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. You may feel that he 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. Your father knows a lot about marriage; he knows enough to have made you the success you believe yourself to be. 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. And it takes a woman to size up a woman. Introduce the girl to your mother, and if she says, "Thumbs down," let it be so. Maybe you will live to learn by what intuition she picked the flaw; but for the time being take it on faith. And go over your expense account with your mother. She knows how much it ought to cost to win a good wife, and how much to make a home. Seventy-five per cent of the students at Notre Dame are here because their mothers knew how to manage the household budget to make it cover the cost of their education.

3. Your confessor. All kidding aside, he knows more about marriage than the man who has had five wives. Such a man knows five things that can wreck a 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 believe him, 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.

Our 311th War Casualty.

Details of the death of William J. Springer, S2, have come to us through a former student. Bill was unloading a ship at Hunter's Point, near San Francisco. He stepped behind a truck to escape a strong wind during a lull in the work. The truck backed up and crushed him. He died later in the evening. The accident took place May 7. Remember Bill in your visit to the Grotto tonight, and at Mass tomorrow.

Closing of May Devotions.

On Tuesday evening at 7:00 P.M. the entire campus, students, seminarians, nuns and priests will gather at the Grotto for the singing of hymns and Solemn Benediction. You can make this ceremony an act of gratitude for the graces you received from Our Lady during the month of May. No Adoration in the Church after Punday.