BELA SINGH TELLS OF SHOOTING IN TEMPLE

Continues Dramatic Recital of Attempts to Murder Himself in Sacred House.

Relates Straightforward Tale of Events Leading Up to Shooting.

Inspector Hopkinson Often Made Visits at Meetings in Disguise.

Dr. Raganuth Translates Seditionary Pamphlet Read by Sohan Lal.

Bela Singh, the soldierly looking Sikh accused of the murder of Bhag Singh, the former president of the Sikh temple, Kitsilano, occupied the stand at the assize court for over an hour this morning, continuing his dramatic recital of the attempts made within the past year to kill him and the late Inspector W. C. Hopkinson for their activities in suppressing sedition and curbing the activities of the revolutionary party who in British Columbia were plotting the downfall of the British Empire in India.

Bela Singh told a straightforward tale of the events leading up to the shooting in the temple when Bhag Singh and Badan Singh were killed and five other men were wounded. He claimed that he shot in self-defence and not until after Badan Singh had fired at him, and Bhag Singh had secured the sacred sword from the Grata Sabah or altar with which to slay him.

Mr. A. Dunbar Taylor, K. C., crown prosecutor, used all his skill in cross-examining Bela Singh, but was unable to shake in the slightest his story.

Was Continually Reproached.

Continuing his story from the evening before Bela Singh related how he had been continually reproached for being loyal to the government and reporting to the authorities the sedition and mutiny which was being preached. He was assaulted time after time, he said. Several times efforts were made to kill him at Victoria, once while he was riding in an automobile with Mr. Moresby, the well-known Victoria barrister, and a detective.

Pressure was brought to bear upon him at the time of the Komagata Maru incident, and he was repeatedly threatened. When the charter of the immigrant ship was taken over by Rahim and Balwant Singh he was approached by Balwant Singh, who told him that he was not to give a correct translation of the letter which the priest had sent on board of the Komagata Maru, as it contained incriminating statements.

In answer to a question as to his acquaintance with Hernan Singh, the witness stated, "Hernan Singh was murdered in the Sikh Temple."

Mr. McDougall—How do you know that?

"I made investigations and I found out —"

Objection Is Sustained.

"I object to this as an irrevelant issue," cried Mr. Taylor, springing to his feet. "Who or how Hernan Singh was murdered has nothing to do with the killing of Bhag Singh."

His lordship sustained the objection, and Bela was forced to continue without revealing the details of the murder of his friend, which he was most anxious to do.

"I went to Argan's funeral that day," he said in relating the events of September 5, "Bhag Singh, Badan Singh, Indur Singh and others were there." 'How are you?' Bhag Singh asked me, and I did not answer him. 'Are you mad that your friend is dead?' Bhag Singh demanded, and I replied' Yes.'"

"'You will see him soon. You will soon go into the fire,' Bhag Singh said to me. 'Why should I go to the fire, I am no sick?' I asked him. 'Your friend was not sick,' Bhag Singh said, 'yet he has gone to the fire.'"

Continuing his narrative the accused man said that he had gone to the temple that night to attend the religious duties imposed upon him by the death of his friend Argan Singh, who was shot by Ram Singh. He had been warned not to go to the temple, but this had been in regard to public meetings at which sedition was preached, and he did not anticipate any danger in going to the holy edifice to worship.

Called Him a "Dog."

He went in and sat down where he could get a view of the back door and the front door as well, and where no attack could be made upon him by any fanatic so inclined.

Bhag Singh was the first man to address him, Bela declared. He asked him what he was doing there, and was told that he had come to worship. "But you are not a man, you are a dog," Bhag hissed at him. "A dog yourself," Bela admitted he returned.

Badan Singh, who overheard the insults being exchanged, sprang to his feet and in the manner described by previous witnesses drew a revolver and shot. Bela said he did not know where the bullet struck, he turned towards the back door, but it was closed. Shortly after he had come in and before he had the dispute with the dead man, Bhag had left the room, returned and whispered to the priest. Balwant had then left the altar and had spoken to his wife, who left by the back door, which was then closed. It was following this that the quarrel between himself and Bhag had started.

When Badan Singh shot, Bela Singh said, he rushed towards the back door, but saw it was closed. He turned and shot at Badan Singh and then at Bhag Singh, who had grasped the sacred sword from the altar. After that he shot repeatedly.

Escaped from Temple.

He escaped from the temple and went out to the Kitsilano police station and told the officer in charge that there was a big row at the temple. The officer told him to return there as a body of police had gone to the scene. Bela did so and was arrested.

He had two revolvers, he said. One his own, an automatic .38 calibre, and the other was a .38, which he had received a few moments before from Bhagat Singh, who was afraid to carry it into the temple for fear that there might be a disturbance, and the police would find it on him.

The most dramatic incident of the morning occurred when Mr. McDougall announced that his direct examination of the witness had been concluded. "No!" exclaimed Bela Singh, "I have more to say, and I want this read to the court," producing a copy of the Mutiny, the revolutionary paper published in San Francisco. "It is not for myself that I wish it, but the people may know what they are doing, and the jury may learn what they were threatening to Mr. Hopkinson and me."

Mr. Taylor at once entered an objection to it being read unless it could be connected with the deceased man in any way. Bela continued to importune the court to allow the "just three lines, for you to hear."

Dr. Ragunath Singh, the doctor who came on the Komagata Maru, was finally called to the box, after the cross-examination of the witness had finished. He said after reading the paragraph marked by Bela Singh:

Orders Them Killed.

"I heard this read in the Sikh temple by Sohan Lal. I went with Sohan Lal to a meeting of the United Indian party and he read this. It was the only time that I was there, and they wanted to elect me president," and the doctor smiled. "The text of this I can give you. A literal translation I can prepare if given time. The gist of the articles are that the men who are giving the secrets of the revolutionary party to the government should be warned. If this has no effect let them be assaulted, and then if they still persist, let them be killed. Then the way to a revolution in India would be easy."

Sohan Lal, Bhag Singh and others lectured on this, saying that the local Hindus should do as the book said.

Prior to the doctor's testimony Bela was cross-examined by Mr. Taylor.

"If Mr. Hopkinson were alive," he exclaimed, his voice choking for the first time, "he could tell your lordship all. How they taught revolution, for Mr. Hopkinson attended the meetings. He used to dress in a turban with a false beared and mustache and old clothes and go to the temple. But he is dead, and that is why I want the mutiny piece read."

Inspector Scott and Balwant Singh were placed in the box in rebuttal of minor statements made by several defence witnesses. Balwant Singh created an unfavorable impression when he refused to tell why he was recently arrested, and it was only after he had been repeatedly questioned and warned by Mr. Justice Morrison that he admitted that it was for counselling certain persons to murder other persons.

A Curious Story.

A curious story to the effect that while a number of Hindus were in custody at the police station as material witnesses in the temple shooting affray, that they held a mock trial in order to properly coach each other in order to obtain a conviction of Bela Singh, was told by Pertab Singh, jr., in the witness box at the Assizes yesterday afternoon. The witness, who was among those originally held, spoke on behalf of the accused man. At the preliminary hearing in the police court he had been called by the Crown, but in view of his evidence he was not called by the Crown at the Assize court trial.

"Sohan Lal acted as judge and Mit Singh as a lawyer. It was like children learning a lesson at school. It was to make up a story so that Bela Singh would not get off. They told me that if I did not tell the same story as the rest I would be killed the same as Hernan Singh, who was a friend of Bela Singh," said the witness.

A large number of Hindu witnesses, including Dr. Raganuth, the army doctor, who came across in the Komagata Maru, were called and testified as to hearing threats made against the life of Bela Singh, Inspector Hopkinson and Superintendent Reid at seditious meetings, held in the Sikh Temple. Several of them also testified that Bela Singh had been attacked by Bhag Singh and Badan Singh before he shot.

The case will go to the jury today after Bela Singh has gone into the witness box.

WENT DOWN WITH YORCK

Germans Lost 266 Men When Their Cruiser Sank.

Berlin, Nov. 6.—A report reaching here from Wilhelmshafen shows that 266 men are missing from the crew of the German cruiser Yorck, sunk recently off the North Sea coast of Germany as a result of accidental contact with German mines. Three hundred and eighty-four members of the crew, including the commander and chief officer, were taken off by another vessel.

SMITH RETURNS CHILDREN

On Due Submission to Court He May Now Be Discharged From Custody.

James Patrick Smith, who a week ago was committed to prison for contempt of court in removing his two children away from the custody of their mother in defiance of an order of the Supreme Court, is likely to get his release on Monday if in the meantime he make due submission to the court.

Notification was made to Chief Justice Hunter this morning that Smith had secured the return of the two little boys to their mother. Mr. D. G. Macdonell, counsel for Mrs. Smith, made the notification in the absence of any counsel for the husband.

"There is a proper way to go about

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