

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE WESTERN DIVISION OF THE WESTERN
DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
UNITED STATES, PLAINTIFF

-VS-

MATTHEW S. MURRAY, DEFENDANT

No. 14652

It was my sincere hope that the unpleasant duty of this hour might have been avoided. The deprivation of liberty or property of any person by the sentence of the Law is ever a hard and heavy task for the Judge imposing such sentence. It is especially painful in this case. The defendant has borne a well merited, good reputation. His friends are many and devoted. He has enjoyed an unusually high degree of success. His thorough education, supplemented by natural endowments made him very useful as a civil engineer. His services were in demand and his future seemed secure.

His usefulness is at least temporarily ended for the causes all too plainly revealed in the evidence. Men with sinister and selfish purposes gradually undermined the bulwarks and palladia of a good life and character and finally the crash came. The defendant permitted himself to be drawn into an atmosphere and an environment of low standards. He harkened to the voice of the tempter and forsook the people it was his duty faithfully to serve. He has given up so much for paltry and passing material gain.

In the foreground of this case is his offense in attempting to evade his income tax "but in the background is the serious moral delinquency in debauching his high and responsible offices for the sordid income, the tax upon which he sought to evade.

The punishment should be and will be in harmony with sentences imposed in other similar cases in this district.

Let it now be the judgment and sentence of the law that the defendant be committed to the custody of the Attorney General of the United States for a period of two years to be confined in some penal institution of the type of that at Leavenworth, Kansas, on the first count, and with the same sentence on each of the other four counts. It is ordered, however, that the sentences on the second, third, fourth and fifth counts be made to run concurrently with each other and each to run concurrently with the sentence on the first count so that the maximum period of the defendant's imprisonment will be two years. The usual custom will be followed by omitting costs.

Filed Mch 18-1940

A. L. Arnold, Clerk

By HC Spaulding, DC