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Author(s)	Allen M. Widem
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(All in a Night's Work

Paramount-Wallis—A sure winner

(*Technicolor—VistaVision*)

That personable Dean Martin and winsome Shirley MacLaine are sure audience-pleasers has been demonstrated on several past occasions. These two appeal to a wide and diversified range of audience components; they are, within the dimensions and scope of popular motion picture entertainment, players of top calibre. Their fans proclaim loud and lustily that the two can do no wrong. In short, here is a pre-sold starring duo.

This latest Hal Wallis production, handsomely accorded Technicolor and contemporary New York settings, has been deftly directed by Joseph Anthony, working from a shooting script by the accomplished Edmund Beloin, Maurice Richlin and Sidney Sheldon.

The basis story line is concerned with subsequent events after the founder of a huge, one-man publishing empire is found dead, with a smile on his face. Many loose ends, anticipatedly, must be resolved—the avowed intention of a playboy (Martin) to reform and take over the firm, the identity of a mystery girl (research assistant MacLaine) seen dashing out of the deceased's hotel suite at 3 A.M., and a suspected blackmail plot which, if not brought promptly to heel, will bankrupt the company. The preview audience at the Paramount theatre, New Haven, Conn., drowned out long stretches of dialogue.

It's a foregone conclusion, certainly, that Martin will rise resolutely to the occasion, right all matters (it develops that the dead man passed on of natural causes, rather than initially implied violence) and wed Miss MacLaine. She is as pixie-ish as ever, and he's debonair, assured and casually man-about-town-ish.

At the fadeout, the empire is saved; before such happy episode is brought hilariously on-camera, some of the best known and loved "types" on the American screen firmament—Charlie Ruggles, Jerome Cowan and Mabel Albertson among them—contribute hilariously to the tumult and shouting that seemingly abound in a huge empire where chaos rules the roost after the number one man has suddenly checked out.

Although this reunites the five top creators of "Career"—Wallis, director Joseph Anthony, photographer Joseph LaSelle and stars Martin and MacLaine—it is indeed a far cry from that dramatic study of a man dedicated to success.

Here is a fast-moving, inventive, imaginatively-staged farce, replete with sharp dialogue and slapstick situations.

Seen at a sneak preview at the Paramount theatre, New Haven, Conn. Reviewer's Rating: Excellent.—ALLEN M. WIDEM.

Release date March, 1961. Running time, 94 minutes. PCA No. 19659.

Tony Ryder	Dean Martin
Katie Robbins	Shirley MacLaine
Warren Kingsley Sr.	Charlie Ruggles
Warren Kingsley Jr.	Cliff Robertson
Oliver Dunning	Gale Gordon
Sam Weaver	Jerome Cowan
Mrs. Warren Kingsley	Mabel Albertson