



one? And he was all for it! So we're working on the plans right now, and it's fantastic just to know that I've gotten started on the project."

The house Sam has been working on, which is due to be completed by the end of the year, is a round one. And that set David thinking—"I've never been one to go for your conventional rectangular 'shed-type' ranch-houses," he told me. "I've always found it kinda depressing to drive along a street and see house after house looking more or less the same."

### CHOICE

"Of course," he added, "I realise that most folks don't have too much choice about the design of their house. But everybody can do *something* about it! They can think up some original touch that reflects their personal involvement in their home. And that's nice."

David knows that he's very lucky and privileged to have such complete freedom to decide on the type of home he'll have. But he means to make the most of that wonderful opportunity!

"I don't reckon on having it *absolutely* round," he said—evidently thinking aloud, "but it'll have a lot of curves in its shape, so that the outline will be soft and flowing instead of being hard and square."

"And there'll be lots of wood and glass... In fact, as far as possible, I'll be using the natural local materials, so that my home will fit in with its environment."

◆ Dave Madden keeps Shirley and David amused between takes, taking off the Partridge Family director.

"And that's not all, either!" he said, taking a pause for breath just long enough for me to ask him what else he'd got planned for the Cassidy nook.

"Well, as you know, I'm big on ecology right now," he replied, "and we're hoping to do all sorts of exciting things, so that the ranch won't only be aesthetically pleasing, but so as it won't be a drain on the local resources, either."

My raised eyebrows must have implied the question I was going to ask next, 'cos David launched straight into answering it: "We're figuring on using the wind to provide the electric power and the sun for heating the hot water and warming the place."

Now that really did sound exciting, but I couldn't help pointing out to David that it might also be a little risky at times!

"Oh, sure," he agreed. "When you're relying on nature to provide your electricity, there's going to be the odd time when you can't turn on your stereo. But what does that matter?"

And he smiled as he added: "I can always go play guitar or piano instead!"

David seemed a little disappointed that he might have to miss out on the first phase of the building because of the time factor: "You see, at the moment it seems like we can expect to finish with the Partridge Family around February time."

"And then I'd like to do a really big tour... Taking in Britain and the rest of Europe, with Australia and Japan too, I hope! That would take up most of March and April, I guess... What with planning, rehearsing and doing the tour itself.

"But you know how it is, Linda... It's almost impossible to fix things that

definitely. 'Cos it'll all depend on whether I can get the right venues for those dates. And I might end up with the tour being slightly earlier or later...

"Anyhow, whatever happens, we reckon to start work on the ranch in May time, and I shall certainly be doing all I can to be back for that!

"Why do I want to work on it myself? Well, I reckon it'll be an outsize experience! For a start, it's just gotta be so healthy! And, when you see how bronzed Sam's gotten, I'll bet you'll be asking to come and join us!

### ENTHUSIASM

"But it's more than that..." he added in a more serious tone. "I've seen from Sam that this sort of work can change your whole life-style. And—most important of all—it means that you have some part in the vibrations that will be in your own home! That's so important, because it's just got to give a special depth to the feeling that you get from the house later on... Do you see?"

I certainly did see!

When David talks about *anything* with that sort of enthusiasm, who could help seeing the whole thing his way?!

I must say, it's taken me a while to get used to the thought of our David turned carpenter and builder's labourer! I guess it may take you a while to adjust, too... But, meanwhile, I can assure you of one thing. David will look just as gorgeous as ever, and be every bit as adorable! And it's great to know that he'll be wonderfully happy at the same time! Right?

And there's just one other thing... I reckon I know one building site that'll have no shortage of volunteer workers around May '74!!!