

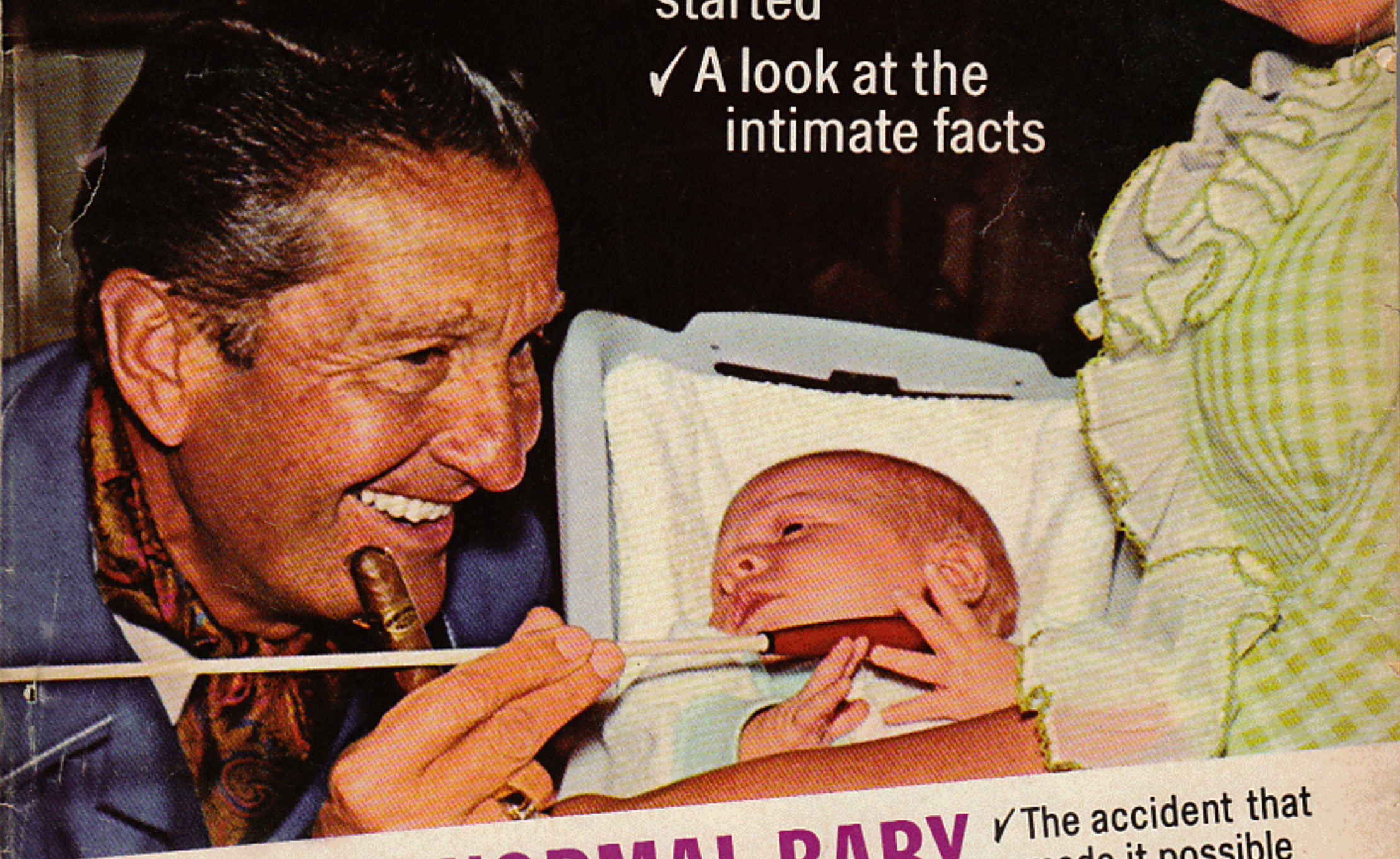
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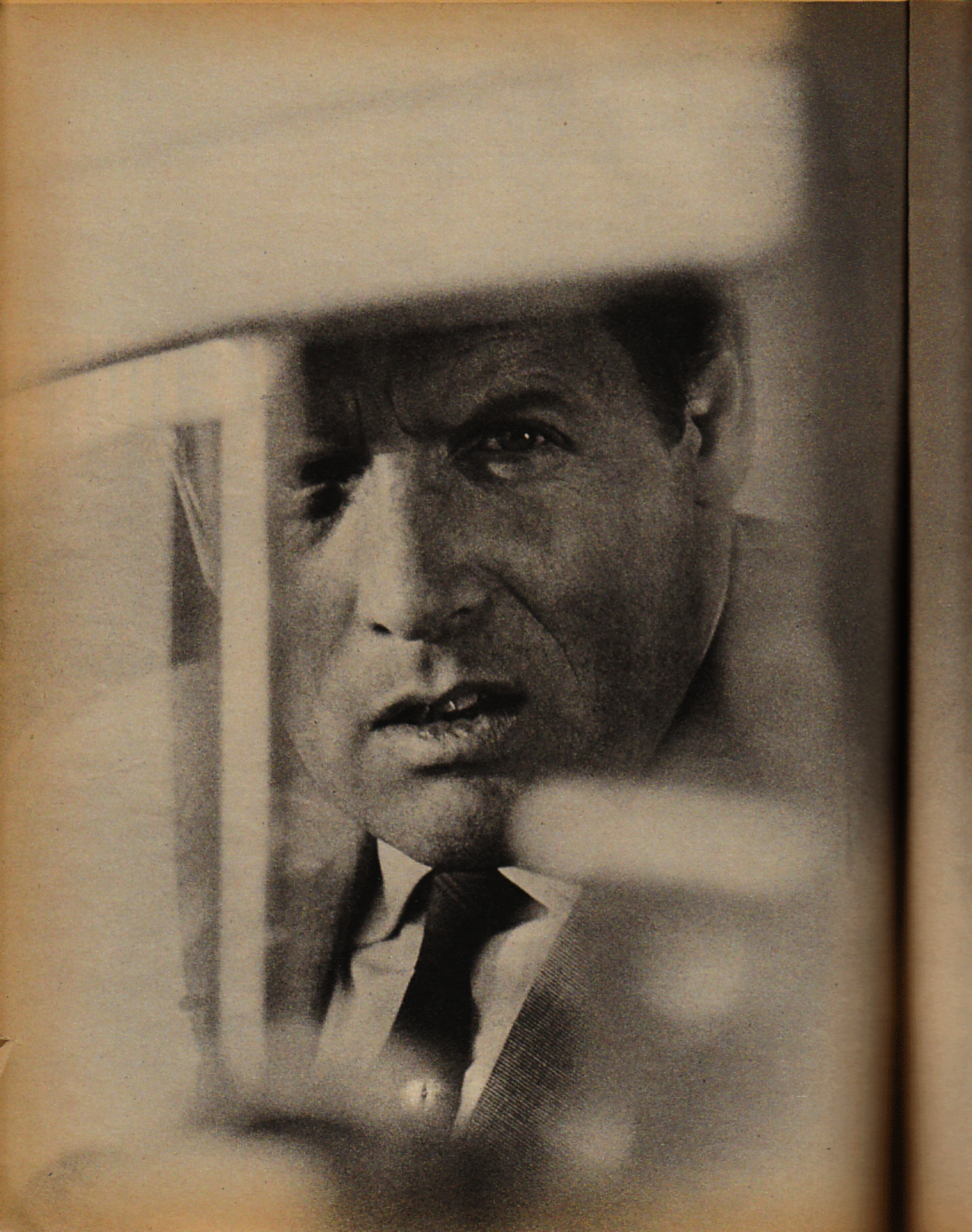
- ✓ How the whispers started
- ✓ A look at the intimate facts



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Patrick McGoochan:

EVEN PRISCILLA PRESLEY WANTS HIS AUTOGRAPH



Patrick, actress-wife Joan, are seldom on the town.

When Priscilla Presley left Elvis for Patrick McGoochan the word spread like wildfire. Of course, she left him for only a matter of moments and was chaperoned the entire time by her father-in-law. The incident occurred when both Elvis and McGoochan were working on nearby sets of their respective films. But the fact that the girl who wed the world's most eligible bachelor had deserted his set even briefly to meet a (Continued on page 93)

PATRICK McGOOHAN



Continued from page 69

devastating Britisher suggests the man has something. "Priscilla Presley asked to meet him," the whisper flew at that time. "She went over to him and asked for his autograph."

Patrick McGooohan does project an indefinable but indisputable "sexiness." Almost middle-aged, he admits it and looks it. His features are more rumpled than regular; his appeal, while understated, is nevertheless lethal. Like a booby trap, he gives no advance warning. Then, bang! You're hit by his charming accent, intense masculinity, and the sharp-edged honesty of his gaze.

What it all adds up to is a quality of mystery, and indeed, Patrick seems determined to maintain a certain aloofness, which adds to the mystery and the appeal. "Above all things, I value privacy," he says. "There's too little of it today."

There are areas in Patrick's past he won't discuss, not because they're too damaging, but because they're personal and private. To share them would embarrass his own sense of dignity. He'll let slip that he was once badly hurt in an automobile accident, then add, "But let's not talk about that. I'd rather skip it." He'll admit that his career has sometimes required extraordinary sacrifices on the part of his family, but he balks at details. "I don't want to talk about that either."

Perhaps the greatest question surrounding Patrick McGooohan concerns his nationality. While it is generally assumed he is English, Patrick is actually Irish, but was born an American citizen. When he was twenty-one, he gave up his American citizenship.

Before he was born, his parents, Thomas and Rose McGooohan, migrated from their native Ireland to the United States in hopes of acquiring enough money to improve their farm in County Leitrim. They stayed here until Patrick was six months old and then went back home. Yet, by virtue of his birth on American soil, Patrick held dual citizenship.

Patrick grew up in Ireland, living the life of a typical Irish farm lad along the River Shannon. At ten, he was sent to St. Vincent's Preparatory School in Sheffield, England. There, he began to grow away from Ireland, and by the time he graduated from England's Ratcliffe College, he was to all outward appearances a proper English gentleman.

At twenty-one, it came time for Patrick to decide which country would claim him as a citizen. Of the three countries in which he had lived, the United States seemed to have exerted the least influence upon him. So, Patrick relinquished his American citizenship.

When he completed school, he went to work for a company that manufactured wire. Impressed with his capabilities, the managing director of the company wanted

to train him for an executive position, but Patrick rebelled. He was full of youth and imagination; he yearned for a life more colorful than that of a junior executive.

He had always been attracted to the stage; now he joined the Sheffield Repertory Company. Beginning at the bottom, his first job was to make tea for the company. Later, he was made stage manager and finally, he turned to acting. He stayed with the Sheffield company for four years, then widened his experience. Television followed, as star of "Secret Agent" and "The Prisoner," shows which established him as a star on both sides of the Atlantic. Now, McGooohan is making films.

Back in the Sheffield days Patrick met and fell in love with a beautiful young actress named Joan Drummond.

"We waited two years to marry," Patrick remembers, "because she was underage. I suppose her parents would have given their consent for us to marry sooner, but there was no hurry. We were together and we knew everything was going to be all right."

Everything is still "all right" for Patrick and Joan, despite the fact that some women might consider Patrick a difficult husband.

"I'd never go to an analyst," he says. "Why should I? When I'm under pressure or displeased with things, I go home and roar at my wife. If something's wrong at the studio or I've had an all round bad day, I go home and just rage at her."

She's able for him

Don't go feeling sorry for Joan McGooohan—she's more than a match for her husband. "She roars right back," Patrick says with obvious delight. "Oh, we have some great fights. She calls me a 'stupid idiot' and things like that. It's wonderful! When it's over, nobody apologizes, but we cuddle a bit and it's fine."

"I roar at my wife, but I couldn't kick the cat—the cat wouldn't understand. Joan does understand. At our house, fighting is a very important part of marriage, because we love each other."

The McGooohans have three children, all daughters: Catherine, Frances, and Anne. They're raising their girls to have a personal sense of right and wrong. "I believe that individual responsibility is the most important thing there is," Patrick says. "I have certain rules about Cathy's behavior, her manners, and her work, but now you can't say to a kid of sixteen, 'Don't do this; you can't do that.' If you try to dictate every single move a teenager makes, you merely prevent their ever learning to make a choice. You don't make them good; you only make them bad. You have to say to them, 'I have faith in you.'"

Patrick and Joan believe in unlimited freedom for youngsters, but they also believe that it is the parents' duty to see that their children know how to use that freedom. "I insist that Cathy be able to make her own decisions. If she has that sort of freedom, then I feel she will be responsible and use her freedom wisely. I don't know what a parent can do apart from this. All we're trying to do is love them. That's easy. We do."

Patrick's theories on childrearing were put to the test when he moved his family

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to California for the filming of "Ice Station Zebra." It was the first time they'd been in Hollywood but Patrick didn't worry that either the glamor, or permissiveness, of the film capital would dazzle his eldest daughter.

"I wasn't alarmed in the slightest," he declares, "because of the way Cathy was brought up. My wife is a very good wife and mother, and our daughter was brought up to be a very self-possessed girl. She went to the Sunset Strip and I didn't worry. I'd send her anywhere in the world. If you were to tell me there was the most depraved nightclub somewhere, I wouldn't tell her to stay away. I doubt that she would want to go, but if she did, I'd send her on her own. She's always had complete freedom and she's never abused it."

Although Patrick's acting assignments require a certain amount of moving about on the part of his family, he and Joan make sure that the various houses or apartments in which they live are real homes. "Whether we're living in a cabin or a tent," Patrick says, "I hope it's a place where my daughters will want to bring their friends. If they can find all the excitement they want at home, then I don't think there's anything to worry about. When kids have to go outside to find excitement, then there's trouble. All those poor kids running around taking drugs, I feel sorry for them. I also have great sym-

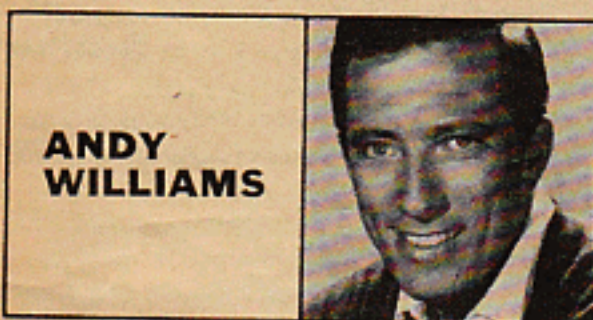
pathy for their parents, but the first thing I wonder is, 'What is their home like?'"

Right now, it is his concern for his daughters that prevents Patrick from seeking to regain his American citizenship. "I have considered becoming an American citizen," he admits. "In fact, I've not only considered it, I've considered it very deeply. But I have three children who have been brought up in England, and I wouldn't see any advantage in making the change until they finish their educations."

Really, Patrick is an international guy. He shows his dark Irish side in such brooding comments as, "All my life I've felt the imminence of death. The feeling doesn't frighten me at all. I'm not particularly looking forward to death, but I'm rather sorry for the fellow who thinks he's going to live forever, because he can't appreciate life fully." He shows his English schooling in his love of privacy and his refusal to discuss matters overly-personal. But if you discount the Irish moods and the English accent, and hear only the attitudes he expresses, you might think you were listening to an American.

Yet, the way that McGoochan looks at you as if to say, "Someday, we might talk again and get to know each other better," defies description. It's just that certain something that sent Priscilla Presley running over to him, starry-eyed, asking for his autograph.

—LISA REYNOLDS



ANDY WILLIAMS

Continued from page 65

long a period of time without some communication breakdown between the woman he loves, his children and himself.

"Nightly phone calls can't substitute for being at home to share the daily family activities. They're a poor excuse to cover your guilty feelings. Naturally, when I agreed to this tour assignment, I really had no idea that the long separation would result in a crucial test of our marriage. This is what happened to Claudine and me. Before, I have been away for appearances over the years; but never the length of time this last tour required. We really had no idea it would strain our relationship. Claudine and I love each other very much. At the time, we discussed my traveling. Well, it may sound naive, but honestly, we never dreamed what could happen to us in time.

"Now, we know. We're doing something about it. One reason I signed with NBC to do my weekly television program this year was because it would allow me to be at home with my family.

"People forget stars, or personalities, or whatever name is given to us, feel emotionally the same as any one else. On just a few occasions, I was able to rush home for a couple of days to be with my family. Then, I felt like a tourist in my own home. I was always so exhausted; I slept most

of the time. Then, the days passed too quickly and I was off again on the road. I discovered nothing can take the place of your wife's carresses, or the secure feeling of sleeping in your own bed.

"Claudine is a remarkable womanly woman. She's not the kind of person who can be left unattended. She's a devoted mother to our Noel and Christian. Maybe, I felt the children would be enough for her while I was away. I was wrong. She is first, a dedicated wife, and secondly, a devoted mother. That's the way it should be. Claudine needs me. There were so many times during my absence when she needed me, and I wasn't there, right by her side.

"We're going to work with conscious loving care and interest to tear down barriers that have arisen, to save our marriage. We have too much at stake—two lovely children and another on the way."

The hardest blow

Andy rubbed his hands and pulled on his sweater. He seemed tense. "God, nothing was more difficult for me than the night Claudine told me we were expecting a child. It was right before I was to do a show. She was crying softly on the other end of the phone. I was crying too. Imagine! I broke down crying when my wife told me she was pregnant. Why? Because I couldn't be with her that very second to hold her tightly in my arms and to be a source of joy and comfort to her.

"I wanted to cancel my booking right away and race home on the first plane to her. But I couldn't: The commitment had been made. As we said 'goodbye,' I thought to myself 'where is all of this leading to if it takes me away from the only thing dear to me?' I thought about her



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