

all' right now, and fit in a trip to Italy before I got into rehearsals for the tour. But, with rehearsals due to start in earnest any day now, there doesn't seem too much chance of that.

I might still make it. But I figure that preparations for the show come way before any vacation. And I know that everyone else who's involved feels exactly the same way.

It's really going to feel something like a big family party while we're on tour. 'Cos we've all worked together before, so we don't need to reckon on any of those edgy hang-ups while we feel into getting to know each other. We're there already!

ROAD MANAGER

I'm hoping that Sam'll be coming along as well—maybe as road manager, which would be real nice. I can't see him staying home while we all go off round the world without him! And I know he'd love to come. Especially as he's your original Europhile—next after yours truly, of course!

But right now he's gotten himself involved in some big project for educational television. I tell you, if you turn your back on Sam for one minute, he'll have himself tied up in *some* new venture.

This time it went straight from housebuilding to educational animation on TV!

You know, I reckon it might be *safer* for him to pack his bags and come along with us!

Talking of housebuilding, I guess I must have told you already about my latest idea for a new house. And I'm really serious about it. This is one project that I do NOT intend to let slide! So Sam and I have started looking around for a place lately. . . . Somewhere a bit further out from L.A. than we are now, with a good bit of land around it, so we can keep horses. You know, we've gotten quite a sizeable patch of land here now . . . plenty for vegetables, flowers and trees—that sort of thing. But, at most, we'd only have space for *one* horse. And that's not what I've got in mind at all!

No . . . I really want room for lots of horses, so I can start to fulfil one of my

long-term ambitions—to breed them.

Of course, I've never really had time to go in for that sort of thing seriously up till now. But, now that I've left the Partridge Family, I'm hoping I'll be able to organise a working schedule for myself that'll be slightly more flexible.

It won't be so important to live close in to L.A. any more, either, and I can't wait to get out into something more like real countryside! Now that I won't have to be checking in at the studios at some unearthly hour every morning, I don't have to worry too much where I shack down.

So, after I get back from this tour, I'm figuring on a pretty big change in my way of life. . . . For a while anyhow. It'll be terrific to work on the land for a spell, to be with the horses, to build my own home, and generally to get away from the pace and pollutions of city life.

Not that I'll be 'dropping out' in any dramatic way. . . . I've had my turn at that—long ago in my high school days! No . . . I still plan on spending time in the studios, making records . . . maybe doing some acting. A lot'll depend on the right property coming up. Because I'm lucky enough now to be able to wait for the part I reckon is 'right' for *me*. And there can't be too many actors my age who are that lucky.

But I've a notion I might let things ride a while. There's always a danger for an actor who's played in a long-running series that he might get type-cast. And I've played Keith for long enough now. I don't want to step straight into another part that's Keith all over again in all but name.

Anyway, I guess it won't do me any harm to recharge my batteries for a while. I reckon it's something every artist needs to do from time to time. I certainly know that the one chance I had to try it out last year was a real revelation. It made me feel like a new guy. . . . And I know, for sure, that it helped my music an awful lot.

So let's see what the 1974 Cassidy Renovation Service comes up with this time!

Love, David

