

BOWEN IS CHARGED WITH MURDER

Young Englishman Held While Detectives Investigate Death of Hindu--Was a Second Indian Present?

Because a Hindu died from the effects of a wound inflicted by a revolver shot, E. P. Bowen stood up in the Police Court this morning to answer a charge of murder, the information laid yesterday following his own confession being withdrawn, and the graver charge substituted. The Hindu was shot in a room on the premises at the corner of Carrall and Cordova street on Tuesday night, and immediately afterward Bowen ran out of the hallway of a rooming house, and informed people on the street that he has shot a Hindu upstairs. Later, he told a story to Detective McLeod, attempting extenuation of the act. Substantially his admission was that he had been invited to the room by two Hindus, who, in broken English, informed him they had something good to show him. He alleges that he went to their room, and they immediately locked the door. Fearing violence, he drew a gun and shot, but only after he had made strenuous efforts to break away.

Yesterday it was reported that the Hindu who was not shot made his escape, and has not since been seen. The police attach little credence to the story that there were two Hindus, and information has been given to the detectives who are working on the case, that there was but one Hindu in the room and that he was peacefully sleeping when Bowen entered. At any rate the shooting was done, it is alleged, while the Hindu was standing in the door of his room, for when he fell to the floor he tumbled into the hall, where he was found a few minutes after Bowen gave the alarm.

It is suggested that, whatever Bowen may have wanted in the Hindu's room he had not gone unprepared for trouble, and when it took a more serious turn than he had anticipated and he, by his own admission, shot the Indian, he took fright at his situation. There were no witnesses to the deed.

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The Hindu made no ante-mortem statement, and besides such circumstantial evidence as the detectives and police may adduce, there is no testimony bearing on the case other than that of the prisoner.

In the Police Court this morning, Bowen, who is a young Englishman, clean shaved, with a firm-set chin, fully developed nose, and grey eyes, took the charge indifferently.

An inquest touching the death of the Hindu is being held this afternoon and the evidence adduced will be available for the prosecution when the case is called on Friday.