

"A Gentleman" Tells How He Prefers His Kisses

On the Solemn Oath of an Ohio Broker, It Takes Two to Make a Kiss Click in Boston

Excerpt from the Deposition of William H. O'Hearn, Handsome Broker, Named as Co-respondent by Joseph Eldridge in the Cross-Libel of His Divorce Suit. Mr. O'Hearn Was Examined in Detail on the Question of How Many Times He Kissed Mrs. Eldridge.

ALTHOUGH the cross libel divorce suits of Joseph Ingalls Eldridge, wealthy investment broker, and Mrs. Helen La Forge Eldridge, Boston society matron, bristled with fascinating issues, none proved of greater interest to auditors than the now celebrated "kiss testimony."

This was given by William H. O'Hearn, dapper Lehigh College graduate, now a handsome, well-tailored insurance broker, of Akron, Ohio, and had to do with the tabulation of times his lips had met those of the aristocratic beauty.

At first refusing to guess, Mr. O'Hearn eventually consented to come down to cases. He doubted that the sum total of osculation had reached the 1,000 or even the 500 mark. "It may have been a couple of hundred times," he finally admitted cautiously, throwing in the pertinent suggestion that "you cannot kiss a person unless the other kisses, too."

Just as it takes two sets of lips to negotiate a kiss properly, it takes two persons to make a divorce suit. And in the case of the Eldridges it appeared to require two other persons to get the legal machinery started. There was, of course, Mr. O'Hearn, and there was a sprightly brunette whom Mrs. Eldridge swore she had seen in negligee in the same hotel room with Eldridge.

While awaiting the opening of the divorce trial, Mrs. Eldridge applied to Police Chief Bernard Burke for a pistol permit. (The Eldridge mansion



RESTIVE HUSBAND
Aristocratic Joseph Ingalls Eldridge, Harvard Graduate and Boston Investment Broker, Who, in a Cross Libel, Asked a Divorce. His Wife Was a Washington, D. C. Debutante.

is located in Newton, over which town Burke has supervisory powers). Astonished, Burke asked her what the idea was. She replied that she went in

Q — Did Mrs. Eldridge ever kiss you? A — Yes.
Q — How many times? A — I don't know.
Q — Give us your best guess? A — I have no guess.
Q — Would you say 1,000 times? A — Not that many.
Q — How about 500? A — No.
Q — Well what do you say to 200 times? A — It may have been a couple of hundred times.
Q — Was her husband ever present on these occasions? A — No.
Q — Of course you returned the compliment by kissing her? A — You cannot kiss a person unless the other kisses too.
Q — You responded by kissing her? A — Certainly.
Q — Who took the initiative — you or she — or was it 50-50? A — I suppose being the gentleman I took the initiative.

These Interesting Kiss Statistics Are Quoted from O'Hearn's Deposition in Reference to the Number of Times He Kissed Mrs. Eldridge's Lips — Superimposed on the Silhouette of Two Sweethearts (Not Mrs. Eldridge and O'Hearn), Suggesting the Action to the Word.

four of her life because she had received threats from what she referred to as "a South Boston gang." The Chief told her not to worry; he would see that she was protected.

The outcome was the arrest of Joseph Black, private detective, charged with attempting to bribe T. L. Johnson, star witness for Mrs. Eldridge and a former employee of her husband. Johnson told Mrs. Eldridge's attorney and representatives of the Watch and Ward Society that he had been "offered a good job as chief in a Maine sportsman's camp with a side line of liquor

and \$2,000 in cash as a final settlement" if he would turn the tide of his testimony against, rather than in favor of, Mrs. Eldridge.

On complaint from the Watch and Ward Society the police hid in a closet and overheard, they charged, a conversation between Eldridge, Johnson and Black, during which money was, they alleged, given to Johnson by Black. Eldridge voluntarily went to police headquarters, where he was arraigned with a detective named Morris. They were bound over in heavy bail for the Superior Court.

Mrs. Eldridge beat her husband to it in beginning divorce proceedings. Charging cruel and abusive treatment and infidelity, she began her action in Middlesex Probate Court, East Cambridge. Her husband, cross-libeling,

her with infidelity, naming O'Hearn as co-respondent.

Chief interest centered in the personality, good looks and sometimes amusing statements of the big broker in his deposition. In addition to the two hundred kisses with which he said he presented the pretty matron, O'Hearn admitted taking her to night clubs, fast ball games, tea dances, inns—sometimes at her request.

The broker, poised and smiling, entered rather deeply into the technical intricacies of osculation as the photographic excerpt from his deposition on this page shows. Petting parties were briefly discussed and Mr. O'Hearn's friendships with girls were gone into at length. Here is a sample of his ideas and style:

Q. Were you engaged to marry at one time? A. I never gave a girl a ring.

Q. Did you ever keep company with a girl who was about to become your wife? A. Yes.

Q. And did she break off with you? A. No girl ever broke off with me.

Q. The one you were about to marry? A. I was about to marry three or four.

Q. Were you on friendly terms with Mrs. Eldridge to call her by her first name? A. Yes.

Q. When did you become that familiar? A. We called each other by our first names the first time we met.

Q. Is that the usual thing to do? A. That's what I do.

Other questions and answers concerning the use of endearing terms, a

black eye which O'Hearn repudiated, the giving away of liquor and the peeping into the apartment house with Eldridge. O'Hearn said that, accompanied by Mrs. Eldridge, he could see from their motor car into the suite where the mystery lady, black gowned and hobbled, was rocking near the window and smoking a cigarette.

They saw Eldridge enter and the light go out. When the light went on the bobbed lady was in a dainty, lacey affair with ribbon trimmings. In her libel suit Mrs. Eldridge named this girl as "Mrs. Edna Smith." She also named a "Virginia McCormick."

Eldridge denied that he had occupied a room in a New York hotel with any woman. He had not, he affirmed, met a "mystery woman" at a Forty-fourth Street hotel in that city. He admitted meeting a woman on a Boston-bound train from the West, but denied entering a building on Mountfort Street, or another on Norway Street.

But people who attended the hearing were inclined to brush aside such technicalities and to center their attention on jaunty Mr. O'Hearn and his testimony of the two hundred kisses, which is believed to approach a record.

Strive for Power—Not Riches, Says Brady

PETER J. BRADY, a cash boy at the age of ten, was admitted to the labor union as a journeyman photo-engraver while still in his teens. He became such an active force in the American Federation of Labor that when the workingman's bank, the Federation Bank and Trust Company, was formed, he was chosen its president.

The choice of this genial, forthright Irishman to guide the financial progress of the workingman throughout the country was the logical outcome of his years of devotion to the labor cause. Mayor Walker has just appointed Mr. Brady chairman of the Mayor's Committee on Airports and

Aviation Program for the City of New York. Says Mr. Brady:

"A young man starting in business should first of all pick out something he likes, and then stick to it, and work at it just so much harder than the other fellow."

"I don't necessarily admire the young man who stays in the office longer than anybody else. Remaining to work after office hours often means that he has been a laggard when he should have been at his job."

"A man is more useful to me, and has greater chances of success and advancement in my opinion when he concentrates during office hours to such a degree that at five o'clock or whenever it is his work is done."



PETER J. BRADY

"If a man likes his work that of course implies enthusiasm, integrity and devotion to his purpose. But even if a man sets a goal for himself, it is wise never to be too hidebound in his method of attaining it."

"Elasticity of mind is an invaluable factor in business. By that I mean if a young man has decided on achieving his goal in a certain set way, it is a mistake never to deviate, for invariably certain conditions arise where a different policy is advisable, and these crossroads are the times when intelligence and a certain mobility are invaluable, and where inflexible policies may ruin his whole business life. And here is where the human equation comes in for the man who knows men and their ways from experience will nine times out of ten jump in the right direction."

In the matter of taking the knocks, coping with injustices and fighting the enemies which crop up during a business career, Mr. Brady has this to say: "It's only human nature to take your knocks hard, but never let them get under your skin. If you do they will hold you back. Don't brood on them. Don't let them cloud the issue."

"Injustice is bound to creep into your path, but again don't waste your time contemplating your wrongs. You may be able to right them some day. It is all valuable experience. Use it to 'Oh, and if you've got a sense of humor that's the greatest help of all.'"

Which is to be expected since Peter Brady has never forgotten that he is an Irishman.

your own profit.

"And as for enemies. You make enemies or you are not worth your salt. It's scrapping that makes for personality where scrapping is warranted. Everyone has to learn in business to stand on his own feet."

"No man or woman reaches a position of prominence or responsibility without having stood the test of his or her mettle."

"Your enemies can frequently be used as a foil for the advancement of your own career. You must fight these enemies if they stand in your way and fight them hard and courageously. But if they no longer stand in your path, even if they have meted out injustice to you, dismiss them from your mind. Don't waste that valuable time of yours trying to get even with them."

By Clare Murray, New Girl Poet-Artist

PROTEST

(Along the Riverbank)

After I say goodnight
To the final eager friend
Who brings to a close
The line of those who crowd my day—
I am myself.
And where I now retreat
No human enters.

No more cloaking my thoughts
Diluting or polluting them
To others' tastes. . . .
I can think in honesty.

No more parrying of hidden thrusts
With light, good-humored repartee. . . .
I can hate in honesty.

No more simulating love
To those who crave it.
No more feigning indifference
To those I dare not love.
I can like and love whom I please
And no one will know,
None can be hurt
And none made vain.

But, oh, I am lonely in this retreat!
Will there ever be someone
To whom I can lift
The veil of my secrets?



"... Someone to whom I can lift the veil of my secrets."

