Choose A Good Wife!

Smart men don't always avoid goofy marriages. Good men don't always get good wives. Like the majority, you'll need help in choosing your spouse.

Or else, some girl may paste a little color onto her cheeks, pencil up her lips and eyebrows, and you won't care about the quality of the gray matter that lies between her ears.

You may not know whether she can pray or cook, talk or think; you may not know whether she's cranky or selfish, improvident or bold. And one day you may up and marry her anyway; and, for months afterwards, with an insurable headache, you'll realize what a terrible mistake you've made.

At least, that's the apparent history of many unhappy marriages.

Here, according to Notre Dame alumni, are the things to avoid in the spouse you choose: the nagging temperament; jealousy; extravagance; ignorance of finances; shallowness; crudeness; meanness; unwillingness to sacrifice for religion; chronic illness; sarcasm; "one who smokes and drinks"; laziness; arbitrariness; lack of love and consideration.

One bit of advice that most alumni insist upon giving you is this: "Marry a Catholic!"

Be A Good Husband!

If you're not a good husband, you'll probably make a bad wife of almost any girl. To be a good husband you have to school yourself in unselfishness—in thinking of the other person at least as often as you think of yourself. And that will be often enough.

And you yourself cannot be quick-tempered and crude and cold and intemperate, and inconsiderate of the faults of your wife, while oblivious of your own faults. Once you get married you'll have a gentleman's job cut out for yourself—and it's not easy to be a gentleman with the same person 365 long days of the year.

The Novena Starts Tomorrow.

Ordinarily, a happy marriage is a cooperative enterprise made up of a good wife and of a good husband. Pray during the novena to Saint Joseph, which starts tomorrow morning, for a place in such a partnership.

Daily Mass and Holy Communion, daily recitation of the litany of St. Joseph—for nine days—will make a good novena. Special novena prayers to St. Joseph will be recited at 5 o'clock Benediction every one of the nine days.

St. Joseph headed the most admirable family in history. Naturally, soon as you mention a good wife to him, he will think of Our Blessed Lady. For that reason, he might advise you to visit the Grotto, during the days of the novena, and there leave your request for a good wife.

If he is not too modest, he will suggest himself as the model husband. Think, during the recitation of his litany, of the qualities that made him the worthy husband of the noblest and most beautiful girl that ever lived; that made him the venerated father of the God-child. Check his qualities against your own. If his are absent in you, better get busy in yourself today. It's a big job—this building yourself up to be a good husband; and it doesn't start with the honeymoon. If it does, it usually stops when the honeymoon is over. And that is what is fatal to happy married life.

PRAYERS: (deceased) friend of Eddie Nouhar (Mission House), Ill, uncle of Ed Dunn (Sor.); father of Eugene Launsborry (How.); mother of John Koonighoff (Uil.).