

Lawyers Fees Consuming Old Jay Gould's Millions

One Wing of Heirs Waging Bitter and Unending Fight Against Other, Each Heir With View That Every One Dispossessed Will Add so Much to Own Income

By ROBERT T. SMALL
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New York, Nov. 1.—Old Jay Gould, in his time the richest man in the United States, has been long in his grave, but the fight for his millions remains eternally in the courts.

New phases of the battle to gain control of the estate, rated now at \$80,000,000 have just opened up. The ramifications reach far and wide and run the entire gamut of human frailties and emotions.

The influence of the Gould millions has reached far and wide. It encompasses Anna Gould's disastrous marriage to Boni de Castellane and her further determination to make a success of her French career by marriage to the Duke de Tallyrand. The Castellane children are "interested parties" in the family fight which at this time involves the disposition of some \$30,000,000 of the estate.

The court proceedings revolve about the acts of the late George J. Gould, eldest son of the founder of the Gould fortune, and the chief executor of his will until 1919 when he was deposed by the courts. It is the claim of the other immediate heirs of Jay Gould that George Gould, the son, owed the estate some \$20,000,000 at the time of his death. They are now trying to collect this sum from the independent fortune left by George Gould, and thus cut off from any further participation the ten children of George Gould.

In particular there is a fight against the three children of George Gould who were born out of wedlock, the offspring of Mrs. Guinevere Sinclair, who were "legitimized" by the marriage of George Gould to Mrs. Sinclair shortly before his death. Mr. Gould's first wife was Edith Kingdon, the actress.

There is a question as to whether or not the three children born out of wedlock can be considered as "issue" within the meaning of the terms of the original Gould will.

The dictionaries describe "issue" as "offspring" and "progeny" but make no differentiation between legitimate and illegitimate children. Perhaps, however, the courts will make such a distinction. The Gould family circle is hopeful of that result and even if only the three unfortunate children are cut off the income for the rest of the heirs will be enhanced that much.

A great estate, placed in trust, as the Gould estate was, and the Astor estate and the Vanderbilt estate have been, are to be likened nowadays to a throne in Europe. The millions are handed down from generation to generation. As each heir is born it is entitled to its share of the estate. Often a different ratio is provided as between boys and girls, the boys getting a larger percentage. Hence, as in royalty, there is often a race for early marriage and for the birth of a son or sons. This accounts for some of the large families. George Gould evidently determined to do his share, as his seven children by his first wife and three by his second show.

The second wife's income has been shut off, at least that part of it derived from a trust of \$1,000,000 in tax exempt liberty bonds, made over to her before George Gould died. Payment of the interest was stopped on complaint of the Gould children by the first marriage who are attacking the legality of the transfer of the bonds by their father.

George Gould's double life was known for some time before the sudden death of Edith Kingdon Gould made it possible for him to marry Mrs. Sinclair and acknowledge to the world the three children born to her and Mr. Gould.

While the two families of George Gould are fighting each other, all the rest of the Gould heirs are fighting both these families. The battle is another case of wheels within wheels and it is generally believed the fight will go on in the courts for years to come. The legal fees are sure to eat up much of the estate be-

tion in the evening is the program for the annual Society Day celebration, Monday, November 5, as planned by the Philomathesian and Euzelian literary societies of Wake Forest college. It is possible that the Arbor Day celebration planned for beautifying Gore athletic field may be combined with the Society Day events. For years the Society Day celebration has been recognized as the social function of the fall semester at the Baptist institution. This year officers and members of the society are determined on making the celebration the most successful ever held.

Young women from every nook and corner of the State will be guests of honor during the day and at the reception in the evening. Meredith college girls are expected to be in the majority at the celebration, with Louisburg and Oxford college students running a race for second hon-

ors. The Junior Sophomore debate will be held in Wingate Memorial Hall at 2:30 in the afternoon. Members of the Phi and of the Eu society will oppose each other in a discussion of the question, "Resolved that France was justified in occupying the Ruhr valley."

The negative will be upheld for the Phi Society by S. A. McDuffie, Rose Hill. The affirmative will be Lambertson, and A. B. Aldermen, Eu Society. "Meeting the Need for defended for the Eu society by C. R.

Holmes, Farmville, and W. W. Morgan. The orations will be held at 8 o'clock in the evening. The speakers, their society, and their subject follow: B. E. Jones, Maysville, Phi society, "The Administration of Justice;" S. M. Lamb, Wake Forest, Phi Society, "America—the World's Hope;" E. Z. Stines, Eu Society, "Future demand for American Manhood;" and W. C. Howard, Hickory, Eu Society, "Meeting the Need for Baptist Leadership."

W. F. C. Society Day Comes Next Monday

Meredith College Girls and Others Will Be The Guests Of Honor

Wake Forest, Nov. 2.—The Junior-Sophomore debate in the afternoon and an oratorical contest and reception for the tangled affairs are straightened out, for some of the most expensive lawyers in the entire country are engaged by the opposing factions.

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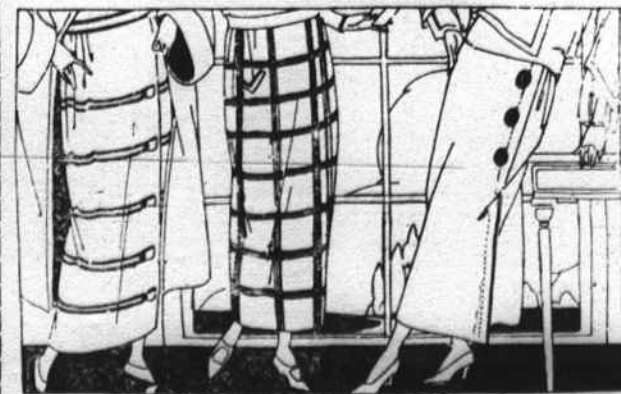
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B. F. FOREHAND, Supt.
Oct. 27, 29, 30, 31, No. 1, 2

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