas because they're counting on getting the same amount or more back!

"Well, I'd like to know what those guys would have to say about all these wonderful people who give such sweet thoughts to me! Because *they* are giving simply for the joy of giving . . . They've got to be, because they know that I could never send each one of them a personal gift — much as I'd love to. Well, look at it! I can't even get around to writing letters to say *thankyou!*"

Okay, then, any cynic tuned in to this . . . What do you say to that, then?

Fortunately (for David's housekeeper, at least)

David isn't one for throwing mammoth Birthday parties to match the scale of his Birthday mail! In fact, David didn't intend to have a party at all this year, really.

As you know, he's not a great one for the party line anyhow, so he reckoned to spend a very quiet day at home and perhaps invite a couple of friends over to spend the evening.

Well, he did just that and they said how much they'd love to come over. The only thing they didn't mention was that they'd already been invited — by Sam Hyman!

PARTY TIME

Now Sam is no more of a party fan than David is. But he reckoned that there are some occasions that just demand a party — even if it's kept as quite a small one, restricted to close friends.

So he went straight ahead and organised it all, while David thought that *he* was doing the organising!

Sam had invited a few extra people, laid on steak with lots of exciting side salad dishes and fresh vegetables. And he'd stocked up with wine and champagne, too!

David's Birthday dawned



Above: Just a moment's pause.

TWO VIEWS OF DAVID

Below: Now, David lays down the beat.

