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The Day smile at 3 months.

MOVIES

WHO SAYS I'VE CHANGED?

This picture profile of her career from singer to Hollywood's top female star shows that the years have indeed transformed her; yet, in another sense, she's still the same fresh-looking "girl next door"

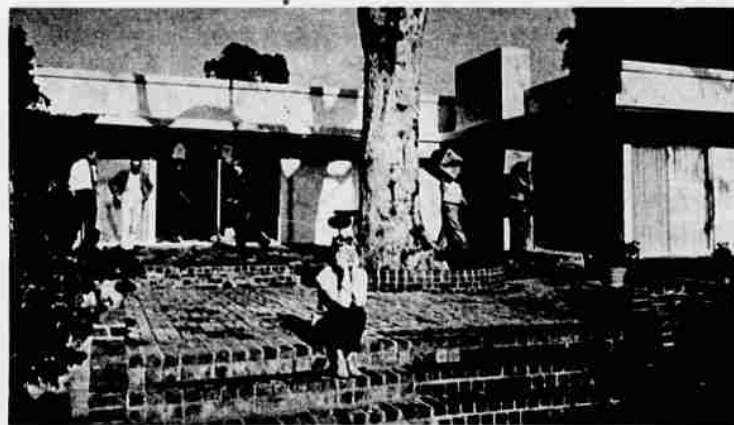
By DORIS DAY



Above left, in the early days, Doris and Bob Crosby talk of radio, whatever that is. Above, Doris and son Terry, now 18, compare heights. Left, portrait of two newlyweds named Doris Day and Marty Melcher.



The new house that success built and Mrs. Melcher loves to redecorate.



OF COURSE I've changed since coming to Hollywood. I'd be worried about myself if I hadn't. After all, what woman—or man, for that matter—doesn't change in a dozen years? Whether she's living in New York, Hollywood, or Pocatello; whether she's a homemaker, social worker, or actress? It's all part of maturing, of getting a wider grasp on life.

It's true that I live in a bigger house, have a larger wardrobe, and entertain more than before, but this is the result of hard work and good fortune. When Marty Melcher and I were first married, we lived in the San Fernando Valley. Two years ago, we moved to a larger home in Beverly Hills. It was built and furnished in the old Spanish style, but we turned it into a rambling Palm Springs type house which we furnished in a mixture of modern country and French provincial. Now who hasn't yearned for a more spacious home and switched allegiance from one school of interior decoration to another?

Another subject I'm frequently asked about is my change from musical to dramatic roles. At the beginning of my movie career, I was happy to be a singer and never thought much about serious acting. Then the whole complexion of the industry changed. Musicals went out, carrying many of the singing and dancing stars with them, so I turned to nonsinging roles. I kept on working in films, and I found a deeper sense of accomplishment in straight acting.

However, singing is still my life and always will be. Incidentally, I do three songs in my newest film, MGM's "Please Don't Eat the Daisies," even though it's a nonmusical comedy. That's like having my cake and eating it, too.