

WINDOWS OF EIGHT JEWISH OPERATED STORES SMEARED

Tires of a Fruit Pro- duce Truck Are Slashed

Show windows of five stores in Bath's business district, all Jewish owned, were smeared with varnish in the early hours of Saturday morning and the tires on a fruit produce truck, also Jewish owned, were slashed.

Victims of the vandalism included the clothing store operated by Max Kutz on Elm street, Mikelsky's, Inc., Front street, a furniture store; three establishments on Center street, the Boston Shoe Store, Bath Department Store and Markson Brothers. The truck on which the tires were slashed and punctured, apparently by a knife, was owned by Sam Praver, wholesale fruit dealer, and was parked in front of Praver's place of business at 260 Front street.

Because the varnish was not dry when first discovered on the store windows at about 7.45 a.m., Saturday, it was reasoned that it had been applied but two hours or so before. It was a hurried job in each instance, limited to a few swipes of the brush.

Police feel reasonably certain that the same party, or parties, were responsible for smearing the windows and slashing the tires. It was thought possible that fingerprints, lifted from a fender of the Praver truck, and from one of the tires, may lead to conviction of the guilty person, or persons, if they are apprehended.

Police announced that later developments Saturday morning showed that three other Jewish-owned stores had also had their windows smeared with the varnish. They were Julius Gedman's clothing store, Jay Povich's second-hand furniture store and Morris Petlock's meat market, all located on Center street. This would seem to set the route of the vandal, or vandals, as
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from Mr. Prawer's store place, Front and Oak streets, along Front to Center and to the railroad tracks on the latter street, with a diversion on Elm to visit Mr. Kutz' establishment.

The police learned that there was a similar occurrence in Lewiston a few weeks ago when a mixture of paint and grease was applied to show windows.