

Farmington Players:

Maugham Brings Casemore Back To Barn



By SUE SHAUGHNESSY
 Sometime last spring the Farmington Players chose a play by Somerset Maugham as their winter production. At a later date, Bob Casemore was picked as the director for the production. It's an almost unbeatable combination.

THE PLAY is "The Letter" based upon Maugham's short story of the same name and is set in the South Pacific. Opening night of the Farmington production is Feb. 13 in the Players Barn on 12 Mile. A total of nine performances are scheduled over the last three weekends of February. The combination of

Maugham and Casemore is almost unbeatable because the Players have found a director who has a vast knowledge and understanding of the author's writings that spans more than 20 years. CASEMORE, who last directed for the Players in 1965, admits that the choice of a

Maugham play was one of the reasons that he took the job. "Maugham never made any pretensions about being anything but a cracking good story teller and that's what the Letter is, a good story with suspense and a very humorous," Casemore explains. The director said that he enjoys the South Seas setting

because of service in the Pacific during World War II. "Right after the war," he explained, "I wrote Maugham asking for the dramatization rights for his short story, 'The Fall of Edward Bernard.' Maugham replied that he had given the rights to someone in Hungary, but if I wanted to take a chance that

the option wouldn't be picked up to go ahead and see if the other writer ever did dramatize the story. "I thought I had an edge as I had just come back from the Pacific," Casemore said, "and I went on with the work. The other writer did dramatize the story, but I have never seen it in an English version and mine

called 'The Constant Third' never was produced." THE DIRECTOR says that some rewriting has been done to "The Letter" which was written in 1927, but merely to update the play and not to change the story line. Tickets for the production may be obtained by contacting George Mathin at 474-3872.

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