

THE DAILY PROVINCE

DECEMBER 9, 1913

BRING BHAGWAN SINGH BACK HERE

Ticket Money Cabled to Hongkong for Hindu Priest's Return.

Proposed Contempt Proceedingg(Sic) Against Mr. R. J. Reid Are Not Concluded.

An application to commit Mr. Malcolm R. J. Reid, inspector of immigration, to jail for alleged contempt of court in forcibly deporting the Hindu priest, Bhagwan Singh, was brought before Mr. Justice Macdonald in the Supreme Court this morning. The application was made by Mr. A. H. MacNeill, K. C., who is acting as counsel for the Hindus in their present conflict with the immigration authorities.

Mr. MacNeill was present with a sheaf of affidavits, and other documents showing that an order of habeas corpus had been granted by Mr. Justice Murphy at Victoria and duty served on Mr. Reid by one Frank D. Pratt, ordering the immigration inspector to produce the body of the Hindu before the Supreme Court.

"My application is one to attach Malcolm R. J. Reid for contempt of this court in refusing to disobey its order," said Mr. MacNeill. "I understood that y learned friend. Mr. Ritchie, was to appear to oppose this application, which is properly on the list for today, I have received a letter from Mr. Ritchie, in which it appears as if Mr. Ritchie had gone to Victoria under the mistaken belief that this case was set for hearing for Wednesday. I am ready to go on, unless your lordship thinks I ought to wait and give Mr. Ritchie a chance to be here."

"It may be a misunderstanding. In any event I would much prefer that the man proceeding against should be represented," said his lordship.

THE DAILY PROVINCE

DECEMBER 9, 1913

Special leave for short notice was granted in order to have the matter properly brought before the court again tomorrow.

Bhagwan Singh was forcibly deported by Mr. Reid and his...(illegible word) on the Empress of Japan, which sailed from Victoria for the Orient on Nov. 19. The friends of Bhagwan Singh hold him in great respect as a man of education and a religious teacher, and have instructed counsel to spare no pains to have him brought back here. Apart from the habeas corpus writ which was in force at the time of his deportation, it is claimed that their recent decision of Chief Justice Hunter remove all restrictions that have been rallied against him. Messrs. MacNeill, Bird, MacDonald & Darling, acting for the Hindus have cabled instructions for Bhagwan Singh to be returned on the next steamer to Vancouver, sending a prepaid fare to Hongkong for Bhagwan Singh to use on his return journey to Vancouver. The solicitors also state they are preparing a suit for damages against the immigration inspector and the C. P. R. for their part in the recent deportation.