

SPITE CASE IN FEDERAL COURT

Hibbing Hebrew Butcher in Toils for Furnishing Liquor in Ac- cordance With Jewish Custom.

Abraham Ritz, a Hibbing Hebrew, who was formerly in business there as a butcher, will have a trial in the United States court some time this week on a charge of selling liquor without a government license. Several Hibbing people are here to testify in the case.

Friends of Ritz in Hibbing allege that the prosecution is largely the outcome of spite and is the climax of a business feud, which has several times broken out in Hibbing during the past year and been aired in the newspapers.

With Jewish butchers it is a custom at Passover time to furnish liquor to their customers. The liquor is of a special blend and is used only at that season of the year by the orthodox Hebrews. It is alleged that Ritz during the last Passover in Hibbing furnished liquor in accordance with this custom to several of his patrons, and that this is the cause of his present trouble.

Ritz and a competitor were the principals in a street fight there some time ago and later also were the principals in a sensational scene at the Jewish synagogue. Friends of both had hoped that a reconciliation had been effected and devoted considerable diplomacy to that end.

M. Garber and Samuel Helstein of Hibbing have been subpoenaed as witnesses in the matter. The prosecution is generally regretted in Hibbing by the Jewish people who are friends of Ritz and the outcome is being awaited with interest.