

# America's Great Potential

By JOHN W. STEPP  
Star Staff Writer

For typical "outstanding" examples one need look no farther abroad than the Washington area.

Mrs. William Bailie, mother of an 18-month-old son, is a space scientist in the Theoretical Division of Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt. A vibrant 28, Ann Bailie helped discover, through mathematical computations, that the earth is slightly pear-shaped rather than round or elliptical, due to the fact that the effect of gravity differs in the northern and southern hemispheres. The conclusion was reached after exhaustive studies of the orbit of Vanguard I satellite.

How did she ever come to enter the space field? "In college, I liked math and it came easy," Mrs. Bailie explains. "Besides, it's a good, well-paying profession."

Dr. Nancy G. Roman became interested in astronomy at age 12, "and never outgrew it." She is now chief of the astronomy and astrophysics programs of the Office of Space Flight Programs, which, like the Goddard Center, is a branch of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Her responsibilities include planning and instituting comprehensive programs for examining the stars, planets and other phenomena of space from vantage points beyond the earth's atmosphere by means of rockets, satellites and space probes. One of the programs now being developed is the Orbiting Astronomical Observatories Project, by which an earth-orbiting satellite will take electronic notes and relay them back home.

To relax from her brain-cracking chores, Dr. Roman enjoys cooking, making her own clothes, needlework, club and church activities and reading anything but science fiction.

Women of similar stature can be found scattered all over the Nation—and not all are gazing into space.

Dr. Katharine B. Blodgett, a leading American expert on the chemistry of surfaces, started her scientific career at 18. Among her achievements have been the invention of "invisible" non-reflecting glass, a smoke screen said to have saved several thousand lives in World War II invasions, and a de-icing system for airplane wings. She is with the General Electric Research Laboratory.

Dr. Rita Levi-Montalcini of Washington University, St. Louis, followed three scientific specialties before settling for zoology. As it happens, her first pursuits, neurology and psychiatry, aid her research on the nervous systems of animals which may offer clinical applications in the treatment of hypertension.

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She advanced knowledge of storms



**DR. ELSIE QUARTERMAIN**  
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**DR. GRACE M. HOPPER**  
She puts electronic monsters to work



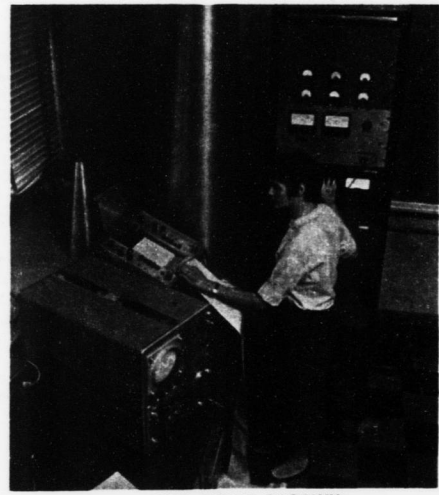
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