Let $(R, m)$ be a regular local ring, $p \in \text{Spec}(R)$, with $R/p$ Cohen-Macaulay. Assume either $R/p$ is stretched, or $e(R/p) \leq c + 3$, where $c = \text{ecodim}(R/p)$, or $R/p$ is a short algebra. If $R/p$ is not Gorenstein, then $p^{(2)} \neq p^2$. As a corollary, we have that if $p/p^2$ is Cohen-Macaulay, then $R/p$ is Gorenstein. This answers Vasconcelos conjecture for some classes of algebras. (Received August 30, 2010)