

## Gambill Hearing Set For Saturday In Elkin

### Date Postponed At Request Of Defense Attorney

A hearing before Justice of the Peace J. L. Hall for John Worth Gambill, 18, of Winston-Salem, confessed slayer of Charlie Brown, 32, Winston-Salem, was postponed at Elkin yesterday until 2 p. m. Saturday at the request of the youth's lawyer.

W. M. Allen of Elkin. Mr. Allen, who said he had been employed by the youth's father, Dewey Gambill, asked the postponement of the hearing, originally scheduled for yesterday, to acquaint himself further with the details of the fatal shooting of the Winston-Salem pie salesman last Friday. The Elkin attorney had no comment to make on the case last night and Police Chief Corbett Wall of Elkin said there had been no new developments. **Brief Hearing Expected**  
The hearing Saturday is ex-

pected to be brief. The youth probably will go on trial for murder at the January 9 term of Surry County Superior Court at Dobson. He already has confessed shooting Brown. Gambill has given two different versions of the slaying which occurred between noon and 2 p. m. Friday on the western outskirts of Elkin while the truck in which Gambill and Brown were riding was stopped on a shoulder of the road. The youth first said he did not know why he had shot the pie salesman with the .32 calibre pistol he had taken from his brother-in-law's house. Later, he told reporters he killed Brown following an argument between the two. He said he shot Brown after the salesman "swung at me once."

"I pulled the gun out of my coat pocket and I just remember shooting once," he said.

**Robbery Not Intended**  
He did not explain why it happened to have the gun with him, saying only that he had taken it from the home of J. B. Reece on Old Salisbury Road without his brother-in-law's knowledge. Gambill repeatedly stated he did not intend to rob Brown, although he admitted going through the dead man's pockets after the slaying.

Gambill's father, an employee of R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company here, said yesterday, "I love my boy, but God's will be done."

Referring to the shooting as "a terrible thing," Mr. Gambill, obviously shaken by the tragedy, said he was glad there hadn't been any bitterness.

"Mrs. Brown (wife of the slain man) has been very kind to us since it happened," he said. "My wife is just broken up over all this and Mrs. Brown has meant more to her than all the doctors I've had."

**Visited Three Times**  
"She's been out to the house three times since it happened and you know how much it meant to my wife."

Mrs. Gambill has been under doctor's care since being told of the shooting.

Mr. Gambill said yesterday he was "grateful to all of the officers who've handled the case. They have been very, very fine."

The youth's father, who went back to work for the first time yesterday, said he didn't want to talk about the statements his son had made concerning the shooting.

He said he had talked to his son Monday "and all he said was for me to tell mother I'll be coming home to see her in a few days."

**"Haven't Done Anything"**  
"I don't know exactly what he meant by that. He just said, 'I haven't done anything they should punish me for.'"

"I just know I can't live with my God if I say anything that will mislead the public. I love my son . . . I'll do anything I can to help him but I won't try to explain something he did when I'm not sure."

Mr. Gambill added that the week before the shooting he and his wife had been talking about trying to get their son into some institution.

"I guess he's sick mentally," he said. "He's never been in any trouble, but he's a rambler, a strange boy. The stranger the people he's around, the better he likes it."

**"It Wouldn't Help"**  
"But we didn't know whether putting him in some place like that would help him or not. He's just a rambler, I guess, and being confined and all wouldn't help him."

Mr. Gambill was reluctant to talk about his previous plans to put his son in a mental institution.

"I'm not making any alibi for the boy," he repeated. "And I don't want the public to think so. I couldn't get power from my God if I said anything that would mislead folks."

Mr. Brown was buried yesterday in Salem Cemetery following services at East Bend Baptist church and the Hawthorne Road Baptist church.

The establishment of a new division for weed investigations in the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering has been announced by Dr. Robert M. Salter, chief of the bureau.

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