

AUTO DESIGN SUIT BEGUN

Stutz Motor Company and Others Charged With Usurpation.

Opening arguments in the damage suit of James Scripps-Booth, Detroit, former automobile manufacturer, against the Stutz Motor Car Company and others, alleging usurpation of automobile design, were heard in federal court of Judge Robert C. Baltzell Monday. Scripps-Booth asks an accounting of profits made from the design by Stutz as damages.

Defendants include Charles M. Schwab, chairman of the board of directors of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation; Frederick Moskovics, former president of the Stutz Company, and Eugene V. R. Thayer, Chicago financier. The plaintiff alleges that in 1924 he submitted plans for the low center of gravity type of car adopted by Stutz to company officials on advice of Schwab and that after it was spurned by Stutz officials the company later began producing cars of practically the same line.

The defense is that Moskovics originated the low-slung type of car when he was president of the company and that he had no connection with it at the time Scripps-Booth submitted the plans.