## personally to you

## David talks about some places he likes - from a Planetarium to coffee shops!

Hello, luvs!

I've just been taking a rest for a few minutes and thought I'd read some more of your

luvly letters.

Many of you who've written me seem to want to know what I like to do when I'm not working, besides big things like going off on camping trips and journeys to Europe. You're asking me about the sort of every day things I like to do around town, and places I dig in the Hollywood area.

Well, I'm about to answer, providing I can think of one of them now that I'm trying to. (Ten minutes after I have this in the mail, a hundred places and things I should have said will come to mind. Does that crazy kind of thing ever happen to you? Like you finally see someone or get them on the phone and everything you'd been wanting to ask them goes right out of your head and doesn't come back until the person is long gone? Ah, but I digress.)

Hmmm. Places in the Hollywood area. Well, I think one of the greatest places in Hollywood or the entire world for that matter is a movie theatre just down the street from where we do the Partridge series. It's built in the shape of a dome, and looked perfectly normal to me until a friend of mine started making up stories about how it rose up during the night and ate Hollywood and went back over to where it belongs and calmly sat back down and became a movie theatre again and no-one ever knew what happened to Hollywood. I can't even look at the place without thinking about that and just falling out! also really dig the

Planetarium that sits up on a hill in Griffith Park, smiling down at Hollywood. I'm not getting poetic or sickening (well, maybe just a little). The lights around the Planetarium are in a sort of semi-circle, and at night, it looks just like a smile! (And that looks just like a man with a net following me.)

What I really like to do if I have a couple of hours is take the freeway and drive to the mountains and up to the snow. It's always called 'the snow' here, which sounded peculiar when I first came West, but now I'm used to it. When I do this, I must admit it, I get kind of homesick for the Eastern part of the U.S. where I grew up. Winter was really winter back there, and seeing snow makes me want to start throwing snowballs and sliding down hills on garbage can lids (that's a big thing in California) generally acting weird. What I really want to do is learn to ski because I love the outdoors and outdoor sports.

Do you know that I read somewhere that a company is thinking of building a huge indoor place with fake snow and fake hills for people to ski on? Right in Hollywood? There I go,

digressing again.

One of the things I dig most about this area is the stores. The supermarkets are incredible and they seem miles wide and miles long and jammed full of everything in the entire world. I once went in one of those places when I first came to California and stayed there for hours just looking at stuff. All I bought was a pack of potato chips and the clerks kept staring at me strangely, but I just stared back and went on reading labels. It

was wild! Now I'm just as fascinated by the new health food markets, which are just the opposite of huge and shiny. Most of them are small and have big barrels of dried beans and goodies sitting around. It's a real 'general store' type feel-

ing that I dig.

I also love shops where they sell artists' materials. I don't know much about art but these are such neat stores with all kinds of blank canvasses and paints and easels. And the market-places where everyone brings something to trade or sell are just great. These are usually held outside and one day I was driving past one, wishing I had time to stop, when it started absolutely pouring. It was terrible and funny at the same time with things floating away and people trying to put cakes under their coats!

Must not forget to mention the coffee shops in this area. They are incredible, They're not just buildings. They're bunches of arrows and circles and points and painted bright orange or blue. Not all of them, of course, but some of them really flipped the kid from

Back East.

I didn't really do what I started out to, but will talk more about specific places I dig in

