

FEUD RENEWED IN HINDU COLONY

Jagit Singh Caught With Two Smoking Revolvers in His Hands.

Was Literally Loaded Down With Ammunition and Knives.

The factional war in the Hindu colony has again assumed grave proportions. Last night Rattan Singh, a follower of Bela Singh, was murdered and Amor Singh was wounded in the foot, while Bela Singh narrowly escaped death in a shooting affray which took place in a Hindu store at 1829 Granville street. Jagit Singh is held on a charge of murder.

The police have not as yet been able to get the exact details of the affair, owing to the fact that several of the witnesses were intoxicated at the time, but from what can be understood the murder was deliberately planned, and was primarily intended to affect the death of Bela Singh, who since his acquittal on the charge of murdering Bhag Singh and Baden Singh in the temple last September, has been repeatedly threatened with death. On two occasions efforts have been made to shoot him.

Bela Singh with Amor Singh, Bhal Mukand and Rattan Singh, who testified for him at his trial on the charge of murder, it appears, entered the store at 1829 about 7 o'clock last night. There they encountered Jagit Singh, and a few moments later the shooting took place. Rattan Singh was shot in the right temple, and was also wounded slightly on the back of the head. He dropped instantly. Amor Singh was struck on the foot while Bela Singh's coat was perforated by a bullet.

Police constables (188) Lefler and (22) Watson, officers on duty regulating traffic, heard the sounds of the shooting and ran toward the place.

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Lefler reached the place a moment ahead of Watson, just as Jaget(Sic) Singh, with two smoking guns in his hands, emerged from the store in pursuit of the Sikhs who escaped injury. Lefler drew his gun and ordered Jagit to throw up his hands. Up went the two guns, and as Constable Watson approached to take them away the Hindu dropped them with the intention of covering the officers. They sprang upon him and wrested the revolvers from his grasp. The ambulance was sent for, and Rattan Singh and Amor Singh were removed to the hospital.

The policeman started to take Jagit Singh to B Division station when he started to fight. Watson saw him thrust his hand into his coat. The constable anticipated that he had further arms, and after a brief struggle overpowered him. A kukri knife with a blade over two feet long was found in a sheath secured in specially constructed pocket on the inside of his overcoat. When searched at the police station by Inspector Scott and Constables Watson and Lefler, Jagit was found to be literally loaded down with ammunition. He evidently intended to make a strenuous resistance to his capture and had it not been for the quickness of the policemen in getting the "drop" on him he undoubtedly would have resisted arrest and had evidently planned to sell his life dearly.

Detective Tisdale and Ellice were assigned to the case and arrested Bela Singh and Bhal Mukand as material witnesses.

Ever since the execution of Mewa Singh, the slayer of Inspector W. C. Hopkinson, the trouble has been brewing and the police have been anticipating a renewal of the open war which preceded the trial of Mewa Singh.

Two-months ago Bela Singh's life was attempted within a few paces of the palace where the shooting occurred last night, and Bela at that time suspected Jagit Singh as being the would-be assassin. Bela Singh with Rattan Singh and Amor Singh was returning home and was just turning off Granville street bridge to the plankway leading to Third avenue when a Hindu stepped from behind a lamp post and levelled a revolver at Amor Singh. "Shoot, I am

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no Bela Singh," declared Amor Singh, and the assassin after taking one look at the man dropped his revolver and ran.

Within the past two months pictures of Mewa Singh have been surreptitiously circulated throughout the Hindu colony. He is called "martyr" and his deed is lauded in the literature emanating from the Pacific Coast Khalsa Diwan Society, of Stockton, California, which is responsible for the circulation of the "martyr" pictures.