Spineless Men Held to Blame For Hysteria

What makes women hysterical? "Henpecked husbands," says Dr. Giehm, of the Zepernick Sanatorium in Germany. Dr. Giehm has been observing the husbands of 30 women in his sanatorium for "nerve afflictions," and has concluded that "as a rule, only women who have their husbands under their thumb are hysterical."

Of the 30 husbands whose wives were in the sanatorium, only 8 were normal. Three had suffered long and severe illness and 2 were "robust and reckless."

The remaining 17 were men of weak and unbalanced characters. Ten of these were "obviously henpecked," four were suffering from neurasthenia and three were inveterate drunkards. But while all the cases of hysteria were serious the wives of the henpecked husbands were the most violent, according to Dr. Giehm—hence his conclusion that the henpecked husband is as much to blame when his wife becomes hysterical as the wifely tyrant herself.