

Treasure Time

LOOK WESTWARD

OCTOBER 3—9



SIXPENCE



DANGER MAN TALKING...

Patrick McGeehan, Britain's highest-paid television star, is back in the role that has made him internationally famous. Read what he has to say inside about the change "Danger Man" has made to his life

'Thunderbirds' in COLOUR

They're the space-craft of tomorrow, manned by an exciting new group of characters... meet these million-pound puppets inside in a preview of the new hour-long series for children — and adults, too!

HATS — BUT NO SWELLED HEAD

PATRICK McGOOHAN exclaimed, cheerfully: "If you want to get ahead, get a hat!"

I had been commenting on the fact that, in the early 'Danger Man' programmes, he was invariably bare-headed. Now — and particularly in the new series (Thursday, 8.0) he dons a wide assortment of hats and caps, and they are becoming something of a trade mark.

Pat decided, for no particular reason, that he would like to wear headgear for one episode. And he has gone on wearing hats.

They all come from one of the better-known multiple stores with branches throughout the country and not from ritzier hatters. You and I can buy the same hats at very modest prices.

There is something symbolic about this down-to-earth touch.

Look what's happened during the past few months. He has become television's highest-paid television star. 'Danger Man' has broken through the trans-Atlantic barrier to become a top show in America, and Pat has become one of the biggest favourites on American TV. His popularity has also spread by leaps and bounds throughout the world.

Take these points one by one. The money side interests him a lot. "I am a working actor. The most important thing is to provide security for my family. I am able to do this," he says candidly.

The money hasn't affected his way of life. He had already moved into a new house; has a family car, and has no desire to expand into the super-luxury class.

He enjoys a drink, but you won't hear champagne corks popping in his home. He likes it best if he can drink it in a pub.

Clothes? Obviously, he can afford to buy good ones. "But," Jimmy Miller, his stand-in and personal assistant, told me emphatically, "it's not the quality of the clothes that has put him into the top ten, but the way he wears them."



Patrick McGooohan, complete with hat which he is now wearing in "Danger Man"

I asked Pat about his attitude towards playing 'Danger Man' John Drake for so long.

"I don't think," he exclaimed, "that one has to apologise for being a television actor. I enjoy playing John Drake, and I'll be happy if I can carry on doing so for several more years. With a different story every fortnight there is plenty of variety."

But it's not really much good asking him to define how he sees John Drake.

"I present the one dimension," he explains. "He is the hero—all white. He is the sort of person people can identify themselves with, as opposed to the larger-than-life Bond type."

This is why John Drake has such an international appeal, and Pat McGooohan is the first to tell you that he is delighted that Americans have taken to him.

"We have to fight the temptation to try to challenge all the other shows that are introducing so many scientific gimmicks," Pat remarked. "'Danger Man' was early in the field with them, but I think it would be wrong to try to over-do them. The format will remain. 'Danger Man' is a feasible programme."

He is also adamant that it should steer clear of sex or sadism.

"I believe," he said firmly, "that we are visitors to people's homes when we appear on their screens, and it pays to be decorous. I feel strongly about that."

JOHN K. NEWNHAM

THE SUEZ AFFAIR

NINE YEARS ago Britain stood poised on the brink of what might have been a third major world war. On October 31, 1956 our forces joined with those of France and Israel in an attack on Nasser's Egypt.

In the first part of the documentary of *The Suez Affair* last week the early history of the canal was told, together with events which led up to Nasser's seizure of the canal in July, 1956.

Without warning he tore up agreements not due to expire till 1968, and nationalised the canal intending to use the revenue from the shipping to pay for the High Dam scheme.

Part Two this week (Wednesday 9.40) follows the now swiftly moving events and their shattering aftermath.

On October 19, 1956, the desperate enmity of Jew

General scene of activity as the Allied beach-head at Port Said is built up

