Wheat Hits 5-Year Low

September Contracts Drop 48 Cents Below '37 Market Figure

CHICAGO, Aug 5—(AP)—Wild tumbles of values of 2⅝ cents in Chicago and 3 cents at Winnipeg, plunged wheat prices down today to bottoms unreached before in five years.

Attention of traders here focused chiefly on official notice that despite government guaranteed prices to be paid to Canadian farmers, Canada's export trade would be on a world competitive basis. With indications pointing to a large surplus of wheat in the United States, Canada and Argentina, this development quickly served to upset speculative confidence.

Collapse is Great

Successive big waves of selling overwhelmed the futures pit here, and the price of September contracts collapsed to 64⅝, more than 10 cents under the United States government loan rate and about 48 cents a bushel below quotations a year ago. At Winnipeg, October wheat dropped about 6 cents under the price guaranteed to Canadian farmers.

Chicago wheat futures closed tumultuously at the day's lowest low 2⅛-2⅝ cents down compared with yesterday's finish. Sept. 64⅝-¾. Dec. 66⅜-½.

Farmers' Union News

BETHEL—A. J. Mader was voted into the membership of Bethel local of the Farmers' Union Monday night. Ralph A. Wilson gave the obligations. W. L. Creech reported on livestock activities and of stock being trucked into Portland from this district.

Rev. S. Hamrick was elected as local hospital committeeman for the county. Reports were presented by committees on educational, legislative and agricultural subjects. A group of junior members served refreshments.

Salem Market Quotations

FRUITS (Buying Prices) (The prices below supplied by a local grocer are indicative of the daily market prices paid to growers by Salem buyers but are not guaranteed by The Statesman.	
Apples, Gravensteins, bu.	.75
Apricots, 15 lb. Yakima	.45
Bananas, lb. on stalk	.06
Hands	.06½
Cantaloupes	2.25
Loganberries, crate	1.00
Grapefruit, Calif., Sunkist, crate	2.00
Dates, fresh, lb.	.14
Lemons, crate	6.50
Oranges, crate	$2.65 to 3.15
Youngberries, crate	1.00
Boysenberries, crate	1.25
VEGETABLES (Buying Prices)	
Beets, doz.	.25
Cabbage, lb	.03
Calif., new crop	.03
Carrots, local, doz.	.40
Cauliflower, Seattle	1.00
Celery, Utah, crate	1.75
String Beans, Calif., lb.	.06
Celery Hearts, doz.	1.30
Lettuce, local	1.15
Onions, No. 1, cwt.	2.50
Boiling, 10 lbs., No. 2	.20
Green onions, doz.	.25
Radishes, doz.	.40
Peppers, green, Calif.	12 to .15
Parsley	.40
Green Peas, lb.	.08
New Potatoes, local, cwt.	1.50
Squash, Summer, doz.	.40
Danish, crate	2.75
Zucchini squash, flt	1.50
Turnips, doz.	.60
NUTS	
Walnuts, 1937, lb.	10 to .16
Filberts, 1937 crop, lb.	12 to .15
HOPS (Buying Price)	
Clusters, nominal, 1937, lb.	10 to .11
Fuggles, top	nominal
WOOL AND MOHAIR (Buying Price)	
Wool, medium, lb.	.22
Coarse, lb.	.22
Lambs, lb.	.19
Mohair, lb.	.20
EGGS AND POULTRY (Buying Price of Andresens)	
Large extras	.26
Medium extras	.24
Large standards	.24
Medium standards	.17
Pullets	.17
Colored fryers	15 to .16
Colored medium, lb.	.15
White Leghorns, lb., No.	.12
White Leghorns, frys	.13
White Leghorns, lb., No. 2	.10
Heavy hens, lb.	.15
Roosters	.05
LIVESTOCK (Based on conditions and sales reported up to 4 p.m.)	
Spring lambs	5.75
Lambs	3.00 to 3.50
Ewes	2.00 to 2.50
Hogs, tops, 150-210 lbs.	9.00
130-150 lbs.	8.50 to 8.75
210-300 lbs.	8.25 to 8.50
Sows	7.25
Dairy type cows	3.00 to 3.50
Beef cows	4.00 to 4.50
Bulls	5.00 to 5.50
Heifers	4.50 to 5.50
Top veal, lb.	7.50
Dressed veal, lb.	.11
MARION CREAMERY Buying Price	
Butterfat, A grade	.25½
Butterfat, B grade	.24
Leghorn hens, heavy	.12
Colored fryers	.14
Colored hens, over 4½ lbs.	.15
Leghorn hens, loght	.10
Stags, lb.	.05

Grade B raw 4 per cent milk, Salem basic pool price $1.90.

Co-op. Grade A butterfat price, FOB Salem, 25½c.

(Milk based on semi monthly butterfat average.)

Distributor price, $2.32.

A grade butterfat — Delivered, 25½c; B grade, 24c; C grade, 19½c.

A grade print, 28½c; B grade, 27½c.

Old Roosters, lb.	.05
Rejects, market value, No. 2 grade	5c less
Large extras	.26
Medium extras	.24
Large standards	.25
Medium standards	.18
Undergrade	.17
GRAIN, HAY AND SEEDS	
Oats, white, ton	20.00 to 22.00
Wheat, white, bu.	.57
Wheat, western red, bu.	.55
Barley, feed, ton	22.00
Oats, gray, ton	22.00 to 24.00
Alfalfa, valley, ton	12.50
Oat and vetch hay, ton	10.00

Cattle for Fair Must Have Clean Bill, Say Rules

Dairymen and beef cattle raisers planning to exhibit their stock at the Oregon state fair, September 5 to 11, must hold certificates showing their animals free from Bang's disease and tuberculosis, according to Dr. W. W. Lytle, state veterinarian.

The tuberculin test requirement applies to cattle over one year old. They must have been tested within 12 months prior to the opening of the fair.

All cattle over six months of age must have been ang's tested within one month of exhibition unless they are from an abortion-free accredited herd. The herd must have been tested within one year.

Burial Services Slated Today for A. A. McNary

WOODBURN—Burial services for Archie A. McNary, 63, who died at a Portland hospital will be held Saturday afternoon at the City View cemetery in Salem, with Ringo morticians in charge. McNary was a native of Eola, in Polk county.

Some Stocks At new Peak

Steels, Motors, Rubbers, Coppers Among Issues That Make Gains

NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—(AP)—The stock market today swung out of the narrow channel in which it has been anchored for the past several days and leading issues steamed ahead fractions to more than 3 points, some to new peaks for the year and longer.

Steels, motors, rubbers, coppers and industrial specialities led the upturn, but even the rails, in the doldrums most of the day, ran up at the last following the announcement last week's freight loadings increased slightly more than seasonally. Utilities were a shade better, but far from buoyant.

Idle Funds Come In

With business news on the side of buying forces, and far eastern Russo-Japanese row expected to quiet down, brokers said soldout bulls and others with idle investment funds began to grow impatient with the market's refusal to back down to any great extent and apparently decided to join the purchasing contingents.

The Associated Press average of 60 stocks advanced .9 of a point to 50, or just .8 of a point under the best figure since last October. It was the sharpest single day's gain since July 19. Transfers totaled 1,169,940 shares compared with 609,000 the day before.

Knigge to Open Union Sermons

WOODBURN—Union meetings of the Woodburn churches are to be held each Sunday night during August at various churches. These meetings have been held before and have proved successful.

Rev. Marvin Knigge, pastor of the Free Methodist church, will give the sermoon at the first meeting to be held next Sunday at the Methodist church.

Quotations at Portland

PRODUCE EXCHANGE

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 5.—(AP)—Produce exchange:

Butter—Extras, 25½; large standards, 24½; prime firsts 24; firsts 23½ butterfat. 26 26½.

Eggs—Large extras, 26; large standards, 24; medium extras, 25c; medium standards 23.

Cheese—Triplets, 13½; loaf, 14.

Portland Grain

PORTLAND, Aug. 5—(AP)—Wheat:

	Open	High	Low	Close
Sep.	61⅝	61⅝	61	61
Dec.	64	64	63	63

Cash grain: Oats No. 2-38 lb. white 24.00. No 2-38 lb. gray 24.00; barley No. 2-45 lb. B. W. 21.00; corn No. 2 E. Y. Ship. 28.00.

Cash wheat: (Bid): Soft white (bd. wh. app.) 60½; western white or western club 60½; western red 58; hard red winter ordinary 5-; 11 per cent 59; 12 per cent 62; 13 per cent 63; 14 per cent 67. Hard white-Baart ordinary 60½; 11 per cent 60½; 12 per cent 62; 13 per cent 65; 14 per cent 67.

Car receipts: Wheat 110; barley 4; flour 8; corn 7; oats 1; millfeed 4.

Portland Livestock

PORTLAND, Aug. 5—(AP)—(USDA)—Hogs: Receipts, 200 including 139 direct, no choice lightweights offered, market nominally steady, good-choice lightweight trucking salable $9.25-35; carload lots $9.50, few medium 171 lb. $9.00, odd head choice light lights $9.00, odd packing sows $7.00, good 90 lb. feeder pigs $8.00.

Cattle: Receipts, 50 calves, 100 including 95 direct, load mixed cows and heifers steady, part load heifers 6.50, cows 5.50 lightly sorted 4.50, other offerings of odds and ends on cleanup basis, low cutter and cutter cows 3.00-75, cutter-medium bulls 4.50-5.50, common vealers 5.00, choice quotable 8.00 and above.

Sheep: Receipts, 300 including 85 direct, load slaughter ewes unsold, few spring lambs steady, common 5.50, good-choice trucked in eligible 6.50, choice slaughter ewes salable 3.50.

Portland Produce

PORTLAND, Ore., Aug. 5.—(AP)—Live poultry buying prices Leghorn broilers 1½ to 1½ lbs. 15-16c lb.; 2½ lbs., 15-16c lb.; colored springs 2 to 3½ lbs. 16½-18c lb.; over 3½ lbs. 18½-19c lb.; Leghorn hens over 3½ lbs. 14-15c under 3½ lbs. 14-14½c lb.; colored hens to 5 lbs. 18-18½c lb.; over 5 lbs. 18-19c lb; No. 2 grade 5c lb. less.

Country meats selling price to retailers country killed hogs best buchers under 160 lbs. 12½-13c lb; vealers 12½-13c lb.; light and thin 9-11c lb.; heavy 10c lb.; bulls 10c lb.; canner cows 7c lb.; cutter cows 7-8c lb.; spring lambs 12-13c lb.; old lambs 7-8c lb.; ewes 5-7c lb.

Turkeys nominal buying price: Breeder hens, 20c lb.; toms, 17-18c lb. Selling price dressed new crop hens, 28c lb.; toms, 24-25c lb.

Potatoes Yakima Gems $1.40; Rose $1.25; 100 lb. bag; local $1.30-1.35 per 100 lb. bag

Onions—California White Glove $1.65; Oregon $2.00; Walla Walla 65-75c per 50-lb. bag.

Hay, Selling Price to Retailers—Alfalfa No. 1, $16 ton; oat, vetch, $14 ton; clover $10-11.50 ton; timothy, eastern Oregon (—); do valley $15 ton, Portland.

Wool—Willamette valley nominal medium 22c lb.; coarse and braids 21-23c lb.; eastern Oregon 16½-26½c lb.

Hops—Nominal; 1937 10-11c lb.

Mohair—Nominal; 1938, 35c lb.

Cascara bark buying price 1938 peel 5c lb.

Domestic Flour—Selling price, city delivery, 1 to 25 bbl. lots: Family patents, 49s, $5.45-6.25; bakers' hard wheat, net, $4.10-5.55; bakers' bluestem, 4.10-4.45; blended hard wheat, 4.25-4.55; soft wheat flour, 4.00-4.10; graham, 49s, 4.55; whole wheat, 49s, 5.35 bbl.

Sugar—Berry or fruit, 100s, $4.90; bales $5.10; best $4.80 cental.

Wool in Boston

BOSTON, Aug. 5—(AP)—(USDA)—A moderate amount of business was being closed today on fine territory wools in original bags. Good French combing lengths original fine territory wools were bringing mostly around 65 cents, scoured basis. Average to short French combing lengths fine territory wools in original bags were bringing 62 to 64 cents, scoured basis. Average 12-month Texas wools were receiving a few calls at prices ranging 65 to 68 cents, scoured basis.

Seed Dealers to Meet Here 8th

All Marion county seed growers will receive special notice today from County Agent Harry L. Riches of the meeting slated in Salem Tuesday of all seed growers and seed-grower organizations.

The meeting will be held at the department of agriculture at 1 o'clock, and is to discuss and consider a cooperative movement in marketing pea and vetch seed, as well as other seed grown in Oregon. All Oregon seed growers are urged to attend the session.

Morton Tompkins, who sent out the call for the meeting, stated recent sales of pea seed have been completed by a co-op growers' organization at prices substantially higher than existing market prices. Virtually all the seed grown in Oregon goes to southern markets.

Manufacturer Dies

LEBANON, Tenn., Aug. 5—(AP)—John E. Edgerton, 58, former president of the National Association of manufacturers, died at his home here tonight after an illness of three weeks.

Contract More '38 Hops at 18c

200 Bales '37 Clusters Are Sold at Top of 12 Cents to Grower

Hop markets on the Pacific coast maintained a steady to firm tone during the week ended August 3, states the Weekly Hop Market Review of the bureau of agricultural economics. Interest of the entire industry on the west coast was largely centered on the referendum regarding the hops marketing agreement, which is now being conducted in producing areas of the three coast states.

Oregon markets, while rather quiet during the past seven days, furnished the only selling activity reported on the west coast. Trade reports indicated sales by Oregon growers during the period included around 200 bales of 1937 crop clusters which netted 10½ to 12c per pound to growers, with one small lot of 1937 fuggles bringing 10c per pound, net grower.

About 500 bales of 1938 crop hops were reported contracted by Oregon producers during the week. No interest was reported in either 1935 or 1936 growths and prices on these supplies were only nominal.

Despite the only moderate to light current inquiry for 1937 hops, growers were reported as not pressing their remaining supplies.

Stocks & Bonds

August 5

STOCK AVERAGES
Compiled By The Associated Press

	30 Indus	15 Rails	15 Util	60 Stocks
Fri.	73.3	20.4	34.1	50.0
Prev. day	72.0	19.4	33.8	49.1
Month ago	68.8	18.9	34.2	47.4
Year ago	97.4	38.7	43.1	68.0
1938 high	74.0	21.6	35.1	50.8
1938 low	49.2	12.1	24.9	33.7
1937 high	101.6	49.5	54.0	75.3
1937 low	57.7	19.0	31.6	41.7

BOND AVERAGES

	20 Rails	10 Indus	10 Util	10 Forgn
Fri.	60.7	*100.1	94.1	62.5
Prev. day	60.1	100.0	94.2	62.4
Month ago	56.3	98.6	92.9	62.7
Year ago	91.2	103.1	98.2	73.3
1938 high	70.5	100.0	94.3	67.0
1938 low	46.2	93.0	85.8	61.2
1937 high	99.0	104.4	102.8	74.7
1937 low	70.3	95.5	90.3	64.2
1932 low	45.8	40.0	64.6	42.2
1928 high	101.1	98.9	102.9	100.5

*New high.

Gardeners' and Ranchers' Mart

PORTLAND, Aug. 5—(AP)—(USDA)

Apples — Oregon, new Transparents, 35-pound lugs, 60-75c; Gravenstein, loose, 85c-$1.00; California Gravensteins, fancy, 45-pound lugs, $1.75-2.

Avocados — California, Fuerte, $3.75-3.85; green, $2.35-2.65; others $1.95-2.85, according size; choice 10c to 25c less.

Apricots—Ore., Wash., 15 lb. 40-45c, faced, 50-52½c.; Wash., row packed, 55-6c.

Beans—Ore., green, 4-5c; Yount, large 7-8c; Blue Lakes, 3½-4c; Kentucky, 4-5c.

Berries—24-basket crates, strawberries, local, best, $2.00-2.50; blackberries, 65-75c; youngberries, $1.25-1.50.

Cabbage—Ballhead, $1.50-1.75.

Cantaloupes—California jumbo, 36s to 45s, $1.30-1.75; Washington, Wapatos, standard, 36s and 45s, $1.50-1.75.

Cauliflower—Lower Columbia, 90c $1.

Casabas—Calif., 3½-2½c lb.

Celery—Oregon, Milwaukie Utah type, $1.50-1.65 per crate; Labish white, $1.15-1.25; local bleached and bunched, 3 and 5 dozen, $2 per crate; hearts, 80-95c.

Corn—5 doz., $1.35-1.50; Wash., $1.50-1.65.

Cucumbers—Field grown, 35-45c; No. 2, 30-35c. Pickling, size 1, 40-50c; 3, 30-35c.

Dill—10c lb.

Eggplant—7-8c per pound; 20 pound flats, $1.25.

Garlic—Local, best 6-8c per pound, poorer 4-5c per pound; new crop, 6-8c cut.

Grapefruit—48-100 Calif., extra fancy, $2.25-2.50; choice, $1.75-2.00.

Grapes—California, Thompson seedless, $1.60-1.75; Ribier, $2.25-2.40; red Malags, $1.75-2.00; cluster, $1.85-2.00.

Honeydews—Calif., $1.50-1.75.

Lemons—Fancy, all sizes, $4.75-5.00.

Lettuce—Dry, pack 3 and 4 dozen, best 75-90c, poorer low as 60c; Seattle, $1.25-1.35.

Onions—Washington Valencias, No. 1, 75-85c; No. 2, 50-65c per cent.

Oranges — Choice Valencias, fancy, $3.00; smaller, $2.75-3; choice, $2.00-2.20; loose, $1.25-1.75.

Peas—Lower Columbia, 25 lb. box, $2.25-2.50; Wash., 30 lb., $1.35-1.50.

Peaches—Oregon early Elbertas, 65-75c; Crawfords, 75-80c; Rochester, 75c-$1.00; Redbirds, small sizes, 50-60c; California J. H. Hales, boxes, 80-90c; lugs, $1.00-1.25; Elbertas, 65-75c.

Pears—California Bartletts, $1.75-2.00.

Peppers—California, per lug, 75-80c; The Dalles, flats, 50-65c; red, $1.25-1.50.

Potatoes—New stock, California sacked $1.40-1.50; Washington Cobblers, U8 No. 1, $1.25; Russets, $1.25-1.50; No. 2, 40-50c; white Rose, $1.40.

Plums—Oregon Beauties, 15-pound box, 75c; peach plums, 50-60c; Washington Santa Rosa, 4-basket crates, large $1.40, small $1.25; nectarines, $1.00.

Squash — Oregon, Washington Crookneck, scallop, Zucchini, 30-40c per flat; Danish, 90c-$1.00; flats, 40-45c; marblehead, 2½-3c per pound.

Tomatoes — California, $1-1.10; Oregon fancy, $1-1.25; choice 85-90c, flat 75-85c; The Dalles, flat boxes, No. 1, 75-90c; unclass, $1.00.

Bunched Vegetables—Oregon, per dozen bunches, beets, 30-35c; carrots, 30-35c; green onions, 30-35c; parsley 20-25c; radishes, 30-35c; turnips, 45-50c.

Root Vegetables — Sacked, rutabagas, $1.75-2.00 cwt.; sacked carrots, $2.50-3.00.

Watermelons—Calif., $1.50-1.75 cwt.; Ore., 1¾-2c lb.

"THE STOLEN GOD"

By Edison Marshall

CHAPTER XXVII

Ned knew that he alone must save Koh-Ken. It was always so with the great works of his life; the gods carrying souls from world to world, from cradles to death-beds at the appointed time and place, had dropped his along the way. There was no path that led home, no hand to clasp his.

If Griffin were here, he would stand by him to the finish, but he was undressed and asleep by now, and Ned dared not wait to summon him. The little catfooted Annamese, Pai-Lai, was not in reach, and the French soldiers could not leave their posts. A light still burned in Virginia's window, but this was man's work tonight, and besides, she could not wield Ned's sword and at the same time hold Chambon's shield.

So off and away . . . down the alley . . . into the cross street . . . But not too fast—no, he dared not go too fast. He must reach Koh-Ken with undiminished strength.

And with his wits about him! He must make his head stay cool. There would be a guard at the gate. He must speak to him civilly, his hands at his side, and offer a plausible excuse . . . "Friend, my master has sent me to bring Tuan Chambon . . ." "How did you know he was here?" "I had it on the word of a passerby." And while he played for time, Koh-Ken could escape. Then Ned would get word to Griffin to back up the ruse . . .

It was the best plan he could lay, on the spur of the moment, but gradually he came aware that Fate had planned otherwise. There was no such tranquil ending for this night's strange events.

Not far from the white gate a street light glimmered, only a lantern hung on a pole casting a dim yellow circle on the road. For some inexplicable reason, Ned stared at it in slowly-gathering dread. There was something sickening about that little pale hole in the night. It was as though it were a stage set by the dark powers. . . .

Perhaps it was only a trick of his tormented imagination. A white man like him must not believe in premonition. But even as he convinced himself, the thing came true.

There was a shout in the blackness beyond, and then a thud. So cruelly clear was his inner eye that he knew instantly the story behind those sounds: Koh-Ken leaping the wall and his dry old bones striking the ground. But now he was up, running toward the light. Ned knew it by the nearing sound of his footfall, frantic fast on the hard ground, and the swelling clamor of his cries.

Ned called on all his inner reserves and sprinted to meet him. He too was shouting, partly to encourage the runner, partly to frighten his pursuers. But Koh-Ken was already running his pitiful best; and his pursuers plunged on all the faster.

And now Ned knew the end of that tragic race. Nor was it the weird light of premonition that revealed it, only the sickly glimmer of the lantern on the road. Into the further rim of that yellow ring, Koh-Ken's form took shape. Ned seemed to see it even before there was light enough to see.

Koh-Ken tried to plunge on a few paces more. But he knew—*he knew*—Ned could hear it in his cries. Just behind him, into the yellow circle, burst the foremost of his pursuers, and a second was taking shape where the light and darkness met. But even now—and Ned's heart blazed up in fierce pride—he did not beg for mercy.

"Turn and fight, Koh-Ken," Ned yelled.

Not that he had any hope or dream that the cruel knives could be beaten back in time. Ned's seasoning mind had nothing to do with that proud, savage cry; it sprang straight from his heart. At the same instant his pistol leaped out barking.

But Koh-Ken did not need that war-cry. He heard the hunter's feet close behind him, knew that escape was impossible, and remembered that he was Koh-Ken, Number One boy to a *Tuan*. He would not end his honored days with his back to the foe. There was face to save yet.

While Ned's pistol shots, still out of range, whistled futilely through the air, Koh-Ken whirled to fight. He seemed to Ned like an old bear, brought to bay at last.

The scene was branded forever on Ned's memory. The end came in a weird silence, dropping heavy and deep between one report and another of Ned's pistol. A silence that seemed to set off and sharpen the grisly pantomime under the dim light, some mysterious blending of sense to sense like the quickening of the ears of the blind. Neither Koh-Ken or his enemies made the slightest sound.

The first of the two pursuers plunged forward with an upraised knife. There was hardly light enough to flash the blade, yet Ned saw it pass under Koh-Ken's upraised arm to plunge deep in his breast. At the same time he identified the killer beyond any shadow of doubt.

It was Pu-Bow.

The second pursuer had halted at the edge of the lighted ring, a mere dim shape in the shadows, but he, too, was betrayed by the mocking, evil glimmer of the lantern. He would not go free in the casting-up of the score. A V-shaped patch of white showed at his breast.

All this Ned saw as he ran. And now the killers were running too, swallowed up by darkness, leaving a huddled form under the lantern. In a moment more Ned was crouched in the road, holding Koh-Ken's shuddering breast against his own.

"Did Chambon order this work?" Ned asked very quietly. He must make sure on this point.

"Nay, lord, but he did not snatch away the knife."

"Full payment will be made. But what is behind it, Koh-Ken? Tell me, to strengthen my hand."

"I had spied on them and heard their plans. His mother found me out and ordered my lips be closed. *Tuan* spoke for my life, but yielded at last."

"You mean old Nokka, Pu-Bow's mother? Try hard to tell me, old man." For the rattle was beginning to rise in Koh-Ken's throat.

"She is the dau—"

And in the middle of the word, Koh-Ken died.

Ned closed the pitifully staring eyes, and laid down the body on the road. It was only a moment later that the echo of his pistol shots in the silent streets brought a native policeman.

The officer seemed a little excited at first—gunfire was a novel thing in the lost city of Chieng-khuang—but he calmed down when he flashed his light in the dead man's face. It was only a knife case after all, and the victim a Siamese. Perhaps it need not be brought to the governor's attention.

"But he was the cook of *Tuans*, guests at the bungalow," Ned explained, with a dry rasp in his voice.

"Wah! Then there will be trouble. *Tuans* prize their servants like the sons of kings." At once he remembered his official "face." "And who are you, with your sarong stained with blood?"

"I am T'Fan, headman of *Tuan's* outfit. It was my shots you heard, trying to scare off the murderers."

"I see you are a chief." The policeman now spoke softly. "Could it be ye two were friends?"

Ned locked his jaws and listened to his own heart. He was now ominously cool, his head grimly clear. This was his own war. He had no intention of sharing it with native police officers. Anyway, his hands were not yet free!

No, not free even now. No use to argue, curse, or plead. Koh-Ken lay dead at his feet. His blood was on Ned's own breast. But fate, moving through his own steadfastness, still bound him to the quest of the Emerald Buddha.

Ned had been raised in the Orient. In the back of his mind lingered the echoes of strange things told him long ago. Koh-Ken was dead—but death was only a curtain in a long corridor, and sometimes the wind blew it aside. Koh-Ken's lips were closed, but as Ned stared at them with his sunken eyes, he could imagine that he heard them whispering.

"I will wait, my son, in patience, till the appointed task is done."

Yes, old Koh-Ken would wait. . . Often his master had come home at dawn, to find him sitting up with last night's dinner kept warm and ready. . . . Ned nodded to some one in the darkness the native could not see, and the drama swept on.

"I, a friend to a Siamese dishwasher?" he answered the officer. "But he was my master's servant, and when he did not come to his bed, I went to seek him. I would not have my lord lose face, so I tried to scare away the footpads with my pistol."

"So they were only street bandits? Did you see them under the lamp?"

Ned drew a quick, deep breath. "Only at a distance. I would not know them again."

"Then there will be no trouble for you. Go now and report to the sergeant at our barracks, telling him how quickly I came at the sound of the shots. I will remain with the dead."

Ned obeyed, and soon was allowed to return to the bungalow. At once he wakened Griffin and told him the story in a few brief, blunt words.

"Good God, what next?" Griffin cried, his face gray as the plaster on the wall. "But it couldn't have been André you saw at the edge of the light. No matter what else he has done, he would never countenance murder."

"It wouldn't be murder, in his eyes. Only a necessary sacrifice to what he considers a great cause."

"But you didn't identify him. You had only a glimpse of white that looked like an evening shirt. There are three or four French officers here that might be wearing evening clothes tonight."

"Face the truth, Griffin. I saw him leave—the unknown spy saw him go in that house—Koh-Ken spoke his name with his last breath. He wanted to save the old man, but he let the crime go on, and he'll have to pay his share."

"He'll say he was asleep the whole time, and you can't deny it. Now I'll go with you to see the governor."

Griffin dressed rapidly, and they stole through the corridor. But Ned stopped him at the door of Chambon's room.

"I want to know if he's come back," Ned whispered. "He keeps his door unlocked—open it and look in. If he hears you, tell him Koh-Ken's been killed and you are rushing to the Residence, but don't stay to talk."

Griffin nodded, and opened the door. He gazed a few seconds—tiptoed a little way into the room—then stole back and rejoined Ned.

"He's in there, asleep."

"Playing 'possum, you mean."

"If so, it's the best acting I ever saw. His blind is up, and the street lamp pours through on his face. He's lying there dead white, like a man in a trance."

(To be continued.)

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