

Check on your calendar:
Friday evening, March 19,
Bengal Bouts in the gym.

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
March 15, 1937.

Masses, John O'Brien, Mon.,
Tues., Dillon; at 7:20;
California Club.

No. 3: Seek Counsel.
(Reprint from March 10, 1932.)

It is far better, especially for a Catholic (for whom marriage is a life contract), to seek counsel before marriage than to retain counsel after marriage. And remember that you may have to seek it; those best able to give it are so well experienced with the insanity of infatuation that they regard the volunteering of advice as the suicide of friendship. Those best able to give it are those who know marriage, those who know you, and those who know the girl. Line them up in this fashion:

1. Your father. (Ordinarily, at 20 a boy refuses advice from father; at 30 he listens to it; at 40 he seeks it, and at 50 he regrets that father no longer lives to advise him.) You may feel that father doesn't know you and that he isn't up with the times. It is well for you to have the counsel of someone who is not up with the times, whose philosophy of life was generated in more God-fearing times....For once in your life take him into your confidence, even if he is self-conscious about it. He knew enough to pick a good mother for you.
2. Your mother. After a sermon on marriage an old lady said to the young missionary: "Father, I wish I knew as little about marriage as you do." If your father knows a lot about marriage your mother knows ten times more because while he finds distraction in business she stays at home and makes the home. It takes a woman to size up a woman. If your mother says, "Thumbs down," let it be so....And go over your expense account with your mother....Seventy-five percent of the students at Notre Dame are here because their mothers knew how to manage the household budget.
3. Your confessor. All kidding aside, he knows more about marriage than a man who has had five wives. Such a man knows five things that can wreck marriage; and the priest knows a hundred or a thousand. Sooner or later the problems come to the priest; it is wise to make it sooner.
4. Your pal. His eyes are your eyes, but when your heart is swayed with emotion, his heart remains free. Lots of friendships are broken up when a pal tries to ward off a mistake. Make him give you his judgment, and take him seriously, even if it costs you the girl. There are many girls, but few pals.
5. Her kid brother. Win his confidence. You can learn more about her disposition from five minutes with him than you can in five years of courtship.

Books are companions, the same as people are. Not all the wise men in the world move in your small circle. Much has been written about marriage, some true, some false. There is sound counsel in the Introduction to a Devout Life, by St. Francis de Sales, in You and Yours and Marriage by Father Scott, and in The Home World, by Father Doyle. Marriage and Parenthood, by Father Gerard, should also be read by every Catholic approaching matrimony. Tie up to sound principles; they see you through safe to the end.

Acknowledgments.

Received over the week-end for the Chesterton Memorial: \$10 from San Francisco; \$5 from Chicago. Many thanks. Contributions small and large will be gladly received from all those who would pay tribute to the memory of the great Chesterton.
PRAYERS: (deceased) anniversary of father of C.J. Byrne '36; cousin of Danny Keefe; friend of John Ference (Mor.); Mr. Henry Topce; Mrs. Hugo Casper, aunt of Father Hoff; grandmother of Ted Lohugh (Dil.). Ill. mother of Bill Tunney (Walsh); Coach Layton; Sister Mary Barbara, BVM; brother of Tom Behan '33. One special intention.