Laugh Awhile

'Summer Place' Or 'Everyone's Doing It'

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The latest in Hollywood's growing list of endurance contests is now on display at the Metropolitan theater. It labors under the improbable title of "Summer Place." We would suggest as a more appropriate title, "Everybody's Doing It."

One Family

One lives on a resort island, the remnant of a once rich family now reduced to renting their home. The father has successfully drunk up the family fortune and his wife is getting pretty tired of her confinement to the island coupled with the decreasing attentions of her husband (sort of a poor man's Lady Chatterly). Their son is a handsome new Hollywoodian who seems to be waiting for someone like Sandra Dee to spend the summer with.

Among this summer's guests is another family of three. The father was, many years previous, a lifeguard at the resort and is now returning a triumphant millionaire.

Loveable Spouse

His wife is a real delight who has insisted on separate bedrooms for many years and their daughter (one wonders how they ever had a child) has grown up a typically wonderful teenager in the midst of all the sibling rivalry.

At the reunion of the millionaire father and unfulfilled wife, the audience finds out they had an affair twenty years ago, have never loved their present mates, and decide to meet nightly at the ol' boathouse for a few reminiscent hours.

Young Love

Meanwhile, the two youths have fallen (surprise!) for each other at the exact moment of disclosure that her father is sleeping with his mother. The couples effect mutual divorces, millionaire marries mistress, and they send their kids to distant schools.

Now, about 25 minutes deep in the show, the real complication sets in. Said boy and girl were shipwrecked one fine day, spent one fine night on the beach and "did nothing" since both are typical teenagers. When they return, her mother has a doctor waiting to give her a thorough examination.

Can't Win Them All

The kids theorize in their own typical way that if they are going to be blamed for it, then why not?

An appropriate time later, she (Continued on Page 12)
calls him in the middle of the night and tells him the glad tidings. In a soul-searching scene in the phone booth, he decides to accept responsibilities and quickly decided that they should get married, quickly.

It’s All In the Game
Not being able to go to his father (he’s awaiting removal to Naval Hospital for uncontrollable ulcers) they return to the welcome arms of his new father and her new mother to settle down midst platitudes, sea gulls, and boathouses and raise a new generation. This group is so fertile they may return in “Son of Summer Place.”