

WHY DAVID WILL NEVER QUIT!

David Cassidy could no more quit show business than he could fly. I say this as one who has followed his career from the earliest appearances on the Part-ridge Family, right through to the present.

So let's settle this now, once and for all. I don't expect anyone to take my word for it, and how could I? We've all been deceived too many times before by journalists and publications claiming to present the truth. With that in mind, I really couldn't expect you to believe me, just because I say it's so.

Instead, I'll try and give you an insight into the reasons why I believe that he won't quit now, or in the near future.

Shall we start at the beginning? Those of you who have been following The David Cassidy Story in these pages will remember only too well that David's career has not always been a bed of roses—far from it!

If anything, it was a long, hard grind. Of course, David had seen enough of show business in his early years to know what it meant to anyone who chose it as a way of life. Both his parents had spent most of their lives in the theatre.

Hard work, long hours, the

tedium of rehearsals . . . this was standard for performers. But there were fringe disadvantages as well. Things like long separations from loved ones, spells of unemployment, the heartbreak of unsuccessful auditions, these were the hard facts of life in any area of show business.

And they were well known to David long before he was concerned about a career. Perhaps his parents' divorce was even caused by the stresses of show business. And that was the unhappiest event in David's life.

CALLING

With all this as his common knowledge of the world of show business, some might say, it would take someone who *likes* to be hurt to consider a career with so many thorns.

Well, I can tell you, David doesn't particularly like to be hurt! There was something else that made him decide to become an entertainer. I don't know if you could describe it as a "calling", but there was something about entertaining that attracted David from the very beginning.

After the usual high school drama classes, followed by graduation, David made that first big decision. He would pursue a career in show business, and not first in Cali-

fornia, either, but in New York.

He could have stayed in Los Angeles, with all the friends he had known for so long, and all the comforts he had grown accustomed to.

In those days it was acting that he wanted most, and he knew that the only way to achieve success as an actor was to go to the source—the New York stage.

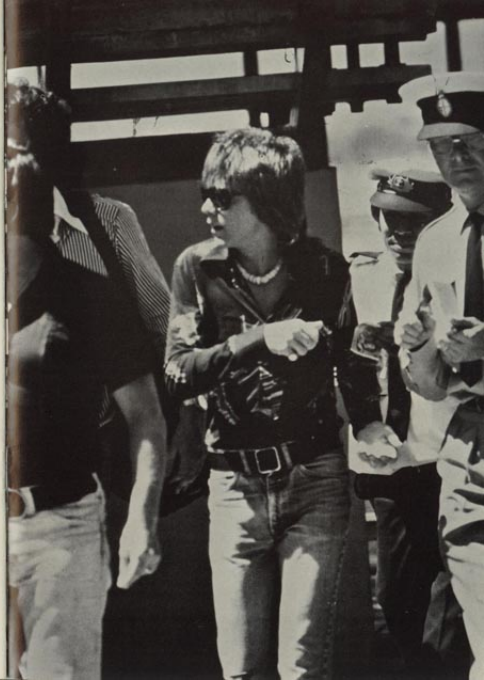
It was there that he would carefully learn the rudiments of a skilled and fragile profession, fragile in the sense that, regardless of what art or learning he experienced, he would have to strive just as hard to remain natural.

We all know about David's career on the New York stage, his critically acclaimed performance in the shortlived *The Fig Leaves Are Falling*, the hard slog of drama, voice and singing lessons.

When David returned to California, he was outwardly the same, fresh, enthusiastic bloke who had left, and he was still determined to make a go of it in show business. But inwardly, he was much more skilled and disciplined, and anxious to explore another part of the "show biz" world: television.

There *are* easier ways to make a living! David's father, Jack Cassidy, would have been glad to send his son to college. That would have been a good deal easier (and it was certainly easy enough for Keith Part-ridge!) for David.

But it was still what David



Security men at Sydney airport surround David: first-class service for first-class people!