

THE PARTY-ERS' COLLECTIVE IDEA OF AN INVENTOR WAS LAUGHINGLY "NON COMPOS MENTIS" BEFORE HE ARRIVED—

THEN THEY MEET HIM AND PESTER HIM WITH THE NUTTIEST NOTIONS SINCE THE SELF-TIPPING DERBY HAT—



Woman as Pilot of First Space Ship Not Taken as Summer Light Headedness

By H. D. QUIGG

United Press Correspondent
New York — (U.P.) — Women! Look alive! You may be the first sex to get out of this world.

That is, if the men who build and send out our first space ship will just pay attention to reason and don't let their masculine pride stand in the way of progress.

This is no pipe dream. It's the considered opinion of one of the country's rocket experts that a woman would be better suited in body and mind than a man to pilot the first space ship.

Serious Thinking
The expert is Kurt R. Stehling, rocket engineer with the Bell Aircraft Corp., Buffalo, N.Y. He realizes that speculation about women space-travelers might be taken as summertime light headedness, but he's been doing some serious thinking about it.

"You have to be careful," he said in an interview. "A lot of folks just can't picture it—women being pioneers in space, but a lot of women will agree with

you, even if the men don't." Stahling, asked at the outset to comment on a report that a well-educated woman probably would be the first human being to make a space flight, replied: "It might be very much so. I've thought about it, asked myself the question, talked about it with my wife and other people, and considered it while looking over the reports we get on space medicine."

"It's surprising how well adjusted a mechanism a woman is, as compared with a man. And the first time in a space ship, believe me, is going to be pretty rough."

"Several things enter in. For one thing, it's been shown that women can take some of the physical conditions involved in space travel better than men—they have ability to withstand acceleration, sudden changes of speed. Then, there's the respiratory factor."

Smaller Lungs
"Their lungs are not so big, so the amount of oxygen per unit pound of weight is not so much."

In space, there's no way to replenish the air from the outside, and no way for radiation. Women's temperature is a little bit lower, they don't perspire as much, and they can adjust better to sudden changes in temperature."

Of course, he added, it's extremely important to cut down the weight of a rocket, and designers always are looking for ways to cut down the payload. A well-trained woman pilot weighing only 100 pounds would be a big saving in the load to be hoisted off the earth.

"One big point is the psychological factor," Stahling said. "Women don't break under certain psychological strains, during the way it was found they stood up better to bombing and other homefront stresses."

"In space, the absence of weight, for instance, might impose a severe psychological strain."

Myocardial Infarction Found To Mean Nothing To Some Medical Patients

By DELOS SMITH

United Press Science Writer
New York — (U.P.) — A curious physician has found new evidence that pain is not so much what it is as what it means.

Pain is — in some cases — a myocardial infarction, which is a mouth-filling phrase. But the myocardium simply is the muscular tissue of the heart and in fact is a patch of dead or dying tissue therein, caused by an interruption in blood supply.

To most people, myocardial pain means what five alarms mean — a disaster is impending if it hasn't already happened. The curious physician has been studying people to whom myocardial pains seem to mean nothing.

Immune to Pain

He is Dr. Walter E. Marchand, chief of medical service in the Veterans Administration psychiatric hospital at Bedford, Mass. His people are psychotics — victims of several mental disorders.

Of these people who have had myocardial infarctions since 1947, 8.25 per cent of them had their infarctions without pain — an astonishing proportion to any heart doctor (as this writer found out by inquiry) and which should astonish any layman when he visualizes functioning heart muscle and the sensations an infarct should produce.

"I believe that psychotic patients, although they perceive painful sensations, do not react to pain because of the fact that the meaning of pain is actually lost to them," said Marchand in his report to the New England Journal of Medicine.

As he pointed out, there "is no wholly satisfactory explanation for such occurrences." Myocardial infarction is without pain to a very small percentage of its victims in the mentally normal population. For his psychotic patients, he speculated that flaws in their body chemistry may have caused diffuse damage to cells of the brain cortex which "could account for the loss of meaning of pain."

Behavior Change

In the majority of his cases,

the fact that the patient was acutely ill was "picked up by alert psychiatric aides or nurses, who noted something wrong with the patient, rather than on the basis of complaints that were evaluated."

"Of further interest is the fact that your patients had a chance in psychiatric behavior as their presenting sign. It is usually the over-active or mentally disturbed patient who suddenly becomes docile or quiet who is suspected of having some acute medical or surgical illness, and in the four cases cited this proved to be acute myocardial infarction."

Two patients had no signs or

Few German Girls

Said Wearing Lipstick

Darmstadt, Germany — (U.P.) — Two out of every three German girls do not wear lipstick and only one in six uses nail polish, the unofficial Army newspaper "Stars and Stripes" said today.

But, the newspaper pointed out, three-quarters of German girls wear nail polish, an institution unknown in Germany before the Americans arrived.

symptoms whatever. One was taken to the acute medical ward because his skin was bluish and he was laboring for his breath. But he was protesting all the while that he felt perfectly well. And he kept right on protesting during the prolonged and delicate treatment. He "made an uneventful clinical recovery, never having experienced pain."

Hibernians Condemn Partitioning of Ireland

Omaha, Neb. — (U.P.) — The Ancient Order of Hibernians has "condemned the unnatural partitioning of Christian Ireland by the English government."

The order pledged its support Saturday "to the people of Ireland in their effort to abolish partition and secure an independent nation."

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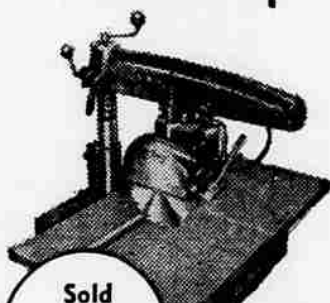
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Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY

Editor's note: Aline Mosby is vacationing. Today's guest columnist is a new 20th Century-Fox actress imported from England, Dana Wynter. She writes about one facet of Hollywood that usually amazes foreigners—the gossip interest in a celebrity's personal life.

By DANA WYNTER
Written for The United Press
Hollywood — (U.P.) — There's only one thing in the United States—which has been very good for me—that I'm afraid of. That is the perennial gossip-and-rumor mill.

It's very flattering to find myself suddenly the center of columnists' attentions wherever I go. I'm grateful for it.

Proof of the value of publicity came to me shortly after I arrived in New York. I'd done "Robert Montgomery" and "Suspense" TV shows when a national magazine ran a layout on me. Director Philip Dunne saw it and suggested I be tested for a contract at 20th Century-Fox. Others saw it and my shows, and I had offers from practically every studio in Hollywood.

It's Important
So I do know that publicity is important, but the personal rumor type is what bothers me. And, believe me, the New York rumor mill is no different from the Hollywood one. Every time I lunched with an agent, a TV director or producer, although it was made strictly business, it was made to sound strictly personal in the columns.

But to be tagged as a playgirl when you're working like mad to learn your craft, to gather experience and credits, is disconcerting. You begin to wonder—when you see yourself tagged a "romantic twosome" with a variety of men—whether a producer thinking of employing you won't classify you as too interested in the social butterfly life to concentrate on a part.

No Safety in Numbers

A classic example of the rumor mill came when I went to my first Hollywood premiere at Grauman's Chinese Theater. It was the charity opening of "Daddy Long Legs," and my escorts were Gregory Ratoff, Leon Shamroy and Richard Todd—all very happily married men. I naturally thought there was safety from rumors in numbers. But next thing I knew there was a column item to the effect that Richard Todd and British actress Dana Wynter had ignited.

Richard and his wife and I happen to be old chums. Since he had returned to Hollywood for a single day's added scene with Bette Davis for "The Virgin Queen," Mrs. Todd remained in London. Richard flew home next morning to join her.

No Femme Fatale
While I'm naturally excited about playing a femme fatale who falls in love with a man she knows is married in "The View From Pompey's Head," I don't fancy being tagged one in real life.

And when my agent, Charles Feldman, takes me to a dinner party where I can meet motion picture people who might think of me for future roles, that doesn't make us "a romantic duo."

Please don't misunderstand. At this point, I'm most grateful for any notice I receive. But why not hold the romantic rumors until they're warranted, or even interesting?

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