

R.A.F. TEST HOW MUCH MAN CAN STAND

Farnborough Research Laboratory can produce the conditions of the Arctic or the Equator at the touch of a button. Scientists there are their own guinea-pigs and think nothing of a spell on the treadmill, getting nowhere, up-hill at 3-miles-an-hour, with the temperature at 20 below. Sub-stratosphere and supersonic flight all over the Globe produce extremes of heat and cold which test a man to the limit. The laboratory is finding where the limit is.

After the walk it's off with the heavy suit and into the hot water of what they call the Bath Calorimeter, in which there is a known quantity of water. How much the ~~water~~ *it* temperature changes measures the total amount of heat the man's body has lost under test. Aircraft design makes such tremendous strides that the problem nowadays is for the men, so to speak, to keep pace with the planes.

The air ventilated suit, worn under the normal flying kit, keeps the body at an even temperature, so making unnecessary heavy air-conditioning plant in the aircraft.

Men are weighed after each test to find how much they have lost, in what must be the most unpleasant slimming treatment in the world.

If you're in the Comet, or in a year or two, flying the Atlantic at 3,000-miles-an-hour, give a thought to the lads at Farnborough, who keep the world in step with progress.