

As We Live

By ELIZABETH HURLOCK, PH.D.

Many Different Factors Determine Human Behavior

How often have you heard someone say, "I never thought he would do such a thing." And how often have you said, "It never entered my mind that I could not rely on him." Have you been surprised to discover that people you thought you knew so well could do things you never expected of them? People are unpredictable. Of course, within limits, you can predict what a person you know well will do, but you can never be certain your predictions will

materialize. People you think you know best may be the very ones to fool you most. Why, you may ask, are people so unpredictable? The answer is that behavior depends upon so many different factors it would be impossible for anyone to know all of them. It is questionable whether the person himself is actually able to predict his own behavior at all times. **Strong Influence** How he feels at the moment will have a strong influence on his behavior. If he is tired, sleepy, not feeling well, his behavior will be different than if his physical condition were more favorable. Then there is the matter of smoldering emotions. If something goes wrong, he may suppress his anger but it will not be dead. On the contrary,

it may make him snappy and impatient for many hours.

There are the people with whom he associates. Some stimulate him to one type of behavior, while others have just the reverse effect. What he has been doing in the immediate past whether it be working, sleeping, or having a good time will leave its mark on his mood, and this will determine his approach to the next activity. All in all, it is apparent that people are unpredictable creatures and no one can ever say just what they will do next.

LETTERS FROM READERS

Accident-prone: "Are some people just unlucky in that they have all the accidents or is there something the matter with them?" Questioning

(A) Studies of accidents have revealed that some people have more than others and for the most part, there is a personality pattern characteristic of the accident-prone person. Such a person is apt to be headstrong, impetuous, easily aroused emotionally and generally careless about his appearance and possessions. This pattern contrasts strongly with that of the person who has few accidents and who is cautious and conservative. In general, this leads to the conclusion that the person most likely to have accidents is the one who lacks caution and has a tendency to be impetuous and emotional.

Considered "queer": "Is a girl likely to get a reputation of being 'queer' if she prefers her studies and athletics to boys and dates? My daughter is not interested in boys and she tells me everyone thinks she is 'queer.' Is this just her imagination?" Worried Mother.

(A) A girl who is different is likely to be considered "queer" just as if a boy who does not follow the pattern of other boys. However, this is not likely to be a permanent reputation, though it may disturb your daughter at the moment. Don't try to force her to have dates until she wants to have them. If you do, you will indirectly tell her that you, too, think she is "queer."

Disillusionment: "Should a mother tell her daughter of all the hard work and sacrifices connected with marriage, or will this disillusion her?" Concerned.

(A) While you do not want to disillusion your daughter, you

Around Hollywood

By ALINE MOSBY
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood — (U.P.) — Spencer Tracy looked over the young actors hoping to succeed "us old folks" and decided today that cinema-



Aline Mosby

ville is suffering a desperate shortage. Tracy, one of the screen's most durable stars, recently ended his MGM contract after 20 years of some memorable movies, and is moving on to pick his own roles, beginning with "The Mountain" at Paramount. Most of the top Hollywood luminaries still are the middle-aged citizens, grinned Tracy, and "right now the studios are becoming a little desperate for actors."

"Cagney, Gable, Bogart, Cooper, Pat O'Brien, Bing—all the same age," the rugged Tracy said. "Not too many young actors. Brando, that poor Jimmy Dean, Bog Wagner, in this picture, is very good. But Paramount tells me they have scripts all over the lot, ready to go, that they can't cast."

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A large mirror on one wall of a small room will make the room appear much larger.

Hollywood making one picture a year."

"And us old folks, we're getting where we are going to have to be shooed out pretty soon." **Years on Stage**

He thinks there are no Bette Davises or Spencer Tracy-types coming up because today's young players "are grabbed too soon by the movies."

"We had to do several years on the stage," he said. "But now a kid plays a part in New York. Next thing you know, he's in

picture because he allegedly became ill working in Colorado's high altitude. Tracy, however, turned up immediately in the French Alps doing hair-raising scenes for "The Mountain."

Won't Retire "I didn't get a chance to become acclimated to Colorado," he said. "For 'The Mountain' I went to the Alps two weeks before we started work."

Next June Tracy and producer Leland Hayward begin "The Old Man and the Sea." He was replaced by Jimmy Cagney during his last MGM

picture because he allegedly became ill working in Colorado's high altitude. Tracy, however, turned up immediately in the French Alps doing hair-raising scenes for "The Mountain."

"Retire? Nah," said the actor. "The only time an actor retires is when they don't come in with any offers."

"Of course," he chuckled, "Some actors beat them out by a few days."

Then he clapped a French beret on his white hair, loaded up with his mountain climbing equipment and headed for the plaster "Alps" of the gloomy Paramount sound stage.

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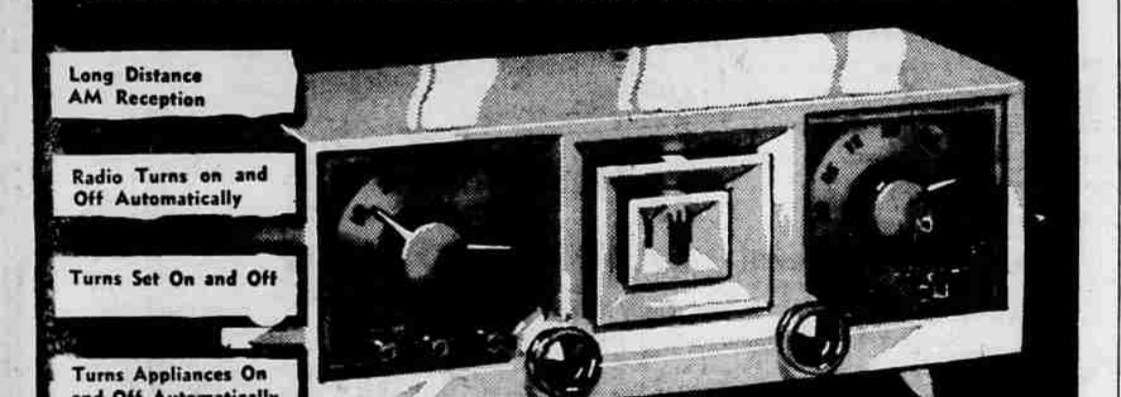
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