

So you think you know about

WOMEN

by John E. Gibson

A HIGHBROW has been defined as a man who has found something more interesting than women. If this is true, then there are a great many scientists who can't be classified as highbrows. For recent studies dealing with the ladies—and what makes them "tick"—indicate that scientists are trying just as hard to understand the gentler sex as the rest of us men. At any rate, whether you agree with one poet who observed that "Woman is a miracle of divine contradictions," or with another who said, "What is woman? Only one of nature's agreeable blunders," you'll be interested to learn some of science's more provocative findings about her.

Do women really take longer to make up their minds than men do?

Studies conducted at Johns Hopkins University have shown that they do. And another survey has shown that it takes a man 5 to 10 minutes to buy a hat if he goes shopping alone, 10 to 15 minutes if he goes with a girl friend, and 30 to 40 minutes if he goes with his wife.

Incidentally, science has discovered that how quickly you make decisions—whether they be important or trivial, easy or difficult—reveals a great deal about your character and personality. They have also succeeded in debunking a number of popular beliefs about this subject. For example, the person who establishes a reputation for making quick decisions is usually thought of as self-confident, quick-thinking, and self-assertive. Psychological tests conducted at the University of California show that the reverse is likely to be true, and that the person who prides himself on his quick decisions is apt to be highly suggestible, lacking in self-assurance, and seeking to impress others as well as himself. The investigators found that, more often than not, the individual who takes his time in arriving at a decision stacks up a great deal higher in the poise, confidence, and I. Q. department than the quick-decider.

Is a woman more likely to "go to pieces" over an unhappy romance than a man?

No. On the contrary, though women tend to be more upset by little things, studies show that they bear up under a major emotional crisis far better than the



At what age is a woman most beautiful?