



ASSOCIATION QUEEN—Lovely Grace Jacobs, 19, Minneapolis, has been selected by 98 member firms of the Twin City Tool and Die association to reign over the 15th annual convention of the National Tool and Die Manufacturers association at Minneapolis. (UPI Telephoto)

The Family Council

Editor's Note: The Family Council consists of a judge, a psychiatrist, three clergymen, three editors and a women's editor. Each article is a summary of an actual case history. The Council reports on problems that have been dealt with by responsible agencies and counselors.

Mrs. T. L. — Does it pay to have a daughter?
Irma G. — She never acted like a mother.

Mrs. T. L. — I am an 80-year-old widow, in fairly good health and living alone, aided by a companion-attendant. My problem is that my daughter, who is 55 and also a widow, never comes to see me although she lives a few blocks away. This embarrassment, in front of all the neighbors, adds to my sorrow at the way Irma is treating me in my old age.

It's true I could never seem to hit it off right with her. She always felt I favored her brothers. I know I tried hard to make her happy, but she blames me because she quit school to go to work while the boys went on to become doctors.

When Irma's husband died, all I said was "Poor Henry! He had such a hard life." She took that as an insult to her and stormed out of the house telling me to forget I ever had a daughter.

Irma G. — I don't feel I ever had a real mother, someone who took my part and could be depended on when I was in trouble or in the dumps. My mother likes to brag and she could do more bragging about her doctor-sons than about me.

I was no beauty, no big talent. I did have brains, though — enough for her to brag about my school marks and, most of all, about my being smart enough to get a grownup's job when I was under 16.

I see other mothers and daughters and I've stopped trying to grow close to her. It takes two. And all I get from her is criticism and sarcastic digs. She's sorry for everybody who ever had to be near me, including my late husband. It so happens we had a very happy marriage.

The Council: Irma seems to be immobilized in her feelings toward her mother ever since her childhood and adolescence. With consummate self-pity, she looks no further than her mother for the cause of anything that displeases her. Now, at a time when one might expect her to have mellowed and become somewhat philosophical about the older woman's faults, she is availing herself of her power to "get even."

however inadequately, There's little Mrs. L. can do at this point. Whatever she might say to Irma is so emotionally colored that it could — if Irma twists it a bit — lead to argument. And not talking would be equally offensive to a daughter who's looking for reasons to be angry.

It's time now for Irma to stop blaming her mother. Lifting her eyes from the narrow sore spot she's been nurturing, Irma may be able to see her mother in perspective as just another human being with her rightful share of good as well as bad qualities. Then, perhaps, visits may be resumed on a visit-the-housebound basis. Talk can be impersonal. Irma might merely read a magazine story to her mother, or help with some mending.

The important thing is to break down a needless barrier while there is yet time. (Copyright 1960, General Features Corp.)

Russians Making Tests on Nervous System Responses

New York — (Science Service) — Research on conditional reflexes is being used by Russian scientists to learn the exact effects of new drugs. At the same time the drugs are used to reveal more about the workings of the nervous system and man's behavior.

This was brought out by reports of leading Russian physiologists and neurologists at a Pavlovian conference here, sponsored jointly by the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences and the New York Academy of Sciences.

Eliminates Pain
An injection of chlorpromazine, one of the tranquilizers, completely eliminated the rise in blood pressure and other similar signs of pain reaction that normally are caused by applying an electric current to the sciatic nerve, according to the Russian Academician Dr. P. K. Anokhin.

But the injection of tranquilizer did not eliminate the secretions that result from weak stimulation of the middle ear.

Other scientists have found, he said, that displeasure in children or adults results when a characteristic slow rhythm of five to six cycles per second of electrical impulses is given to the brain cortex. This stress rhythm is somewhat lower in amplitude and more regular than the brain waves characteristic of rest.

Special Technique
A special technique for injecting chlorpromazine into a rabbit's ear from a distance, and without the awareness of the animal, made possible the experiments to observe the very different effects of drugs on fear and on human behavior.

When the animal was cringing in fear of an expected pain stimulation, the tranquilizer would cause him to come out of the fear posture.

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