

SEARS TAX CASE IS NEARING CONCLUSION

Opinion Handed Down in Lake Co. Circuit Court to Fix Amount

An opinion upon which a decree will be based in the suit of the People vs. Anna L. Sears in the estate of Richard W. Sears, last week was handed down by Circuit Judge Claire C. Edwards and in it he fixed the back tax owned by the estate at \$776,876.92.

The action taken at the request of the Cook county board of commissioners April 2, 1917, was in behalf of the state, Cook county, and the village of Oak Park, for an extension of a tax of \$1,703,621 on \$43,000,000 assessed valuation on Sears property between the years 1907 to 1912.

Of the \$1,703,621 asked Judge Edwards drew the conclusion that \$654,452.38 was illegal and excessive and that to make the tax equitable a 25 per cent discount should be allowed. Those reasons shaved \$926,765 from the amount sought by Cook county interests.

Interest Mounts Up

Had the taxes been paid by Sears who founded Sears Roebuck, the Chicago mail order house, in the years 1907 to 1912 the amount would have been but \$458,548.07 the opinion pointed out.

The attorneys, Hayden Bell who led the fight for Cook county, and Judge Charles S. Cutting for Mrs. Sears, were instructed to draw up the decree based on the court's opinion. This will be filed next Tuesday in all probability.

Attorney Cutting is to appeal the case to the supreme court.

In the 12 years of fighting three special masters-in-chancery were used. The first, Edward Upton, died and Attorney Charles King, his successor, moved to California. Attorney William G. Strong, of Waukegan, concluded the hearing last June and made his report to Judge Edwards. The opinion came after Judge Edwards listened to exceptions to the master's report.

Zion Woman Leaves Estate to the Church

Mrs. Mary Ann Landphere, aged Zion woman who died last November at the age of 83 years, left the largest part of her estate to the church through Overseer Wilbur Glenn Voliva and to an endowment fund fostering education, it was revealed last week in probate court before County Judge P. L. Persons.

The woman left an estate valued at \$1,800. The will was admitted to probate by the courts.

The will provides for a \$500 endowment fund for the Zion Educational Institution. In addition it bequeaths the chattel property to a daughter and \$100 to a son. The provision is that the remainder goes to Wilbur Glenn Voliva, overseer of the Christian Catholic Apostolic church of Zion and the Zion Institutions and Industries.

Letters testamentary were issued to Attorney Theodore Forby, of Zion, with a bond of \$2,700. The heirship was proved.

Tularemia Deaths in State Increased, Claim

An alarming increase in deaths from tularemia, having its origin in contaminated rabbits, was pointed out by Dr. Robert Graham, chief of animal pathology and hygiene, college of agriculture, University of Illinois, recently.

Dr. Graham, in discussing the sit-

uation, declared that people so often mistake the symptoms of the disease as an attack of influenza, typhoid fever and in some instances, tuberculosis.

It is this mistaken signal of attack which has caused the increase in deaths from the disease, he said.

Cooks, market men and hunters should wear rubber gloves in dressing rabbits in order to protect themselves against the disease, Dr. Graham warned. Thorough cooking de-

stroys the infection, thus rendering an infected rabbit harmless for food.

"Tularemia strikes its victims suddenly, often occurring while the patient is at work," he said. "It is manifested characteristically by headache, vomiting, chilliness, chills, aching body pains, sweating, prostration and fever. The disease lasts from two to three months and convalescence is often slow.

"The most important treatment is rest in bed."



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