## FORD CLAIMS DRINK PROMPTED MURDER Gase of Mrs. May Wagner's Slayer Will Go to the Jury

Alleging that because of excessive and continuous drinking, he was irrational and thus irresponsible for his act, Charles Ford systerialy combatted the effort of Prosecutor Boyle to send him to the fective chair for the myrder of May

Today

Effe, Wagner. The case was partly tried before Supreme Court Justice Garnson, all the evidence being submitted. It will go to the jury this morning. It is charged by the State that Ford, on the afternoon of March 14 last went to Laurel, Springs, and visited the home of Mrs, Wagner, with whom he had jived for eighteen years and who had

in his efforts to persuade her to return home with him on a previous occasion, he had repeated the call and hunted for Robert Wilson, whom he accused of being responsible for Mrs.; Wagner's obduracy. After shooting Wilson he broke into the home of Mrs. Wagner and shot

left him because of his abuse. Failing

her to death, sending two bullets into his own head but recovering in the Cooper Hospital. Prosecutor Boyle had a number of witnesses who traced Ford's movement and who testified as to his declarations to "do" Wilson and the woman. In the defense presented through Law-

yers Frank B. Jess and Adam K. Sloan, it was shown by witnesses that Ford had been a heavy drinker all his life and that because of the woman's going away from him he drank more than ever. As a 'result it was asserted his mind was so affected that he did not know what he was doing.