

HALL PLEADS GUILTY SLAYING SPECIAL OFFICER

Charge in Shooting of Patrolman Marshall Changed to Second Degree Murder — Receives Sentence in District Court After Waiving Preliminary Hearing.

Thomas Hall, 20, was sentenced to life imprisonment in the penitentiary by District Judge Chappell early Tuesday afternoon when he pleaded guilty to the second degree murder of Special Patrolman M. F. Marshall. County Attorney Max Towle, who recommended the life sentence, said that he would go on record in opposition to a parole at any time in the future for the youth.

While County Attorney Max Towle read the second degree murder complaint, Hall stood quietly in front of the bench, with his hands folded in front of him. Hall gulped nervously when the prosecutor read "did kill and murder," but otherwise displayed no concern.

Pauses Before Plea.
A fifteen to twenty second silence followed after Judge Chappell asked Hall for his plea.

"Guilty, I guess," the youth finally murmured.
The judge asked him again whether he was guilty or not guilty and this time Hall merely said "Guilty."

Asked if he wanted to make any statement, Hall replied "None." Then his attorney, R. F. Stout, made a short talk, during which he said that an insanity defense might have been made for the youth if his family had been financially able to go to that expense.

"This is an unfortunate affair," Stout told the court, "Hall regrets it very much. There are many unfortunate circumstances entered into his life. He was born into an environment which was not wholesome and he didn't have the influences conducive to developing him into a respectable citizen."

Victim of Morbid Impulses.
"There is no doubt but that for a number of years Hall has been governed by irresistible morbid impulses," said Stout. "One of these impulses was responsible for him serving a term in the reformatory. The shooting was the result of another such impulse."

Stout asked the court in sentencing Hall to provide an opportunity for mental treatment. The court made no mention of this in sentencing Hall.

Judge Chappell asked Towle for his recommendation after Stout completed his statement. Towle briefly reviewed the crime. He told how he had originally filed a first degree murder charge and had agreed to change the complaint to second degree with recommendation for a life term.

Deputy County Attorney Farley Young saw Mrs. Marshall Tuesday morning and she said that she favored a life term for her husband's killer. Towle informed the court. Towle said the police and others concerned also favored a life term for the youth.

"I think that's what he should have," Towle said. "I gave him a break when I changed the complaint to second degree murder."

Displays No Emotion.
Judge Chappell then sentenced Hall to the life term. The youth looked fixedly at the judge when the judge sentenced him but displayed no emotion.

"You have many years ahead of you," Judge Chappell told Hall, "I trust you will go to prison with the intention of expiating your crime as much as possible."

As he was being taken from the second floor of the court house, Hall asked County Sheriff Hensel for a cigaret, which Hensel gave him. Hall was taken to the county jail where he will remain a day or so until arrangements are made to care for him at the penitentiary.

From 15 to 20 persons were in the court room when Hall was sentenced.

The youth who has been held in the county jail on a first degree murder charge since Marshall's

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THOMAS HALL.

Towle Says Widow Favored Life Term For Thomas Hall

County Attorney Max Towle gave out the following statement Tuesday afternoon before Thomas Hall was arraigned for the murder of Special Patrol M. L. Marshall, explaining that he filed a second degree murder charge with the understanding that Hall would plead guilty.

"I have decided to file a charge of second degree murder against Tom Hall, with the understanding that he plead guilty to the same; and I am recommending to the court that he impose a life sentence, which sentence I trust the court will impose."

"In arriving at this decision I have given the matter careful thought and have conferred with Mrs. Marshall, the widow of the deceased, with Chief of Police Walter Anderson and Sheriff Hensel, as well as Captain Neil Olson who had charge of the investigation and who made the arrest on the night of the killing and we are all of the same opinion that this is the proper course to follow."

MANY WAYS TO REDUCE TAXES

Pierpont Tells Rotary Club Too Many Expanding Bodies.

Before the largest attendance at a Rotary club meeting in several months, Walter Pierpont, president of the Omaha chamber of commerce and of the Omaha Taxpayers' league, offered suggestions for the reduction of governmental expenditures as he urged a simplification of government and the elimination of many tax-spending units.

"Governmental expenditures must be based on present conditions," he declared, "for when 43 per cent of our income goes to taxes, it is time something was done. There are many services of government which must be eliminated, services which perhaps have been worthwhile, but which cannot be any longer permitted, simply because we cannot afford them."

Mr. Pierpont was high in his praise for state government in Nebraska as being free of bonded indebtedness, and as costing only twelve cents of the state tax dollar.

"In the old days we divided our counties. Why can't we combine some of them today. It used to be that a county had a court, a sheriff, a register of deeds and a treasurer, but today there are also problems of roads and education to be taken care of." As far as county road building is concerned, there is need for a change here, he said, re-