

## YOUNG GIRLS ARE BOUGHT AND SOLD LIKE CATTLE

Los Angeles Court Investigation Discloses Sale of Girls by Parents for from \$100 to \$500 Each—Facts Brought to Light by Young Russian Girl Who Fled to Home of Her Sweetheart, Refusing to Let Her Father Sell Her for \$500 to a Man She Didn't Love.



Elsa Navikoff, who says her father wanted to sell her for \$500.

Los Angeles, Jan. 25.—Russian parents in this city sell their daughters into marriage for from \$100 to \$500, according to Elsa Navikoff, a 16-year-old Russian girl who fled to the home of her American sweetheart, Ray Hal-lack, a sailor.

She was arrested and at her trial it was brought out that girls were practically sold into slavery by their parents to men they had never seen.

After the stories had been told

in court by grey-bearded Russians through an interpreter, Judge Wilbur decided that the girl be held as a charge of the court till she became of age.

Judge Wilbur said:

"The evidence undoubtedly discloses that deplorable conditions exist in the Russian colony. Many girls are married under the age of 16, the legal age, and many so-called marriages are performed without the necessary license. Such unions are unlawful and are