

RELIGIOUS BULLETIN.

March 11, 1925.

"If Possible, Keep Your Head."

The first rule given Monday in the suggested preparation for marriage is so thoroughly the most important that it contains all the rest. It expresses the truth that while marriage should be an affair of the mind, it is too often simply an affair of the heart; that while sound reason should dictate the choice of a life partner, the emotions have a tendency to dethrone reason in the matter.

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"Love is blind." Perhaps it is just as well. There wouldn't be any marriages if it were not so.

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"There's no fool like an old fool." A senior can be just as much of a child as a freshman when it comes to the girl question. Puppy love is more dangerous at eighty than at eight.

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"Beauty may not be more than skin-deep, but it's mighty handy for a girl that ain't got no brains". This bit of Abe Martin's philosophy should be tacked up on your wall. Better still, write it on the girl's picture, and read it every day just after you read her letter. If you have it on her picture, you'll read it oftener than that.

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Let reason check up on your emotions. The emotions are God-given gifts, and they give impulse to many of the good things of life, but God never intended that they should stand superior to reason. The mitigating circumstance alleged in defense of Leopold and Loeb was that they had no emotions. The domination of the emotions over reason is just as bad on the other side. And while emotion generally gives the first impulse to love, it must be checked over by reason, because the divorce courts are full of the fruits of unchecked emotions.

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Instinct suffices for the mating of animals, because theirs is not a spiritual union. On the subjective side, the most important quest in matrimony is the happiness produced by the blending, the harmonious blending of spiritual qualities. Have your golden jubilee in mind when you pick a wife. Will she be the kind of a grandmother that the kids will like to romp with, or will her precocious beauty fade so disastrously that you will be afraid to have her picture in the paper?

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An old philosopher (of the practical school of life) who has contracted three happy marriages, said recently: "The trouble with young folks nowadays is that when they think about getting married the only thing they have in mind is the one thing they shouldn't have in mind at all." It might be added that the two stepmothers he has brought into his home have made ideal substitutes for the mothers who were called home prematurely by God.

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Unless you are going into vaudeville, you want more than a dancing partner for a wife.

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Many a girl nowadays would make a good cocktail mixer, but that will be a liability instead of an asset unless the eighteenth Amendment is repealed and she can get a good job as a bartender.

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If her beauty intoxicates you, take a good look at her mother. That will probably give you delirium tremens. The fascinating beauty of this generation is quite apt to have crow's feet or a triple chin in another generation. True beauty lies in the soul, and as long as there are men with good sense a woman with a beautiful soul will not have to worry provided her features are not positively repulsive.

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Happy the freshman who can control his emotions and remain fancy-free until June.

John F. O'Hara, C.S.C.