

DR. NICHOLS: Well, the visual aids I wanted to use would have been a little difficult here. With an overhead projector and a huge screen, then I can use them and everybody can see them. Also, I was afraid that they would slow down my pace and lose some time. It was the time factor, basically, that made me cut them out.

QUESTION: In comparing your 100 bad listeners with your 100 good listeners you gave them an extensive battery of tests. Did you find any interesting or significant correlation between your intelligence and personality tests?

DR. NICHOLS: Thank you, sir, for that question. It is an excellent question. In fact, I don't think I have ever had as many penetrating questions as I am getting this morning. You are asking the things I like to talk about.

If you run a correlation between listening ability and intelligence, measuring both with group-type tests--pencil and paper and character--the correlation factor is .54. This is as opposed to a perfect correlation of 1.00, of course. Now, if you use a nonverbal type intelligence test, such as the Wechsler-Bellevue, and then run a correlation between listening and intelligence, it drops down to .22. It is a positive correlation. Intelligence is a factor, but it is such a tiny factor, really, that it is dwarfed into insignificance by the bad listening habits that I mentioned. You can correlate red hair and intelligence and come up with a +.22 correlation, you know.

Incidentally, if there is time, I would like to tell them about the difference between males and females on this matter of intelligence. On the St. Paul campus one year I measured the IQ and the listening ability of all the female and male students. The average IQ of my females was 119, largely drawn from the School of Home Economics. These are very bright girls. The average IQ of the whole university undergraduate population was 117. So they were 2 points above the all-university average. Then I measured the IQ of all my male students. They were drawn from engineering, vet medicine, agriculture, forestry, and a few odds and ends that were tucked in. Their average IQ was 115. They were 2 points below the all-university average, and 4 points below their female competitors. Then I measured their listening ability, and I got a critical ratio of 2.1 in favor of the males.