

on-the-set with the PARTRIDGE Family

By JANE JOYCE
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acting, and I decided to try and make a success of acting." Someday, however, Susan thinks she will attend college.



FOR THE CAMERAS, Susan Dey must wear make-up, but it's only a light base with a touch of mascara.

Not only Susan has a visitor today. Dave Madden has been entertaining guests all week, bringing first an aunt who lives in Florida to see where and how he works. She was quite impressed with all the hustle and bustle that goes into making a television show, and now she has something to tell all her Florida friends about.

Look, right behind Dave Madden is another Dave Madden! Or so it seems. We both take another look, a long one this time, and are glad to find that our eyes aren't tricking us—after all, it's still early in the morning. The Dave Madden look-alike is his brother, a close match for the original Dave if ever there is one. A third member of the Madden family, a sister, is a teacher in Indiana, and Dave tell us that she has had a book of plays published. And he says it proudly, too.

Before going on location, there is one scene to be filmed on the sound stage. It's a shot requiring music, and since you've been wondering how the nightclub scenes or the ones showing the Partridge Family rehearsing in their garage are filmed, you take a chair up front. Checking the canvas back of the chair, you notice that it's Danny Bona-

duce's, and when you catch his attention, he reassures you that it's okay for you to sit there; he's going to be too busy to sit down for quite a while.

It would be really nice to hear the Partridges sing and play a number live, especially to hear David and Shirley sing together, but the sound technician explains to you that it would be too hard to match the takes (the bits of action filmed are each called "takes;" a successful take is a "print") each time. So he points out to you a large tape recorder and a huge amplifier, and soon enough, when the action begins, the Partridges' music comes on loud and exciting. The mood catches, and you find yourself keeping the beat, watching David tap his toe and sing the words. Even though the music is taped, he sings along out loud so that his mouth will move in time to the music and the film will be synced (syncopated) to the song.

Once the music scene is filmed, everyone scrambles to change out of their special night club costumes to be ready on time to leave for the location shots. We get into the long, long car called the "stretch-out" and learn from the driver that there will be two stops for filming. One is a motel used as the background for a show in which the family is attacked by a skunk, and the second stop will be a park in Los Angeles where the Partridges are supposed to be enjoying a picnic lunch.

Suddenly the four seats of the stretch-out fill with Partridges, and you find that on your left is David and on your right is Jeremy. Each of them invites you to spend your lunch time, coming soon, with him, but somehow, despite Jeremy's consideration, you choose David's invitation. Maybe you could say it's only because David is nearer your age!

The first location shot, at the motel, draws a small crowd of people walking by or staying at the motel itself. By mistake (or is it?) one lady tourist asks you for your autograph, and although you explain you are only visiting for the day, she insists. You sign and wonder if maybe someday that autograph will be famous. David and the other Partridges are also asked to sign this lady's book, and it really pleases you to know you have become at least a "cousin" to the Partridges.

DAVID CASSIDY isn't the only one in the Partridge Family to get calls from fans! Suzanne does too!



JEREMY SAYS THAT SHIRLEY is like a second mother to him. All the Partridges get along beautifully!

On to the second location! At the park, the camera crews set up their equipment and the lights are arranged for the first scenes to be shot right after lunch. But now comes David, bringing two box lunches, and the two of you go over to a shaded picnic bench and enjoy the rest from the noise and the sunshine. Inside your box lunch are two sandwiches, a hard-boiled egg, some salad, a piece of fruit, and some cake, and you and David trade with each other until you each have what you like best. You spend the hour sitting quietly and contentedly—you're happy and so is David. But lunch goes by too quickly and it's back to work for David. He thanks you for letting him just be himself for a little while; how could you not like him after that?

Now that it's school time for the younger kids, they have to get in their three hours of school a day, and that means school lessons even when the company is on location. Today, the teacher has set up work tables under the trees in the park, and whenever they are free, Danny, Jeremy, and Suzanne have to study with her. Three hours doesn't sound like much work, but together with rehearsal time and shooting itself, the kids have a long day of eight hours. Suzanne loves school, and some of her drawings are now set decorations on the garage walls of the Partridge Family house. If you look closely enough sometime, maybe you'll be able to see her pictures hanging there.

At last the director calls "print" for the last time today, and the crews start to repack their equipment in the trucks. It's been an exciting day for you, and now you know a little more of all the work that goes into the Partridge Family Show. You'll also be looking for the show that was being filmed today whenever it comes on television, and you'll have lots of memories of things that went on behind the scenes that will never be known except by you. The stretch-out takes us all home to the studio, and again you sit next to David. As he says good-bye, you know he means it when he says he had a very, very nice day and maybe someday he'll take you on a real picnic.