Marriage Certificate Carried by Couple

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DONALDSONVILLE, La. —

There is a tendency these days towards the miniature—tiny cars, cameras and radios, table tennis, contact lenses and the like.

With June ushering in the sound of bells struck by Cupid's arrows, a person may wonder when the marriage will get into the marriage ceremony.

Last August, Clerk of Court Andrew J. Falcon of Ascension parish came up with an idea that should soon be covering the country.

FITS PURSE

This ingenious official has fashioned a miniature marriage certificate that fits easily into a man's wallet or a woman's purse.

Enclosed in a plastic container, it is a replica of the couple's marriage certificate. It bears all the information that appears on the original document.

For some months now these tiny certificates have been available at a nominal fee to couples who have been married in the parish.

Not only newlyweds, but couples who have celebrated a considerable number of wedding anniversaries, are seeking out the clerk of court for the small marriage records.

USED AS SOUVENIR

Asked how the idea came about, Falcon said, “I thought it would be a convenience for couples to be able to carry the little marriage certificates on their person. They appeal as souvenirs.” He added, “We're getting quite a few requests for them now that word of their existence is out.”

Other parishes are learning of the idea and are starting to follow Falcon's inventive lead.

The month of June has set the clerk of court to compiling some interesting marriage statistics for the six years he has been in office—June 1, 1952, through May 31, 1958.

Of 1094 marriage licenses issued in that time, the six-year period puts June in first place, December, second, and March, last.
Young Couple Inspects Old Record

BOOK OF MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES dating back to 1766, oldest record book in Ascension parish, is displayed by parish clerk of court Andrew J. Falcon (right) while the interested couple, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Bourg Jr., of Donaldsonville, compare it with the newest in certificates, tiny replicas of the original, recently introduced by Falcon. Mrs. Bourg and the clerk hold the small ones.