



HOW YOU GOT THE PARTRIDGE FAMILY SERIES ONTO LONDON T.V.

'Who do we want?—DAVID CASSIDY'!

That was just one of the chants that rang out through Shepherd's Bush on Saturday, 2nd September—only three days before David himself landed in Britain and proved to be the darling of the British Press and—surprise! surprise!—of the BBC!

How the BBC could be so hot on David and yet persist in turning the cold shoulder on the Partridge Family Show, we just couldn't understand. And it's a mystery that started to make all ardent fans of David and the Partridges just a little bit angry. . . .

Even if the Beeb hadn't previously connected David with the show, last month's demo must surely have changed all that. Because the main emphasis of the march was, without a shadow of doubt: "Bring Back David!"

Determined Fans

David Cassidy posters and banners waved alongside more general Partridge Family ones as the determined fans marched down Wood Lane, armed with petitions, their love of David—and the hope that the BBC would finally capitulate and recognise a real public demand when they saw one.

The staunch supporters of the show who turned up, regarded themselves as a sort of Committee of Representatives,

acting on behalf of all the others who would have liked to be there but could not, for one reason or another, make it.

"There's so many girls I know who really wanted to come," pointed out Jenny Marshall, of Sidcup, in Kent, "but they've got to work on Saturdays and they can't risk losing their jobs—not even for David!"

The chief organisers of the demo: Kim Pollard, Kay Beresford, Lisa Lazell and Nicola Walker, agreed that they had hoped that more fans would be able to join in the demo. But they had received hundreds of letters of support and encouragement from those who had to stay at home. For those living a long way from London, of course, there was the additional problem of expensive fares, which some simply couldn't afford. And many Mums, very sensibly, put the bar up to their teenage daughters hitch-hiking from somewhere like Glasgow or Durham.

Some lucky David Cassidy fans, like Anne Palmer, Phil-

ippa Jones and Gillian Clees, from Worcester, managed to get over that problem by persuading a sympathetic Dad to drive them up to London specially for the demo.

Others, like Glynis Fuller and Connie Swallow, had made their own way by train—from the Isle of Wight! In fact, for Glynis and Connie, this was just the start of a "David Cassidy Week" because they planned to stay in London until David had taken off on his return flight to the States.

There seemed to be representatives from just about every part of England and Wales, with girls coming from places as far afield as Birmingham, Southampton, Durham, Manchester and Cardiff—with a strong contingent from the London area, as you'd expect.

They had started to gather on Shepherd's Bush Green at about 1.30, with Rekha Dixit, from Hounslow joining the organisers as one of the first to arrive. By two o'clock, the growing numbers had begun to attract the attention of Saturday afternoon shoppers, many of whom felt that the colourful array of posters and placards made it worth sticking around to see what would happen next.

Cassidy Column

The Cassidy column started marching, dead on schedule, at 3.00 p.m. and really was an impressive sight, as it made progress towards the TV Centre.

In what was to turn out to be a final attempt to convince the powers that be (or the powers that booted—depending on your way of thinking!) the four organisers of the march went inside the BBC precincts to present their petitions and try to get across their point of view.

A resounding cheer greeted the four girls when they emerged again from behind the barred gates of the Beeb, and I spoke to Kim, Kay and Lisa soon afterwards.

They all agreed that the BBC official who had seen them, had given them a good hearing and had seemed to accept the points which they had put forward.

"He agreed that it was very reasonable for us to want more TV specifically aimed at a teen-

