

M.G.R. Explains How Shooting Took Place

MADRAS, Aug. 2.

Examination of Mr. M. G. Ramachandran, film actor was continued to-day in the Special Court, before Mr. P. Lakshmanan, Additional Sessions Judge in the case in which M. R. Radha, another film actor stands charged with attempted murder of Mr. Ramachandran and an attempt to commit suicide and having been in possession of a revolver without a valid licence.

Mr. Ramachandran, told the Court that he heard something like the sound of thunder and felt burning sensation near his left ear, which caused severe pain. He cried 'haa' and closed the left ear which was smeared with blood, with his left palm. He noticed Radha standing with a revolver in his right hand pointed towards him. Then he understood that Radha had shot at him.

Mr. Ramachandran said that he came down from upstairs on the day of the incident and greeted Mr. Vasu and Radha with folded hands and asked them to sit down. Radha who first sat on a sofa, stood up and came near the table coughing. Witness asked him to sit down and enquired what he was ailing from. Radha said he had taken some greens which had given rise to formation of gas in the stomach and he could not sit down. Radha then turned and went back one step. Witness asked Radha to tell him about the object of his visit. Radha directed Mr. Vasu to tell the details.

Mr. Vasu told witness that the Coimbatore party had arrived and they had met Director Panju in regard to payment of advance. By now Radha had got back to the old position. Thereafter, Radha started walking round beyond the chairs. Mr. Vasu drew his chair slightly towards his (M.G.R.'s) chair. Witness also moved his chair in a slanting position to talk to Mr. Vasu. Witness was resting his hands on the table. When they were talking, witness felt something, with the sound of thunder, piercing near his left ear.

Witness also experienced irritation and pain.

Witness said after he understood that Radha had shot at him, Mr. Vasu rushed across and shouted at Radha "ada pavi, chandala, sathikara" and rebuked him. Mr. Vasu tried to hold Radha by both his hands. Radha went back a few steps and shot himself with his revolver on his right temple.

Mr. Ramachandran said that he went to the portico closing the wound with his left hand and told the driver to bring the car. Mr. Vasu also came to the car. But witness asked Mr. Vasu to attend on Radha. Blood was dripping from his left ear. He got into the car and drove to Royapettah Hospital. His foster son Appu also accompanied him. He walked into the hospital and when the doctor who attended on him asked him how he was injured, witness told him Radha shot him. Later, a Police Inspector came and the witness gave a gist of the incident and it was recorded. The witness also affixed his signature on the document.

After some time he was taken to the General Hospital in a van. He removed the bloodstained shirt and the old clothes and put on a fresh set of clothes. He spent approximately two months in the hospital. When he was discharged, the bullet was still inside the neck. He had pain in the throat. A few days later he went to Dr. Doraiswami and took an x-Ray. He was again admitted into General Hospital and the bullet was removed. About the first week of March he got back home.

Witness further deposed that as far as he was concerned he had no enmity towards anybody. As regards Radha he could not specifically say whether he was his enemy or not.

In reply to a question by the Public Prosecutor, Mr. P. R. Gokulakrishnan, witness said in the field of politics there was a lot of difference between him and Radha.

At this stage the court rose for the day. Examination of Mr. Ramachandran will be continued to-morrow.