

KITTY'S KISSES

By EPES W. SARGENT

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"It's for charity, Jack," reminded Katherine.

"It has always been said," he retorted, "that charity covers a multitude of sins."

"You are impolite," she scolded. "I am sure you might know that I would not do anything wrong. If I want to sell kisses for a dollar apiece, I don't see why you should object. You have not established a monopoly—yet."

"I don't know that I am particularly anxious to," he said coldly. "What first attracted me to you was the fact that in spite of your popularity not a breath of scandal had ever touched you. Now you purpose selling your carresses at a dollar each for the St. Mark's fund, and you are surprised that I should object."

"Because you should know me well enough to be assured that I would not do such a thing unless I was satisfied that it was proper."

"There may be a divergence of opinion as to the propriety," he said. "I must insist, or—"

"I guess it might as well be 'or,'" she laughed. "When you assume such a tragic pose it shows that you are in need of a lesson."

She held out the ring, and without a word he took it and left the room.

Before he had descended the steps Preston was minded to go back and apologize, but he felt sure that the breaking of the engagement would be a sharper lesson than any argument. Somehow he did not fare well when he argued with Kitty. She never lost her temper, and this always put him at a disadvantage.

The announcement that Katherine Elliott was to sell her kisses at the St. Mark's fair had its intended effect. Kitty was the undisputed belle of her circle, and more than one unfortunate swain wondered why she did not de-



HE PUSHED PRESTON THROUGH THE CURTAIN.

mand at least \$5. There were many who thought it would be well worth more than that to kiss Kitty.

The fact that it was rumored that Thurman Preston had broken his engagement because Kitty had refused to withdraw her offer added to the interest, and long before the fair was opened Kitty's kisses were the talk of the town.

Thurman had not meant to attend, but somehow he could not stay away. For one thing there was always the hope that Kitty might repent even at the eleventh hour, but Preston knew Kitty too well to believe that she would give up now.

He was one of the first to put in an appearance, and as he entered almost his first glance fell upon a curtained recess over the entrance to which was a sign reading:

KISS, BUT DON'T TELL.

It was bad enough to think of Kitty kissing all who were willing to pay a dollar, but that curtained room was the last straw. He stationed himself beside the booth and presently Kitty appeared.

"You don't mean to say that you are going to be my first customer?" she gasped. "That would spoil it all. I shan't let you in yet."

"I have no desire to patronize this feature," he said icily. "My aid shall be given in a more seemly manner."

"Mrs. McEwan has charge of the booth where bachelor luxuries are set forth. There are some stunning sofa cushions and smoking jackets. Do you know her, or shall I introduce you?"

"I have sent in a check," he said. "If I annoy you here I shall be glad to take my departure."

He moved on, but it was hard to keep away from the spot, and presently he found himself again in the vicinity of the booth.

In the meantime a crowd had gathered, and each seemed to be waiting sheepishly for some one to break the ice. It was several minutes before Tom Meeker paid his dollar and passed through the curtains to an accompaniment of advice from those less bold. There was a strained silence for a moment, then a man's laugh, and a second

later Meeker appeared.

"Did you get it, Tom?" demanded some one.

"I can prove it to you," he laughed. "only I promised not to tell. Better go in and see for yourself."

The inquirer paid up his dollar and went in, and presently they were crowding about the booth. Preston moved away. He could not stand there and see the men crowding up to pay for the privilege of kissing the girl he loved, and he realized for the first time now that he still did love Kitty and that she was breaking his heart.

Several times he sought to leave, but each time something held him back, and he made his dismal rounds of the hall, now making a purchase at some stall, now rousing himself with a start to realize that he had drifted back to the vicinity of the booth.

He knew that he was the subject of almost as much comment as was Kitty herself, and he resented the remarks he knew were being made, but he could not leave, nor could he gain the courage to approach the booth.

It was not until well toward the close of the evening that Tom Meeker ran across him. "Had your kiss yet?" he demanded. "Say, it's great, isn't it?"

"I have no desire to purchase carresses," said Preston stiffly.

Meeker looked up in surprise. "You can't afford to miss this," he said. "I'll stand treat. Come on."

Preston resisted, but Meeker was a giant in strength and fairly dragged him across the hall to the booth. The crowd had dropped away, for most of the visitors had paid their dollar, but there were still a number about as Meeker came up with his victim.

"Thur Preston's going to get his," he announced cheerfully. "He says he's opposed to kissing, but I'm going to stand treat." He threw a dollar on the table and pushed Preston through the curtains.

Kitty greeted him with a smile. "Come for your kiss?" she asked briskly. "I thought you couldn't stay away."

"I had no desire to come," he said severely. "That young fool Meeker insisted upon making an ass of himself by forcing my presence."

"Now, that's too bad that you should be compelled to let another man pay for your kiss," she laughed. "I had hoped that I would get a dollar from you."

Preston regarded her curiously. She had caught up a tiny jar and was rubbing some red paste upon her lips. "How will you have yours," she demanded, "full or cornerwise?"

"I tell you I don't want any," he insisted.

"You've got to have one," she laughed. "Since you have no choice I'll give you a full face."

She caught up a card and pressed it to her lips, leaving an indistinct reddish imprint. "You must not tell any one the joke," she commanded. "There are still some I have not sold yet. It's the latest English fad, you know, but it's not half so bad as it sounds."

"Why did you let me make such a fool of myself?" he cried.

"You needed a lesson," explained Kitty. "I think it was good for you to worry a little. Now, if you'll give me a ring I'll give you a real kiss."

He handed her the ring and she offered her lips. He started back. "You'll have to take that red stuff off," he suggested.

Kitty smiled up at him. "Don't you want to turn the laugh on Tom Meeker?" she suggested. "It will serve to announce our re-engagement."

"Put it on thick," he urged.

CITY NOTICES.

to make and file with the Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria, plans and specifications for the construction of said improvement and estimates of the costs and expenses thereof.

That the costs and expenses of constructing said improvement shall be defrayed by special assessment upon the lots, lands and premises benefited by the same which said lots, lands and premises are included in the special assessment district including all lots, lands and premises so benefited to-wit:

Commencing at the northwest corner of lot 8 in Block 25 in that part of the City of Astoria as laid out and recorded by John McClure and extended by Cyrus Olney, and running thence East through the middle of blocks 25, 59, 58 and 57 in McClure's Astoria, and Tract "A" of McClure's Astoria, as laid out and recorded by the Astoria Real Estate and Exchange Company, to the northeast corner of lot 5 in said Tract "A," and running thence south along the east line of block 136 in that part of the City of Astoria, as laid out and recorded by John M. Shively, to the southeast corner of said block 136 in said Shively's Astoria, and running, thence west along the south line of block 136 to the southwest corner of said block 136, thence north on the west line of block 136 to the point where the west line of said block 136 would be intersected by the south line of lot 4 in block 62 in McClure's Astoria if extended easterly on a straight line; thence running west through the middle of blocks 62, 61, 60 and 26 in McClure's Astoria to the southwest corner of lot 1 in block 26, and thence running north on the west line of blocks 26 and 25 to the place of beginning, and containing all lots, lands and premises within said district, which said lots, lands and premises are benefited by said repair, and which are as follows:

The north half of blocks 26, 60, 61 and 62 in that part of the City of Astoria as laid out and recorded by John McClure, and the south half of blocks 25, 59, 58, and 57, in McClure's Astoria, and the south half of tract or block "A" in McClure's Astoria, as laid out and recorded by the Astoria Real Estate & Exchange Co., and all of block 136 in that part of the City of Astoria as laid out and recorded by John M. Shively, in Clatsop County, Oregon.

OLOF ANDERSON,

Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria. 8-9-06.

Notice is hereby given, that Saturday the 18th day of August, 1906, at the hour of 2 o'clock P. M. in the Council Chambers in the City Hall of the City of Astoria has been fixed as the time and place of the meeting of the board of assessors and committee on streets and public ways as a board of equalization to equalize and correct special assessment roll No. 125 made for the purpose of defraying the costs and expenses of constructing a sewer on Eighteenth street from a point 15 feet south of the north line of Grand avenue to the south line of Exchange street.

All objections must be presented in writing.

OLOF ANDERSON,

Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria. 8-8-10.

Notice is hereby given that the Committee on Streets and Public Ways, the City Surveyor and the Superintendent of Streets have filed a certificate of the completion of the 18th street sewer, from a point 15 feet south of the north line of Grand avenue to the north line of Exchange street, by W. A. Goodin the contractor, in accordance with general ordinance No. 3234 and the contract therefore. That unless objections are filed against the same, the same will be accepted at the next regular meeting of the common council by ordinance.

OLOF ANDERSON,

Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria. 8-2-31.

Notice is hereby given that the Committee on Streets and Public Ways of the Common Council of the City of Astoria, the City Surveyor and the Superintendent of Streets have filed a certificate of the completion of the improvement of 10th street, from the south line of Commercial street to the north line of Duane street, by E. A. Gerding, the contractor, in accordance with general ordinance No. 3254 and the contract therefore. That unless objections are filed against the same, the same will be accepted by ordinance at the next regular meeting of the common council.

OLOF ANDERSON,

Auditor and Police Judge of the City of Astoria. 8-2-33.

LEGAL NOTICES.

NOTICE TO TAX PAYERS.

The Board of Equalization of Clatsop County, Oregon, will attend at the office of the County Clerk of Clatsop County, Oregon, on Monday, August 27, 1906, and daily thereafter until and including Saturday, September 1, 1906, to publicly examine the assessment roll for the year 1906, and correct all errors in valuation, description or equalities of land, lots or other properties and it shall be the duty of all parties interested to appear at that time and place for the purpose of correcting any errors that may appear in said assessment roll.

T. S. CORNELIUS,

Assessor, Clatsop County, Oregon. Astoria, Oregon, August 6, 1906. 8-5-28t. (D. & W.)

RECEIVER'S NOTICE.

In the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Multnomah.

Eleanor Olmstead, plaintiff, vs. The Traders' Insurance Company, et al. defendants.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed by the above-entitled court in the above-entitled cause receiver for the State of Oregon, of the defendant, The Traders' Insurance Company of Chicago, Illinois, and that by order of the said court, all persons having claims, against the said defendant, The Traders' Insurance Company, arising on policies issued in Oregon, are required to present the same to the undersigned, at the address below given on or before the 31st day of October, 1906, and if not so presented, the same will not participate in the distribution of the funds of the said defendant company in the hands of the receiver.

Notice is further given, that all return premiums will be computed from the 5th day of May, 1906, the date of the insolvency of the said The Traders' Insurance Company, and all policyholders of the said defendant company are urged to reinsure, if they have not already done so, and to present their claims properly verified promptly to the receiver with the surrender of their policies.

Forms for proofs of claims may be had from the receiver or from the former agents of the company.

A. H. BIRRELL, Receiver.

Address McKay Building, Portland, Oregon.

Dated June 25, 1906.

A. F. FLEGEL and BEACH & SIMON, Attorneys for Receiver. 7-16-30t.

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Odd Fellows' Land & Building Association will be held on Thursday, August 23, 1906, at 2 o'clock p. m. at Odd Fellows' Hall.

JOHN HAHN Secretary.

1-8-04.

Friend—This morning you told me you had shot only three stags, and now it has gone up to ten.

Sportsman—Yes, the others only just occurred to me.—Witzblatt.

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