

NEWS ITEM: 1929

Judge Sam M. Thompson had a busy session in the local court Tuesday morning when he listened to the guilty pleas of five men and one plea not guilty. All were heard before noon and sentences pronounced.

Pete Romeriez, who was charged with having Indian hemp in his possession, pleaded guilty and was given 60 days in the county jail. Romeriez lived at the place where Mike Montoya was killed a short time ago and the officers searching the premises found two cans of the Mexican dope along with several empty cans that had contained canned heat.

Felix Anchando, who was charged with involuntary manslaughter pleaded guilty. County Attorney O.O. Natwick, who together with Coroner H.G. Watson, obtained a confession from Anchando of the killing of Mike Montoya, asked that the minimum sentence be given Anchando. Judge Thompson considered the details of the crime and pronounced a sentence of not less than one year and not more than three years at Rawlins.

It will be remembered that Anchando and Montoya had been drinking together with other Mexicans in the southeast part of town and the two men had a fight. During the fight, Anchando struck Montoya in the head with a rusty pocket knife breaking the blade off. It was at first thought that Montoya was the victim of canned heat poisoning, but examination of the body disclosed the knife blade broken off in the skull.