



SWEAR SOHAN LAL INCITED MURDER

Well-known Hindu Is on Trial as Result of Killing of Hopkinson.

Witnesses Swear He Had Incited Audiences at Sikh Temple to Murder.

Sohan Lal, a Hindu, who is alleged to be an agent of the United India League and as such delivered seditious speeches, in facing trial by jury today in the assizes on the charge of abetting, counselling and procuring Mewah Singh to murder the late immigration inspector W. C. Hopkinson. The charge recited that Sohan Lal advocated the killing of Superintendent Malcolm R. J. Reid, Inspector Hopkinson, Bela Singh, Baboo Singh and Gangoo Rham, the three latter being Sikhs and Hindus employed by the immigration department.

Sohan Lal is a slim, smally-built Hindu with very nervous manners. He has renounced the turban for a felt hat, and wears his clothes like a European. He was with Mewa Singh at the time Mewa attacked and killed Hopkinson, but made no attempt to run away, appearing overcome by fright. He, together with seven other men who later attempted to leave the scene of the shooting, was arrested in the courthouse after Hopkinson was shot. The others were released in due course, but Sohan Lal and another Hindu named Rahim have been committed for trial.

Dr. Raganath Singh, an intelligent-looking young Sikh who is an army surgeon in the Indian army and accompanied the Komagata Maru by way of a holiday trip, was an important witness against Sohan Lal. He said that Sohan Lal had repeatedly urged him to attend the meetings of the United India League at the Sikh Temple, assuring him that there was no ill-feeling towards him but only against those who were giving evidence to the government.

Describing the meeting at the Sikh Temple, Dr. Raganath Singh said that there were about a hundred East Indians present and guards with heavy sticks were mounted at the doors to keep out any government spies. Sohan Lal read an article from a native publication called "Mutiny," urging the overthrow of the British Government and saying that the cause could not prosper unless the immigration dogs were "finished."

Several other Sikhs who were present at Sohan Lal's meetings gave evidence, including Pertab Singh, the brother of Harnan Singh, whose dead body with the throat cut was recently found in some bush near the Kitsilano carbarns. He said that Sohan Lal referred to "immigration dogs" and said that if Bela Singh, Baboo Singh, Gangoo Ram, Mr. Reid and Inspector Hopkinson were killed the work would go on better. At one stage of the meeting Bhag Singh, the chairman, announced, "If there are any immigration dogs here they had better go out or they will be killed" and Sohan Lal added "I agree with what Bhag Singh has said."

Questioned by Mr. George E. McCrossan for the defence, Pertab Singh said he knew of no reason why his brother should have been killed except that he was a friend of Bela Singh.

Bela Singh, the immigration official who was recently acquitted on a charge of murdering Bhag Singh on the ground of self-defence, was called by the crown. Bela lived up to his reputation of being the smartest-dressed East Indian in Vancouver by appearing in a snowy white turban

Local Brevities

The German name of the Dominion Government dredge "Fruhling" has been changed to "303."

Mr. H. J. Steeple, general agent for the Erie Railroad Company, is in the city consulting with local representatives of his line.

Mr. Joseph Martin, M. P., will address the Liberals of South Vancouver on Friday evening. It has already been reported that Mr. Martin may be a candidate for South Vancouver at the time of the next election.

Mr. Jonathan Miller, Vancouver's first postmaster and one of the best known of the old timers of the city who was recently stricken with paralysis in California, returned to town this morning.

The Y. M. C. A. Debating Club will this evening form itself into a mock parliament with strong speakers on both sides of the House. A reciprocity bill will be introduced by the government. All interested are extended an invitation.

Rev. J. H. Miller was on Tuesday inducted into the pastorate of the Cedar Cottage Presbyterian Church in succession to the Rev. J. C. Madill, who is now in the East. Several clergymen were present and the reception given to the new minister was enthusiastic.

The Yorkshire Society will hold another of their successful whist drives and dances in the O'Brien Hall this evening, commencing at 8:15. The attendance of the public this year to these social events has been very gratifying to the society's officials, and together with a large number of new members, has helped them in their desire to carry them on as usual.

A paper on "Fuel Oil and its Application" will be read by Mr. J. J. Ferris, superintendent of oil service on the Canadian Pacific Railway, at the regular meeting of the Vancouver branch of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, which will be held in the Board of Trade rooms tonight at 8:15. All who are interested in the subject to be discussed will be made welcome.

Mr. Thomas Adams' appointment as assessor of the civic centre plans was ratified by the plans committee yesterday afternoon. He is the advisor on town planning for the Dominion Government's commission of conservation, and will arrive in Vancouver on December 11. In all 45 sets of plans have been received, most of them being from designers in the vicinity of Vancouver, with four from other parts of Canada and one from the United States.

Two men who applied to the city relief office on Railway street this morning gave their address as 242 Cordova street east. But men claiming the police station as their residence could get no work from the city. Curiously, they did not apply at the same time but were evidently strangers to each other. As an indication of how men try to "put one over" on the officials, out of 22 cases of alleged married men investigated this morning, only 13 were bona fide. The rest were either single or had wives but in another part of the country.

At the meeting of the grain committee of the Vancouver Board of Trade, which was mentioned as being in session yesterday afternoon, Mr. George E. Graham, chairman of the committee; Mr. J. E. Hall and Secretary W. A. Blair were appointed a committee to take up the matter of the cost of haulage of wheat from the prairies to the coast with the representatives of the railway companies interested, more particularly with Mr. W. B. Langan of the freight department of the C. P. R. As mentioned the report of this committee will be submitted, if it can be made ready, to the general meeting of the board on Tuesday evening next.

Fred Groins, a negro, was arrested last night by detectives, and will be arraigned in the police court this morning on a charge of carrying an

BANK PANICS SEEM A THING OF THE PAST

Bad Conditions, Due to Distrust, Now in Museum of Antiquities.

New York, Dec. 3.—Panic, due to distrust of banks, has been relegated to the museum of antiquities by the new reserve banking system, in the opinion of C. S. Hamlin, governor of the Federal Reserve Board, voiced this afternoon in a speech before the New York Chamber of Commerce.

"The federal reserve system will relegate to its proper place the museum of antiquities, the panic generated by distrust in our banking system, leading to a struggle of self-preservation between bank and bank and individual and individual, and ultimate hoarding by the people," Mr. Hamlin asserted. "Such hoarding usually follows hoarding by the banks and does not precede it. If hoarding by banks should cease, hoarding by individuals would never occur, and both, I believe, will be relegated to obscurity under the federal reserve system."

Mr. Hamlin did not think that all panics would be done away with, of necessity, by the new system.

STRATHCONA GEMS SEIZED

Customs Officers Say They Were Undervalued—Appeal to McAdoo.

New York, Dec. 3.—Appeal is likely to be made to Secretary of Treasury McAdoo to prevent the sale at public auction of jewelry of the late Lord Strathcona, Canadian high commissioner at London, which was seized by the customs officials for alleged undervaluation.

The gems were consigned to an attorney in this city for delivery to Lord Strathcona's stepson, James H. Smith of Brookline, Mass., to whom they were bequeathed. Examiner Treadwell held that some of the jewels were undervalued from 75 to 100 per cent.

The re-appraisal by Judge Sullivan, sustaining Treadwell, was affirmed today by a board sitting on the case, and the jewelry was ordered sold at public auction. Counsel for the estate is expected to appeal to Secretary McAdoo.

Under Military Arrest.

Winnipeg, Dec. 3.—Walter Schuster, a grain broker, with the Grain Exchange firm of Simpson, Hepworth & Co., was arrested today by a file of soldiers and his home was searched. It is alleged that he had frequently expressed strong pro-German sentiments.

The Quebec Bank this morning obtained speedy judgment against the Ferridge Lumber Co. for \$1926 on a promissory note. The application was undefended.

Giuseppe Locasso, the Italian, who was arrested when he attempted to inform on some fellow countrymen, who, he said, were conducting a blind pig, and who was taken into custody for carrying a revolver, was this morning sentenced to one month in jail.

The appeal of Mr. Edward Gold against the judgment of Mr. Justice Morrison in the South Vancouver election case is on the list for hearing in the Appeal Court today, and counsel are in attendance. It will probably be reached late this afternoon or tomorrow morning.

At the regular meeting of Ridgely Lodge, I. O. O. F., held last Monday, the following officers were elected for the ensuing term: N. G., Bro. F. D. Davies; V. G., Bro. F. W. Hall; R. S., Bro. H. Large; F. S., Bro. Bateman; treasurer, Bro. O. G. Hawes; trustees, Bros. A. E. Smith, Bennett, Woodman,

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Halls to rent, from \$5 up. Lester Court. Sey. 1689.

Tulips, all colors, 15c; dozen, \$1.00 per 100. Crocus, 35c and \$1.00 per 100. Snowdrops, 75c per 100. Ritchie, Brand Co., 723 Robson street.

GREAT EVENT.

Big crowds are being attracted to the sale of the Montreal Salvage Brokers, which opened today. The large enthusiastic crowd speaks volumes for the numerous bargains to be had at this sale, which should be a blessing to the community, as it gives the people a chance to economize. Coming at this time of the year, most stores expect full prices for their goods, so this sale should be a huge success with its wonderful bargains. The sale of the Montreal Salvage Brokers is on at 104 Cordova street. Rae Shoe Store old stand. 166-1-214

WHAT'S YOUR STANDARD?

Ours is a square deal to every purchaser. Try us. Our goods have the right price. Millar & Coe, 120 Hastings west, for china, toys, etc.

Duke's Grocery places on sale tomorrow morning 100 49-lb. sacks Five Rose, Robin Hood, Our Best and now Flake flour, at the very low price, \$1.65 per sack. Not over one tick to each customer and must be with other goods if delivered.

Harvey's No. 1 Newfoundland head, 4 lbs. for 25c. At Duke's Grocery.

Dr. Calmette Missing.

Paris, Dec. 3.—Dr. Albert Calmette, eminent scientist, and director of Pasteur Institute at Lille, who has been acting as one of the chiefs of medical service of the army, has been missing some time. It is now reported that he is a prisoner of war in Munster, Westphalia. Dr. Calmette is a brother of the late editor of the Figaro, Gaston Calmette, who was shot and killed by Mme. Calmette, wife of the well-known French man.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER LIST AND ILLUSTRATED PRICE LIST. ready. Phone Sey, 4510 or write Seal Liquor Co. Ltd., 722 Pender west, and one of each will be sent you by return.

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VANCOUVER WINE

With the Sunburst Sign
FRANVILLE ST. Cor. Helmcken St

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We Are Still Handling

Scott said the commission could not do this, but he intimated that the board would not interfere with any arrangement made between the government and the company.

An application to close three streets in Golden was refused. So was an application by the town of Courtenay to have the E. & N. Railway give a strip of its land there for a public road.

Dr. J. A. J. McKenna, of the Indian commission, drew the attention of the board to the neglect of fencing by railways passing through Indian reserves.

The city of Duncan asked for the variance of an order regarding the placing of gates at a crossing just outside that city. Mayor Smith said which was never asked for this relief, W. H. Hayward, M.L.A. It appears that a census of persons using the crossing was taken while an Indian potlatch was in progress nearby and Commissioner Goodeve commented upon this as placing the municipality in no enviable position. The commission will view the place today.

MUST PAY FOR SHARES

Novel Point of Company Law Makes Mr. Weston Liable as Contributory.

The Court of Appeal yesterday afternoon allowed the appeal of Mr. J. Perrin, assignee of the Western Plate Glass & Importing Co., against the judgment of Judge McInnes dismissing an action which the assignee had brought against A. H. Weston for payment of five shares. At the trial Weston, who appeared on the books of the company as a contributory for ten shares, stated that he had only subscribed for five, the agreement being that the other five were to come out of the profits of the business, and not to be subscribed for.

Before the appeal judges, Mr. J. B. Patullo, K. C. for the appellant argued that under the B. C. Companies Act no shares can be purchased except for cash, unless a written agreement is made and registered with the registrar of joint stock companies at Victoria. Their lordships held that this point was fatal to Weston and allowed the appeal with costs. Mr. R. Maitland appeared on behalf of the respondent.

Added Shipping to World.

New York, Dec. 3.—During the last fiscal year there were added to the shipping of the world 713 new vessels, with a gross tonnage of 2,020,185 according to the annual report of Lloyds register of shipping, made public here today. This is said to be the highest total for any one year recorded in the history of the society. About 60 per cent. of the total was for the British Empire, the remainder divided among other countries.

stage of the meeting Bhag Singh, the chairman, announced, "If there are any immigration dogs here they had better go out or they will be killed" and Sohan Lal added "I agree with what Bhag Singh has said."

Questioned by Mr. George E. McCrossan for the defence, Pertab Singh said he knew of no reason why his brother should have been killed except that he was a friend of Bela Singh.

Bela Singh, the immigration official who was recently acquitted on a charge of murdering Bhag Singh on the ground of self-defence, was called by the crown. Bela lived up to his reputation of being the smartest-dressed East Indian in Vancouver by appearing in a snowy white turban and linen collar and well-pressed blue serge suit with very modish-looking brown boots. He told of being present at a meeting in the temple on Nov. 8, 1913, where Sohan Lal, speaking in Punjabi, urged the assembly to "Faisla" all their opponents. "Faisla," he said, meant to put an end to them. Mr. Reid and Mr. Hopkinson were mentioned by name but not the Hindus on the immigration staff. On a previous occasion Sohan Lal had made a speech warning anyone present from working for the government. After Harnan Singh's death, Sohan Lal had come to him on the street and said, "If you don't keep away from the job, you will be killed too." As a result of the feeling aroused against him, Bela Singh said he had ceased from attending the services at the temple, and had only gone as a compulsory religious duty after the funeral of Harnan Singh and Argan Singh to pray for the repose of their souls. It was on the latter occasion that the shooting of Bhag Singh occurred.

Chief Janitor James McCann and Mr. Polly of the courthouse staff, who arrested Mewa Singh after the shooting of Inspector Hopkinson, testified to Sohan Lal being present at the time of the shooting.

The precincts of the courthouse are thronged with Hindus and Sikhs, who are evincing very keen interest in the trial. Mr. A. D. Taylor, K. C., is conducting the prosecution. The trial is presided over by Mr. Justice Macdonald.

This morning the defence in the case was opened by Mr. George E. McCrossan, who called a number of Hindu and Sikh witnesses to the box, who swore that they had been present at the meeting in the Sikh Temple on Nov. 8, 1913 and on all other dates throughout last year and this. They were very positive that at no date had Sohan Lal ever advocated the killing of Mr. Reid, Mr. Hopkinson or any of the staff of the immigration department.

Contrary to rumor, Mewa Singh, now awaiting the death penalty for the murder of Inspector Hopkinson was not called by either side today. An precaution against the possibility of any further troubles arising at the Courthouse, every East Indian who entered was "frisked" to see that he did not bring in any weapons concealed in his clothing or turban. The men went through the ordeal as if it were a good joke and tickled their sense of humor.

Subscriptions to the citizens' war fund received recently are: K. A. A.

At one stage which was mentioned as being in session yesterday afternoon, Mr. George E. Graham, chairman of the committee; Mr. J. E. Hall and Secretary W. A. Blair were appointed a committee to take up the matter of the cost of haulage of wheat from the prairies to the coast with the representatives of the railway companies interested, more particularly with Mr. W. B. Lanigan of the freight department of the C. P. R. As mentioned the report of this committee will be submitted, if it can be made ready, to the general meeting of the board on Tuesday evening next.

Fred Groins, a negro, was arrested last night by detectives, and will be arraigned in the police court this morning on a charge of carrying an offensive weapon. He had a 38 calibre revolver in his pocket. Giuseppe Lascacco, an Italian, was admitted to bail yesterday by Magistrate Shaw, on a similar charge. The man came to the detective office to complain of the existence of a "blind pig" in the east end. With the true characteristics of his race, Giuseppe excitedly threw out his tale, and in doing so brushed back his coat, exhibiting a dangerous looking revolver in his belt. He was at once seized and before he could protest he was lodged in jail.

In two cases of Union Mortgage Company Limited vs. C. H. Greenup and Union Mortgage Company Limited vs. W. L. Smith, which were tried in the County Court before His Honor Judge Grant, the defendants were sued on their covenants in agreements for sale which the Union Mortgage Company Limited, the plaintiffs, had purchased. Various technical defences were set up with reference to the notice of assignment and other matters, but these were all rejected, and judgment given in each case for the full amount due, and costs. The agreements for sale were for the purchase of lots in the subdivision known as Hastings Grove. Messrs. St. John & Messrs. Ridley, MacRae & Tobin for the defendants.

The filling-in work at Kitsilano bounded on the south by the B. C. Electric Railway track, on the north by McNicholl street, on the west by the Kitsilano beach board walk and on the west by Maple street, has been concluded. The filling in was done by Dredge No. 1 of the Pacific Coast Dredging Company. It is a splendid piece of work and a person who has not been in the vicinity for a couple of weeks would not now recognize it. The swamp has disappeared, almost as if by magic, to give place to high dry land—or to be more accurate sand—and the miasmatic vapors have been relegated to oblivion. While the people in the vicinity are pleased that the work has been completed the crows and gulls are not. Since the work started, advised by ornithologists, gathering every morning in countless myriads to enjoy the fresh deep sea food breakfast that the huge pipe from the dredge was providing for them.

DAMAGES IN LIBEL SUIT

Evidently Province a few who wish to arrive in Gre