

David's life has never been an easy one — somehow he's always ended up doing things which didn't really satisfy him. As a result he's fought too hard at times — fought with the strength of ten men to be something he isn't.

Remember his hectic concert tour of Europe — how he had to sing at three concerts in one day at the Wembley Pool? After his final appearance he collapsed from sheer exhaustion, mental and physical.

"One of my troubles," he told us, "was that my success came so quickly. For years I struggled to support myself — and then suddenly overnight I became a superstar. I found it very difficult to deal with it all emotionally. I



was confused and I agreed to all sorts of things I should have thought twice about.

"I've been terribly depressed at times. There have been occasions when I couldn't confide in anyone — even Sam, my best friend.

"I'd just withdraw into myself — unable to communicate my unhappiness to any other living soul. I just didn't think anybody who wasn't in my position could hope to understand me. And so on top of everything else, I got lonely..."

But lately things have



started to look up for David.

"When you get yourself into that sort of state, two things can happen. Either you pull yourself out of it by sheer effort of will — or you topple over the brink into despair and insanity.

"There were times when I thought I would go insane. People would say to me, 'Why don't you just give it all up, if it makes such a wreck of you?'. But it's not as simple as that.

"If you're a performer then you're a performer. You can't just wake up one day and decide to be a doctor or a boxer instead. So that wasn't the answer I was looking for.

"I found my answer inside myself. I thought, 'Hey, take a look in the mirror. You're twenty-two



TIME TO DREAM

THERE are some musicians who never make it because they're unable to cope with the strains of success. And there are some who can cope, but are too insensitive to be great. David Cassidy is in between. He's great, but he's also extremely sensitive. This is why David's been cutting down on his public engagements just lately, giving himself time to dream a little...

and you're healthy. You've got a whole life-time ahead of you if you're not a fool. But if you carry on this way, you'll never make thirty! You'll either work yourself into the ground, or you'll freak out completely!"

"So I came to a few important decisions. I decided that I couldn't go on working under the same pressure as before — I'd have to cool it a bit and take it easy.

"And I decided that the time had come to do only those things I was really into. From now on I was only going to act in films