## WHO'S WHO



Shirley Jones listens to the complaints of her television family. David Cassidy is on the right.

## The Partridge's mother hen

"The Partridge Family," a comedy series now in its third season on the ABC Television Network, has enjoyed great and widespread popularity since its debut.

Shirley Partridge and her five children are in show business as a contemporary music group. Each episode features at least one new song written especially for the program, and the stories are principally concerned with family and social relationships that inspire universal identification.

Academy Award winner ("Elmer Gantry") Shirley Jones stars as Shirley Partridge. Her stepson, David Cassidy, co-stars as her oldest son, Keith, lead singer of the group. Susan Dey is Laurie, a teenaged pacifist who will back any meaningful cause. Danny Bonaduce portrays the 12-year-old financial wizard and con artist of the Partridges.

Reuben Kincaid, the rattled agent who professes to hate children but copes, is played by Dave Madden. Christopher, the 8-year-old drummer of the family, is played by Brian Forster. Suzanne Crough is seen as 7-year-old Tracy.

Shirley Jones is firmly established as one of television's select leading ladies. The beauteous singer-actress was born in Smithtown, Pa., where her father, the late Paul Jones, owned a brewery. Her mother, Marjorie Williams Jones, was a housewife. Shirley attended South Huntington Township High School and later joined the Playhouse School of Drama in Pittsburgh. She started singing when she was 3 and was active in church choirs and high school plays.

She was Miss Pittsburgh and the runner-up for the Miss Pennsylvania title in the Miss America competition and the following year was singing in Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera productions. She auditioned for Rodgers and Hammerstein and won a part in the chorus of "South Pacific." A small role in "Me and Juliet" followed, and she later played the lead in the national touring company.

THE TURNING point was the lead in the move version of "Oklahoma!" But it wasn't until several feature film roles later that she received recogni-

tion as an actress. Her performance as Lulu Baines in "Elmer Gantry" was her an Oscar.

She next co-starred with Robert Preston in "The Music Man." Among her other films are "The Courtship of Eddies Father" with Glenn Ford, "Bedtime Story," co-starring Marlon Brando and David Niven, "Fluffy," "The Secret of My Success" and "April Lover."

Miss Jones has appeared in some 50 major television shows including most of TV's top dramatic and variety shows. She was nominated for a 1969-70 Emmy for her performance in the "World Premiere" film, "Silent Night, Lonely Night." Her most recent motion pictures are "The Happy Ending" with Jean Simmons, John Forsythe and Lloyd Bridges; and "The Cheyenne Social Club," co-starring James Stewart and Henry Fonda.

Shirley has three sons by her marriage to actor-singer Jack Cassidy — Shaun Paul, 13, Patrick William, 10, and Ryan John, 6. The family lives in Beverly Hills, Calif.