

For the "stay-at-homes" in this country, there was plenty to do. **Dave Madden** was very busy with something he might not have planned on happening when he began his vacation. His mother had a serious operation, and **Dave** spent his first week off visiting her in the hospital. "My second week free, I was a Southern California tour guide for a visiting aunt, and when she returned to Florida, I brought my mother to my beach house in Malibu where she recuperated from her operation." **Dave** looked rather tired just talking about his "vacation."

The cast's newcomer to California, **Susan Dey**, decided to take advantage of her free time to see more of the state. For a week, she and I travelled all around California, from Carmel to San Francisco, up to Eureka, over to Redding, back down to San Francisco again, and finally back to Los Angeles. "It was so strange, to travel from large cities like Los Angeles and San Francisco to towns that had populations of fifty or so people. This state is so big and its geography changes so much even only after a few hours driving time... I can't get over it."

Susan admitted that she preferred the small towns to the cities and often wished that she could find the chance to live way out in the country or somewhere along the northern coast. "Sometimes, when the fog came in or the day was cold and crisp, I remembered Cape Cod or being at home in the fall, and I kind of missed being there now. But California has so much to offer that there must be a place I'd feel really 'at home'."

When she did return to Los Angeles, **Susan** did some publicity work for the studio, attending the opening of a new state park near Palm Springs—in the company of **Yogi Bear** and all his gang! The parksite is called, naturally, **Jellystone Park**. Other than give a few interviews, **Susan** didn't do much but relax, read, and try to catch up with her fan mail. "It never struck me how many people would take time out to write to me. I mean, other cast members had told me that the letters would start coming, but I almost didn't believe them until the first big batch arrived one day, and I saw a sample of the many people who watch our show. It's really wonderful!"

There were three Partridges who really didn't have a vacation after all—all the kids had to stop work only to find out they were going to school instead! "Some break," seemed to be the general feeling about that fact! But **Jeremy** and **Suzanne** returned to their neighborhood schools, joined clubs, and kind of enjoyed knowing that they weren't just school kids, they were actors also. Along with his regular school work, **Jeremy** joined the chorus,

took drum lessons, and practiced his music regularly. He is considering taking skiing lessons in the winter and going into the next rank in Boy Scouting in the spring. All this work, and **Jeremy** answered his fan letters, too, so his "vacation" from the set made his days more like a very busy time than a real break from working.

Like **Jeremy**, **Suzanne** went back to her usual school, and her mother says that she really "enjoyed it, but she missed all the people on the set." With her family, **Suzanne** went for Sunday drives, visited **Knotts Berry Farm**, and went to see her sister in **Alhambra**. The special thing about going to see that particular sister is that she is going to be married in December, and **Suzanne** is in the wedding party! When she came back to work, **Suzanne** had a few more surprises to show everyone—even less teeth than before, a result of visiting the dentist! Some vacation!



SOMETIMES BETWEEN takes, when they are not in school, **Danny** and **Suzanne** play card games together.

Well, of all the younger Partridges, it looks like **Danny** takes the prize for having the most things happen to him and his family. The most ordinary routine of the days was to go to school and come home to play, but "minor things" like the brush fires that threatened his house, the burst water heater that flooded his bedroom, and the fire in his house that ruined the kitchen and caused smoke damage to the rest of the house were some of the unusual "events" of **Danny's** vacation!

When the major and dangerous brush fires went through the canyon where the **Bonaduce** family lives, **Danny** climbed on the roof and wet it down with the hose. Meanwhile, his family packed their most valuable things into the cars, ready to leave immediately if the winds shifted and their house caught fire. Luckily, that didn't happen, but not long after that, the water heater exploded, and **Danny** found his bedroom full of water—if water wasn't over his head, it was under his feet! That was cleared away, and then, just before he had to return to work on the set, **Danny** found himself without any



SINCE THE PARTRIDGE kids must spend 4 hours a day in school, sometimes they study between shots on set.

bedroom at all because his house was full of smoke from a kitchen fire!

While I was asking around about this last vacation, I was also curious to discover how the Partridges would spend their next big vacation, which comes at Christmas. The usual answer was, "Well, at the rate we are shooting this series, we will be filming right up to and on Christmas Eve, so I really don't have any definite plans." **Shirley** said that no matter what happened with the filming, she knew she would be at home with her children on Christmas Day.

David Cassidy hopes he can go east to New Jersey to visit with relatives here, and with luck, **Susan** will be back in New York with her family too. **Jeremy** is hoping to see a white Christmas this year because he wants to go skiing with his family. That means the **Gelbwaks** will probably be going up north in California, and the **Croughs** are thinking of taking a trip to San Francisco at Christmas time. "Our family is so big, one sister in Connecticut, another one way, way up in California, and other children all in between, that it seems wisest to plan on meeting some place most convenient for the most people," says **Mrs. Crough**. "No matter though, where we are, it's most important that we are all together as a family." The **Bonaduces** want to have their family together, too, and so it is possible they will go to Philadelphia for a visit to their aunts and other relatives. There will be parties to attend, "one for the friends we haven't seen in so long, and the other one for the family itself." And the special Christmas meal for the **Bonaduces** is turkey with creamed chestnuts and pumpkin pie.

So the general hope from all the Partridges is to be with their families at Christmas, and the next most hoped-for thing is to have a white Christmas. To the Partridges, Christmas equals family equals Christmas, no matter where they are!