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A Prince of Sinners
 By E. Phillips Oppenheim
 Author of "The Traitor," "The Sorcerer," "A Millionaire's Yesterday," Etc.

CHAPTER II

The bishop sat down amidst a little murmur of applause. He glanced up and saw that his wife had heard his speech, and he noted with satisfaction the long line of reporters, for whose sake he had spoken with such deliberation and with occasional pauses. He felt that his indictment of this new charitable departure had been scathing and logical. He was not altogether displeased to see Brooks himself in the Strangers' Gallery. That young man would be better able to understand now the mighty power of the Church which he had so wantonly disregarded.

But it was not the bishop's speech which had filled Brooks with dismay, which had made his heart grow suddenly cold within him. For this he had been prepared—but not for the adversary who was now upon his feet prepared to address the House. At least, he said to himself, bitterly, he might have spared this. It was Lord Arranmore, who, amidst some murmurs of surprise, had risen to address the House—pale, composed, supercilious as ever. And Brooks felt that what he could listen to, unmoved, from the Bishop of Beeton would be hard indeed to bear from this man.

This intervention of Lord Arranmore so early in the debate was wholly unexpected. Every one was interested, and those who knew him best prepared themselves for a little mild sensation. The bishop smiled to himself with the satisfaction of a man who has secured a welcome but unexpected ally. Lord Arranmore's views as to charity and its dispensation were fairly well known.

So every one listened—at first with curiosity, afterwards with something like amazement. The bishop abandoned his expression of gentle tolerance for one of manifest uneasiness. It seemed scarcely credible that he heard right. For the Marquis of Arranmore's forefinger was stretched out towards him—a gesture at once relentless and scornful, and the words to which he was forced to listen were not pleasant ones to hear.

"It is such sentiments as these," the Marquis of Arranmore was saying—and his words came like drops of ice, slow and distinct—"such sentiments as these voiced by such men as the Lord Bishop of Beeton in such high places as this where we are now assembled, which have created and nourished our criminal cases, which have filled our prisons and our workhouses, and in the future if his lordship's theology is correct, will people Hell. And as for the logic of it, was ever the intelligence of so learned and august a body of listeners so insulted before? Is charity, then, for the deserving and the deserving only? Are we to put a premium upon hypocrisy, to pass by on the other side from those who have fallen, and who by themselves have no power to rise? This is precisely his lordship's proposition. The one great charitable institution of our times, founded upon a logical basis, carried out with a devotion and a sacrifice beyond all praise, he finds pernicious and pauperizing, because forsooth, the drunkard and criminals are welcome to avail themselves of it, because it seeks to help those who save for such help must remain brutish themselves and a brutalizing influence to others."

There was a moment's deep silence. To those who were watching the speaker closely, and amongst them Brooks, was evident some sign of internal agitation. Yet when he spoke again his manner was, if possible, more self-restrained than ever. He continued in a low clear tone, without any further gesture and without intending for my ears, upon a subject as this. Let my convictions and opinions should seem to you to be those of an outsider, let me tell you this. You are listening to one who for twelve years lived the life of this unhappy people, dwelt amongst them as a police-court missionary—one who was driven even into some measure of insanity by the horrors he saw and tasted, and who recovered only by an ignominious flight into a far-off country. His lordship the Bishop of Beeton has shown you very clearly how little he knows of the horrors which seethe beneath the brilliant life of this wonderful city. He has brought it upon himself and you—that one who does know shall tell you something of the truth of these things."

There was an intense and breathless silence. This was an assembly amongst whom excitement was a very rare visitant. But there were many there now who sat still and spellbound

study, and his face was white and drawn. A cigarette which he had lit on entering the room had burnt out between his fingers. This sudden upheaval of the past, coming upon him with a certain spasmodic unexpectedness, had shaken his nerves. He had not believed himself capable of anything of the sort. The unusual excitement was upon him still. All sorts of memories and fancies long ago buried, thronged in upon him. So he sat there and suffered, striving in vain to crush them, whilst faces mocked him from the shadows, and familiar voices rang strangely in his ears. He scarcely heard the softly opened door. The light footstep amongst the throng of torturing memories. But his eyes—surely his eyes could not mock him. He started to his feet.

"Catherine!"

She did not speak at once, but all sorts of things were in her eyes. He ground his teeth together, and made one effort to remain his old self.

"You have come to offer—your sympathy. How delightful of you. The bishop got on my nerves, you know, and I really am not answerable for what I said, Catherine!"

She threw her arms around his neck. "You dear!" she exclaimed. "I am not afraid of you any more. Kiss me, Philip, and don't talk nonsense, because I shan't listen to you."

Brooks drove up in hot haste. The butler stopped him respectfully.

"His lordship is particularly engaged, sir."

"He will see me," Brooks answered. "Please announce me—Lord Kingston Ross!"

"I beg your pardon, sir," the man stammered.

"Lord Kingston of Ross," Brooks repeated, casting off for ever the old name as though it were a disused glove. "Announce me at once."

It was the Arranmore trick of impetuosity, and the man recognized it. He threw open the study door with trembling fingers, but he was careful to knock first.

"Lord Kingston of Ross."

He walked to his father with outstretched hand.

"You were right, sir," he said, simply. "I was a prig!"

They stood for a moment, their hands locked. It was a silent greeting, but their faces were eloquent. Brooks looked from his father to Lady Caroom and smiled.

"I could not wait," he said. "I was forced to come to you at once. But I think that I will go now and pay another call."

He stood outside on the kerb while they fetched him a hansom. The fresh night wind blew in his face, cool and sweet. From Piccadilly came the faint hum of traffic, and the ceaseless monotonous beat of hurrying footsteps. The hansom pulled up before him with a jerk. He sprang lightly in.

"No. 110, Crescent Flats, Kensington."

THE END.

INTERESTING SUMMARY

Of the Work of Regina Board of Trade—Marked Increase in Wholesale Business—Plans for Future

The splendid progress of Regina along all lines this year was very clearly set forth in the report of the council of the Board of Trade presented to the general meeting of that organization at the regular monthly meeting held in the police court chamber Thursday evening.

Report of the Council

At the last meeting a discussion took place as to the advisability of advertising Regina at the Toronto Industrial Exposition. Following out these lines your council has decided to delegate the secretary to attend the exhibition, at Toronto. Mr. L. T. McDonald will also attend the Toronto Exhibition as a delegate from the Dominion Fair Board to visit attractions and exhibits which will materially assist to make a success of the Dominion Exposition to be held in Regina August, 1911.

Incidentally, Mr. McDonald will be willing to assist the Secretary of the Board of Trade in the work of advertising this city and interviewing manufacturers and others with a view of setting forth the many advantages Regina has to offer to the wholesale and distributing industries that may locate at Regina. It is considered by your council that this form of advertising will carry with it the weight which literature, sent probable locations, would not, and that by meeting them and giving a clear and precise view of the situation, backing same up with statistics, correctly based, great results may be derived. It is hoped that tangible results and at least earnest efforts will be made along these lines. Space for the Regina exhibit and advertising has been arranged for the building with the railway company.

Following up the complaint by applicants for spur track sites, discussed at the last general meeting of this board, careful inquiries were made by the council of your board and satisfactory adjustments of the particular instances referred to have been made and steps taken to guard against any further circumstance of like nature which might occur.

Recent complaints, arising out of switching facilities at Regina railway terminals, have brought out the information that the Canadian Pacific Railway are not responsible for the switching service performed on the spur tracks located north of Dewdney St. on the C. N. R. The Canadian Northern Railway has assumed full charge of the switching on this portion of the terminals. Some few complaints have arisen as to the switching on this particular part of the terminals, but have apparently been promptly adjusted by the officials of the C. N. R. For the benefit of industries located on these spur tracks it has been officially announced that one switch-per day will be given each industry or warehouse requiring same. It is not carried out the matter will receive prompt attention by reporting same to the Superintendent of the C.N.R.

Your council has considered that mention should be made in this report of the Provincial Exhibition held in Regina August 2nd to 5th, and of the success which attended the untiring efforts of the directors and Secretary of the Fair Board Association. Too much cannot be said in praise of the benefit to the city derived from the visit to the city and the exhibition of crowds of people. The greater number of these visitors were from the cities, towns and villages of our own province. Even so we may expect to benefit by the visit to the Regina Exhibition to friends residing in different parts of the United States, Eastern Canada and so forth. These will lead to inquiries concerning the city and finally result in the locating of many in Regina and Saskatchewan. It was also noticed that there were a goodly number of visitors from district points in attendance at the exhibition and we learn from reliable sources that some of these visitors made land investments and otherwise became interested in the city and district.

Acting under the council the secretary arranged an exhibit, at the exhibition, consisting of each of the manufactured articles of Regina tastefully displayed with decorations, in the district building on the grounds. While this display was not awarded the prize, which was offered by the Exhibition Association for the best display of the district exhibits (this going to the Greenleaf exhibit), yet we feel we impressed our visitors with the importance of Regina as the centre of industries of the province. Judging by the literature voluntarily taken from our space, we feel assured of the interest taken by our visitors and that the city was as well advertised as it could possibly be.

An incident of the exhibition of 1910, that will be long remembered, is the fact that it was formally opened by our Premier of the Dominion, Sir Wilfrid Laurier.

Accompanying Sir Wilfrid Laurier's party were sixteen Eastern press representatives. Your reception committee arranged a luncheon for these visitors at the King's Hotel. The letter stated that if this scheme were also taken for an automobile ride through some thirty or forty miles of

our wheat fields and the visitors expressed themselves as being very favorably impressed with the magnificent crops of the district and remarked that conditions appeared better than any they had previously viewed in Western Canada. The visitors were also driven through the city and the points of interest were pointed out to them.

The Canadian Manufacturers' Association are scheduled to reach Regina on the morning of September 15 and remain in the city till the evening. In view of the fact that this visit is being made at the request of this board and other associations of the city, it is incumbent upon us to give the Canadian Manufacturers, returning Western Canada, a hearty reception while in Regina. With this aim in view your reception committee has been in conference with the reception committee of the city council and have arranged an auto ride and luncheon for their entertainment. Too much importance cannot be attached to this visit as the whole party includes representatives of Canada's manufacturers, and as we naturally aim to increase our industries we will have an opportunity of viewing in Regina the very men who are able to assist us in the upbuilding of our city in the attaining of the aims which we have in view.

Regina has shown remarkable growth in the last few months and particularly in the wholesale district. Mention might be made of the buildings now under construction which include: the wholesale grocery warehouse of Campbell Bros. & Wilson, four stories and a basement at a cost of \$50,000; the wholesale hardware warehouse of Peart Bros., costing \$50,000; the warehouse of Messrs. Tees & Perse, costing \$35,000; the warehouse of the J. I. Case Co., costing \$100,000; the National Drug and Chemical Co., costing \$25,000; an addition to the International Harvester Co. at a cost of \$60,000. This building will now contain two acres of floor space and more than double the capacity of the former building.

The Sawyer Massey Co., through the efforts of your president have decided to locate a distributing warehouse in Regina at an early date. Negotiations have been completed with the city council for their location on the spur track system.

The Moore Light Co., Vancouver, have opened offices in Regina and as early as convenient to them will establish themselves in a warehouse in the wholesale district.

The Toronto Type Foundry are now distributing from the warehouse of T. Wilkinson and at a later date will erect a warehouse for their own use in the wholesale district.

Your secretary is in close touch with other manufacturers as to inducing them to locate industrial concerns, wholesale and distributing, and it is fully expected we will be able to report announcements of developments later.

The growth of the city is not by any means limited to the wholesale district, in fact every portion of the city is showing remarkable growth in its buildings. This season has opened a new era in Regina for building and construction. Civic improvements alone amount to almost \$700,000, with improvements for which grants were made last year, being completed this year, total close to the \$1,000,000 mark.

Building permits up to August 16 amount to \$1,700,000. For the same period last year they amounted to \$514,200, so that the figures of the present year are three times those of last year, which for the present year, up to date, eclipses any city in the Dominion of Canada.

Railway earnings for the present year continue to increase, and from January 1st this year to the end of July fluctuate around the quarter million mark per month. They did fall to exceed the \$3,000,000 mark for 1910 which will far exceed any previous record and marks the progress of industry in trade and commerce.

The crops in Regina district are in excellent condition and the yield will equal, if not exceed, that of former years. There has been no damage by drought or frost, or, in fact, of any kind.

This fact has been made known throughout Eastern Canada and the United States, through the medium of the press. Telegraphic notices have been sent to Eastern papers to this effect to offset any mistaken statements that might reach industrial centres and prove detrimental to the upbuilding of this city and district.

The industrial communications dealt with was one from H. A. Knight in which the support of the Board was requested in having taken steps to secure the removal of the incinerator from the wholesale district. After some discussion a resolution was adopted acknowledging receipt of the letter and expressing the sympathy of the board with the movement for the abatement of this nuisance, and making reference to the fact that the city council now have the matter under consideration.

A letter of thanks was received from Indian Head Board of Trade in acknowledgment of the stand taken by the Board in regard to the suggestion of fortnightly excursions to Regina from surrounding districts.

Opposed to Daylight Saving Idea

The Trades and Labor Council wrote stating that the unions to whom the question had been put were agreed that the Daylight Saving Scheme would not benefit the work classes in any way whatever. The letter stated that if this scheme were to take effect, it would seriously injure the farm laborer, who, in their

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opinion, would have to work one hour longer each day. It being so late in the season it was decided that nothing further could be done in the matter this summer and the letter was filed without discussion.

A discussion arose with regard to the proper method of obtaining wheat and other standing grain samples for exhibition at the Dominion Fair next year, and it was suggested that a skilled man be specially hired for this class of work.

At the conclusion of the meeting a suggestion was made with regard to the erection of a building for the joint accommodation of the three publicity organizations of the city, namely the Board of Trade, the Fair Board, and the Greater Regina Club.

The suggestion originated at a meeting of the Fair Board and Mr. J. Kelso Hunter put it before the meeting last evening. P. McAra stated, on behalf of the board, that they would be pleased to go further into the matter at a later date.

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