## David Cassidy's Is A Gentle Voice

NEW YORK—Gentle-voiced little David Cassidy was buying a pineapple island in the Pacific from his big earnings as a teenagers' superstar that recent afternoon. He was rehearsing in a studio on W. 41st st. and gesturing to the orchestra as he sang to an imaginary sweetheart: "I can't live without chuuuu."

He was the least ostentatious — and most successful — man in the building, and probably the smallest (120 pounds) and youngest (22 next month).

He'd been drinking from a can of beer as he worked, but with his bell-bottom corduroys flapping, we moved to a quiet upstairs room around a piano.

## "WHO'S TAKING CARE of your money, David?"

"Lee Bush, a business manager and accountant. I'm investing in oil. I'm in the process of buying quite a bit of land on an island in the Pacific."

He explained as he looked up at me: "If you own a lot of land, you can stand in the middle of it and they really can't see you. I like to be alone sometimes and I find it difficult to be alone. It'd be kind of nice to live on a farm and eat some fruit off the trees. Just enough space to spread out and be free and be in a positive frame of mind."

## "WHAT ACCOUNTS for your success?"

"I suppose it's timing . . . The vehicle, the show, had a lot to do with it . . . And the records . . . People were ready for it and for me."

Was he going to make a million dollars this year?

"I haven't heard any legitimate figure. You can estimate \$1 million, \$2 million or \$100,000. Depends how many records you sell, how you do on concert . . ."

HE WAS SMALLER than I expected, his hair not as long, his manner quieter and easier. For example, his greeting to me was: "Good of you to come." And his manner with the musicians was almost apologetic rather than that of a lordly star.

He remarked to one of his entourage: "That girl was really pretty, Henry," referring to some visitor.

He said he had no plans to get married. "But some day I'd like to do that with somebody."