

for and about
the family

Lynne Godwin, editor

Women of the world



Norway and England

Miss Martha Stromme, left, and Mrs. Constance Arregger discuss their parents' attitude towards scientific education and work. Miss Stromme, the first woman electronics engineer ever graduated in Norway, recalls "Everybody said I'd have a dreadful time in the university but I loved it." She now works in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Arregger, physicist and president of the British Federation of University Women, said her parents opposed scientific work in industry. They felt "Industry was not ladylike because you get dirty hands."



Iran and France

Miss Mahin Rahmani of Iran, left, lights Miss Helene Sevenier's cigarette. Both just received post-graduate degrees in engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Miss Rahmani estimated that "about three per cent of the students there are women. I felt no prejudice against us because we were women," she said. On the other hand, Miss Sevenier felt that women have difficulty getting into civil or electronics engineering. "They don't like women engineers on projects such as road building, dams, and bridges."

**Scientists and engineers
comment on careers**

By Joan Michel



Brazil

Miss Sophia Portella of Brazil, citing her early interest in science, remembers "I always played with old watches, numbers, tools. I opened my dolls to see what made the crying." She teaches physics at the University of Brazil.



Japan

Dr. Katsuko Sarubashi, nuclear chemist and a member of the Society of Japanese Women Scientists, speaking of her research on radioactivity in the sea and atmosphere, said that "radiation is diffusing throughout the whole North Pacific area."

STERLING FOREST
Women scientists have less opportunities in the United States than almost anywhere else in the world. . .
Women students encounter few, if any, prejudice among male students in the universities throughout the world. . .
It is fairly easy for a woman to get in on the ground floor of a scientific career but hard to climb up the ladder of advancement. . .
Being a wife and mother as well as a scientist poses some drawbacks in loss of seniority, for instance. . .
These were some of the spot conclusions arrived at by talking to women scientists and engineers from many different countries. The women were interviewed during an afternoon tour of the Sterling Forest Gardens. They had gathered from all corners of the earth to attend a week long conference in New York City which ended Sunday.
The conference combined the "First International Conference of Women Engineers and Scientists" with the "Fourteenth Annual Convention of the Society of Women Engineers," an American group. Approximately 1,000 women attended.
Featuring a key-note address by Mrs. Lillian M. Gilbreth, pioneer in the field of motion study and the famous mother of "Cheaper by the Dozen," the conference covered many phases of engineering and science. Discussions ranged from technical requirements in various scientific fields to planetary water problem, nuclear energy, control of pollution, and ocean research.



Syria

Husband and wife, Malhis Abdurazzak and Madame Raja, are a team of civil engineers in Aleppo, Syria. A representative of the Women Engineers of Syria, Mrs. Malhis stated that "women engineers can't gain executive positions easily."