The soft-spoken composerwhose four singer, whose four albums, "Our Mother the Mountain,"
"Townes Van Zandt," "Delta Momma Blues" and "High,
Low and In Between" are available if you dig for them, doesn't concern himself much with over success "Ha"s, just with overt success.-He's just happy if people listen to his songs and enjoy them.

"It's not that I'm not interested in my career," he said Monday, siping hot tea at the the Passim Coffee House in Cambridge, where pearing through Saturday. pearing through Saturday.

"I am interested But I'm more interested in my set; what I do in Nont of the people who come to see and hear."

"I was doing music long before I thought about being successful, And everybody al-ways says once you really ways says once you really make it they clap for all the wrong reasons.

"I don't have a big following. I have what they call a cult." And at this point, it seems to suit Townes Van Zandt just fine, thank you.

Townes (named after a

on television's "Ed Sullivan show."

He taught himself to play the guitar — a Christmas present - and combined \$10a-night gigs with school.

two didn't mesh. Townes dropped out and became a traveling folk singer.

"My family at first was mystified. Then they got worried." But Townes made out all right.

He started writing his own songs. People started listening, and better yet, other singers started singing his stuff. His song "Two Hands" was recently recorded by-of all people-Elvis Presley.

And "Rollin Stone" wrote him up. It said that "Townes" quiet unassuming voice and guitar come across like a fresh prairie breeze."

So Townes is now ambling along, enjoying the quiet recognition he's experienced so far. But he's uncertain about the success that inevitably awaits him.

Townes Van Zandt

maternal grandfather — "I like the sound of it") was born in Forth Worth, Tex. and raised in Houston. He likes to remind you that Houston "is the second blues capital of the world."

Some of his songs have strains of Houston and strains of Nashville. 'I guess you'd say my lyrics are blues, my music is folk and my voice music is folk and my voice is probably country."

He got into music after watching Elvis Presley gyrate

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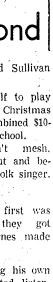
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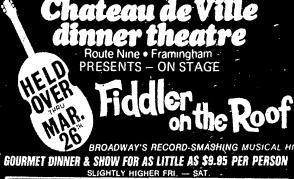
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