

## FINE OF \$250 TO BE IMPOSED FOR SLAYING

Former Chinese War Lord Penalized Lightly for Killing Prince.

BY MILES W. VAUGH  
United Press Staff Correspondent

TOKIO, Sept. 12.—For accidentally killing a young member of the once-powerful house of Manchu, which ruled over China for centuries, Chang Tsung-Chang, deposed war lord of Shantung province, will have to pay a fine of approximately \$250. It appeared today as his trial for murder neared its finish at trial.

Evidence brought out in the trial indicated that General Chang had killed the young man, a cousin of the former boy emperor of China, by accident, as he had claimed. The prosecutor demanded Chang pay a fine of 500 yen, or about \$250.

Hsien Kai, the dashing young Manchu prince, was found dead from a bullet on Aug. 2 near Chang's magnificent villa at the resort town of Beppu, island of Kyushu.

Chang said the shooting was accidental; that his pistol exploded as he was examining it. The police suspected Chang had killed the young prince over one of Chang's many wives.

They were informed the prince had been a frequent visitor at Chang's apartments and grown overly fond of one of Chang's favorite helpmates.

General Chang always has been partial to his harem, and according to Shantung inhabitants, easily loses his temper where his wives are involved.

Chang, as ruler of Shantung, had as many as sixteen wives, whom he took along on all his war expeditions, traveling in private trains built especially for him in European countries.

### GETS TERM AT FARM

Thomas Richardson, 17, Must Serve Year for Burglary, Grand Larceny.

Criminal Judge James A. Collins today sentenced Thomas Richardson, 17, son of Harry Richardson of near Beach Grove, to one year at the Indiana State Farm on burglary and grand larceny charges.

The youth is alleged to have broken into the home of Mrs. Lila Hylton, 5870 Ullian Avenue, June 13, and stolen jewelry valued at \$200 and a typewriter. Kenneth Mehrin, an alleged companion to the youth, is serving a prison sentence meted him recently on a similar charge by Collins.

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## What Price This Nation Is Answered by Claude G. Bowers in 'Tragic Era'

BY WALTER D. HICKMAN.

While reading Claude G. Bowers' "The Tragic Era" or "The Revolution After Lincoln," I could not refrain from the very serious thought that the author was answering the question: "What Price This Nation?"

Although not a study of the administration of Lincoln, it throws more light upon Lincoln's character and his grave problems than any book that has ever been written on the subject.

One can not be proud of this revolution which followed the course of the bullet which felled Lincoln.

As Bowers contends in his preface: "The story of this revolution is one of desperate enterprises, by daring and unscrupulous men, some of whom had genius of a high order.

In these no American can take pride. The evil that they did lies after them. The question is, the course of history, and whether for ultimate good or bad, is still on the lap of the gods. The story carries lessons that are well worth pondering."

It is my opinion that the word "pondering" is not strong enough.

It is an object lesson growing out of the most terrible period in the history of this country.

At times when I was reading of the debauchery of state governments in the administration of Grant, when men of the lowest

types pushed themselves into offices as well as the state treasuries and fostered a movement to place the Negro on an "equal" basis with the Southern whites, I wonder what any Russian would think of us on reading this terrible but true account of this country as it was at the close of the Civil war.

Bowers has given to the world the truth about Andrew Johnson, his administration and his vindication and he has revealed the awful truth of the weakness of Grant as a President, and a faithful expose of the terrible conditions which operated against decent government in his day.

### It Is Melodrama.

"The Tragic Era" is more than history, it is really theater of the type melodrama because the entire story reeked with revolutionary turmoil, with elemental passions predominant, and with bloody noses among the fighting fanatics."

To me the striking accomplishment of Bowers in this book of 567 pages, just published by Houghton Mifflin Company, selling for \$5, is that he has reproduced painful facts about the treacherous leaders of that period which have been splendidly overlooked by historians who were afraid of the awful truth.

And here we have the awful truth of state houses in certain states nearly becoming pig pens, with open bays adjoining the assembly rooms, with black legislators mingling with a few whites and above all the sinister power of crooked politicians who were bleeding the people and misguiding the Negro.

When I read the terrible chaos in our own country during this period, I wondered what must have happened in Russia with the fall of



Claude G. Bowers

By writing "The Tragic Era," history of the revolution after Lincoln, Claude G. Bowers has written a masterpiece that is greater than any of the leading authorities on the life of Lincoln.

Men, whose names still ring to-day on the lips of the spinners of party leaders as great and true men, are made to kiss the dust of treachery, treason, selfishness, thievery, bribery and about every other crime on the books, including murder, wholesale at that. Bowers is right.

It is not a pleasant duty of Bowers to relate the sordid experiences that our nation went through to emerge from this chaotic state. It is not pleasant reading, but Bowers has his authorities, his facts, the words and actions of all leaders, including the false and the true, that contributed to this melodrama of hate and passion.

### Just a Thought

I would not be surprised that some of the descendants who now are basking under the fame of alleged ancestors who figured in this period will blush and in some instances may wish that they could change their names.

"The Tragic Era" is an indictment, not partisan, but seemingly just, truthful and full of many lessons. I know that I rebelled at times, but Bowers' logic and his facts caused me to surrender and yield to the awful truth.

I believe that if certain portions of this book were read by speakers, those who desire to be honest, on the Fourth of July and on Decoration day, we would have a better understanding of what price this republic is.

And at the same time we would be more fit in fighting the selfish problems, the bigotry, the federal and state lobbies and the false paid.

Here is melodrama. History, yes. Facts, yes. All revealed in such a fascinating and interesting way that it will hold the hot attention of a follower of Elmer Glyn. And that's going some.

It will cause many a reader to adjust his entire conception of this period of American history.

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Indianapolis theaters today offer: "Red Sam" at the Lyric; "Speedway" at the Palace; "Words and Music" at the Apollo; "The Cocoanuts, at the Ohio; "Fast Life" at the Circle; "Dark Streets," at the Indiana; "The Merry Whirl," at the Mutual, and movies at the Colonial.

**CONFERENCE IS HELD**

Fifty M. E. Churches Unite in Beech Grove Meeting.

Urging pastors and laymen of fifty Methodist Episcopal churches to build "for the past for the future," Dr. Orien W. Fifer spoke at a conference Wednesday evening of the Indianapolis district in the Beech Grove Methodist church.

Other speakers were Dr. E. W. Dunaway, pastor of the Roberts Park church; Dr. J. B. Rosemurgy, of the Irvington church; the Rev. Elmer Jones of the St. Paul's church and Dr. Ernest N. Evans, executive secretary of the Indianapolis Church Federation.

**CONSIDER MEMORIAL**

Sketches of a stone colonnade, to mark the entrance to Riverside park and serve as a memorial to Thomas Taggart, former mayor, were considered today by the park board.

The colonnade will supplant twenty-one markers which were stolen by vandals.

The memorial will be erected at the Bardsdale parkway entrance, according to Michael E. Foley, park commissioner.

**YEGGS OVERLOOK \$112**

Battering open a safe door with a sledge hammer, yeggs took \$6 from the strongbox in Payne's Tire Service Company, 855 Massachusetts avenue, but missed \$112 in another compartment of the safe, Harry Payne, 1558 College avenue, told police today.

Ten automobile tires also were stolen, Payne said.

**Gone, but Not Forgotten**

Automobiles reported to police as stolen belong to:

Georgette Schmitt, 620 East St. Clair street, Chevrolet touring, from North and Noble streets.

Turner Thompson, 1421 Lexington avenue, Ford roadster, 32-620 from Senate avenue and Washington street.

James Newton, 215 East Thirty-sixth street, Ford coupe, 90-985, from 3558 Washington boulevard.

James Carr, 938 McKnight building, Minneapolis, Minn., Ford sedan, B-321-814, Minnesota, from Capitol avenue and Ohio street.

W. J. Cagen, 1931 Hoyt avenue, Whippet roadster, 713-977, from Woodlawn avenue and Shelly street.

Mrs. H. L. Williams, 1319 North New Jersey street, Ford coupe, 720-033, from Delaware and Vermont streets.

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Dr. F. Jacobs, 342 South Temple avenue, Chevrolet sedan, in Dearborn Woods near Thirty-fourth street.

Sherrill Duckworth, R. R. 1, Bridgeport, Ind., Chevrolet touring, in rear of 2109 West Eleventh street.

For details, call 2109 West Eleventh street.

## FLEE FOR LIFE AS FIRES RAGE IN FAR WEST

Vast Areas in Washington and Oregon Have Been Destroyed.

By United Press

PORTLAND, Ore., Sept. 12.—

Flames of several forest fires roared

over vast areas of Oregon and

Washington today, carrying terror

and leaving destruction.

The worst fire in the Pacific

northwest is raging at Triangle lake,

western Lake county, Oregon, where

every man, woman, child and creature

fled before the menacing flames.

Recruits are being sent from Spokane to reinforce 350 men fighting

the conflagration, which already

is right.

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