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PRODUCTION NOTES

ON

"A SUMMER PLACE"

"A Summer Place," the popular novel of 1958, is now being brought to the screen by Warner Bros. as a Technicolor production, starring Richard Egan, Dorothy McGuire, Sandra Dee, Arthur Kennedy and Troy Donahue and featuring Constance Ford and Beulah Bondi.

The direction of the motion picture was entrusted to one of Hollywood's great talents, Delmer Daves, who also wrote the screen adaptation.

THE STORY

"A Summer Place," a best-seller which was also serialized in McCall's Magazine, was written by Sloan Wilson, the young author of "The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit."

Wilson held numerous jobs during the 15 years it took him to become a full-time novelist. He has been a blacksmith in a shipyard, a sailing instructor, a Coast Guard officer, an English professor and a public relations man.

"A Summer Place" is a present day story in a Maine background. Millionaire Ken Jorgenson with his wife, Helen, and daughter, Molly, returns to the Pine Island mansion where he once worked as a life guard. The owner, Bart Hunter, has dissipated the family fortune and is now operating the summer place with his wife, Sylvia, and son, Johnny, as an inn for paying guests. Ken and Sylvia face their old love, determine on divorces. The scandal causes difficult problems for Molly and Johnny, who forget their loneliness in each other. Like their parents 20 years ago they have an illicit love affair. How the problems are resolved and greater understanding between the parents and children established, is frankly and sensitively told.

THE PLAYERS

Richard Egan portrays the self-made millionaire, Ken Jorgenson. It is a return to Warner Bros. for the talented young actor, who made his debut at the studio in a bit role in "The Return of the Frontiersman" after completing his college education at the University of San Francisco

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and Stanford University. His more recent films include "Love Me Tender," "Slaughter on Tenth Avenue" and "The Hunters."

Dorothy McGuire, who has captivated audiences on both stage and screen, is cast as Sylvia Hunter, trapped into marriage to a man she never really loved. Miss McGuire first arrived in Hollywood to recreate the title role in the film version of her Broadway hit, "Claudia." She has since starred in such pictures as "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," "Enchanted Cottage," "Three Coins in the Fountain," "Friendly Persuasion" and "The Remarkable Mr. Pennypacker."

Beautiful 16-year-old Sandra Dee was borrowed from Universal-International to play Molly Jorgenson, the voluptuous teen-ager with a love of living and a great capacity to love. After only two years in Hollywood the ex-New York child model has become an important new star. "A Summer Place" is her eighth motion picture following such films as "Until They Sail," "Gidget," "The Reluctant Debutante" and "Imitation of Life." She was originally brought to Hollywood after several impressive appearances on New York TV shows.

Five-time Academy Award nominee Arthur Kennedy returned to Warner Bros. where he made his film bow as James Cagney's brother in "City for Conquest." In "A Summer Place" he is playing Bart Hunter, a cultured gentlemen with a wicked sense of humor and a love of the bottle. Kennedy won his Oscar nominations for "Some Came Running," "Peyton Place," "Champion," "Trial" and "Bright Victory." On the stage he has appeared in "All My Sons," "Death of a Salesman" and "Time Limit."

Troy Donahue, a handsome young New Yorker, is seen as John Hunter, the scion of a distinguished New England family. After a long search for the right actor for this role Warner Bros. signed the talented newcomer to a long term contract as well as for the picture. Donahue has had summer stock experience in the East and has played small roles in a number of Universal-International films before coming to Warner Bros.

Broadway actress, Constance Ford is cast in the highly dramatic role of Helen Hunter, the domineering wife and mother. The ex-Conover model made her stage debut with Arthur Kennedy in "Death of a Salesman." She has since appeared in numerous plays as well as TV dramas. Most recently she starred opposite David Wayne for one year in the New York stage musical, "Say, Darling."

Famed character actress Beulah Bondi portrays Mrs. Hamble, an independent dowager, and long-time friend of the Hunter family. Miss Bondi completed a featured role in "The Big Fisherman" just before beginning "A Summer Place." As a youngster she started her career in 1921 playing elderly women with the Stuart Walker Stock Company in Indianapolis. Ever since she has been portraying with distinction ladies well along in years.

THE LOCATION

Since snows prevented shooting "A Summer Place" in Maine during the months of February and March, Delmer Daves was able to find a suitable Maine setting in the Monterey Peninsula of California.

Daves was familiar with this section of Northern California when as a Stanford University student he acted in Little Theatre productions in Carmel. He knew the rocky coast and pine woods would give moviegoers the proper feeling of Maine as well as the chance to see some of the most beautiful scenery in the world.

The motion picture was shot in varied spots in Carmel, Pacific Grove, Monterey, Pebble Beach and along the famed scenic 17 mile drive. Exteriors for the Victorian type summer place in the story were filmed at the home of William LaPorte, ex-Mayor of Pacific Grove. A Carmel landmark, the house designed by the noted architect, the late Frank Lloyd Wright, serves as the beach house of Richard Egan and Dorothy McGuire.

THE MEN BEHIND THE SCENE

Delmer Daves has been successively property man, actor, screen writer and director. He came to Warner Bros. as a scenarist on such pictures as "Shipmates Forever," "Flirtation Walk," "Page Miss Glory" and "The Petrified Forest." He also directed his first motion picture at Warner Bros. when he was assigned to "Destination Tokyo" for which he had written the screenplay. Since then, whenever possible, he has written as well as directed his motion pictures. Some of the more recent pictures Daves has directed are "The Hanging Tree," "Kings Go Forth," "3:10 to Yuma" and "Cowboy."

The director of cinematography is eight-time Academy Award nominee, Harry Stradling. He won an Oscar for "The Picture of Dorian Gray" and nominations for "Auntie Mame," "Guys and Dolls," "Hans Christian Andersen," "The Eddie Duchin Story," "A Streetcar Named Desire," "The Human Comedy" and "The Barkers of Broadway."

The dresses of Dorothy McGuire, Sandra Dee and Constance Ford were designed by Howard Shoup, who was the dress designer on "The Young Philadelphians" and "Marjorie Morningstar."

Art director was Leo K. Kuter, who was responsible for the sets of "Rio Bravo" and "Onionhead." William Kuehl, most recently on "The Naked and the Dead" and "Pajama Game," was the set dresser.

Owen Marks, who was the film editor for Daves on "The Hanging Tree," repeats on "A Summer Place." Russell Llewellyn, assistant director on such motion pictures as "The Old Man and the Sea" and "The Hanging Tree," assisted Daves on this one.