

WOMAN IS SOLD INTO SLAVERY

Grave Charges Made By Max Zalk in Case of Rus- sian Girl.

With visions of a happy life in America a young Russian girl six weeks ago landed in Duluth on a ticket purchased by the man who was to wed her. Americanized from a residence of one year in this country, it is charged that the groom, at sight of his bride-to-be with her strange dress and odd ways, forgot his promise and refused to carry out the contract.

Not only did he refuse to keep the agreement but the young man is alleged to have sold the girl into slavery in order that he might secure, by her labor, the money he had advanced for her fare to this country, amounting in all to \$65. Such are the statements that were made to the police yesterday.

Max Zalk, president of the Duluth Iron & Metal company, says the girl is now at Eveleth working out part of the contract. A few weeks ago she came to his house, he says, and was given shelter and cared for temporarily. She told her story, and in her ignorance of the laws of the country, is alleged to have believed that she was forced to earn and return the money to avoid going to jail. Mr. Zalk says that on one occasion the girl fell on her knees and wept, and in despair said that she did not know what was to be done with her next. The girl was bound to work out for \$6 for the first month and \$8 for the second, it is asserted, and in this way discharge the supposed obligation against her.

Mr. Zalk charges that the young man to whom the girl was engaged, in company with a friend from Virginia forcibly took the girl from his house. It is stated that he may commence proceedings on this account.

The language spoken by the girl is used in only two or three provinces of Russia, and Mr. Zalk believes that less than a dozen people in this city can understand her.