

Inheriting \$5 Million Fortune Said 'Particularly Gratifying'

New York, Feb. 8 (AP)—Hollis Powers Gale felt today like a man who had just been handed a \$5,000,000 fortune that 172 other people had been after.

Because that is just what happened. And the sensation, says Gale, is "particularly gratifying." Gale, a New York business-

man, was adjudged yesterday the sole heir of the multi-million dollar estate of the aged recluse, Mary Bullock Powers. Miss Powers, who had lived the last quarter century in a strange shut-away-from-the-world solitude, died without a will 20 months ago, and set off a transatlantic scramble for her millions.

Men and women in this country and abroad—173 of them—put in their bids for the money, claiming various degrees of kinship. Two men claimed to be illegitimate sons.

After months of hearings, Surrogate (Judge) William T. Collins sorted through the claims, finally eliminating all of them except that of Gale, a first cousin once removed.

His paternal grandmother was the sister of Miss Powers' father.

None of the claimants, ruled Collins "was equally or more closely related" to Miss Powers than Gale.

Miss Powers, who was 72 when she died, lived her last 26 years shut in a midtown hotel room. She saw almost no one except the waiter who delivered her one meal a day, the hotel manager who collected the rent three times yearly and her physician.

She had no radio, took no newspapers, did her own laun-

dry and room cleaning, and dressed in the fashions of 1900.

Gale, a 58-year-old executive of a carton company, commented on learning of the court's decision:

"This is particularly gratifying because she had always anticipated that after the death of my father I would inherit her estate. He and she were first cousins and were very fond of each other."

He said he knew Miss Powers "would be pleased by this decision."

"She was a gentle and courteous woman—if afraid of the world," he added.

Gale's estimated inheritance tax will take at least \$2,000,000.

Because of receiving the fortune, he said, he intends to "spend more time in what ways I can to improve our foreign relations."

He said he is particularly interested in the Far East, where, he said, "we have made a mess of it" and where the tragedy is that there appears to be no solution.

Gale was a Red Cross director at Hong Kong when war broke out and was interned by the Japanese. Returned here as an exchange prisoner, he later served briefly with the United Na-

Officers Shifted On Mighty 'Mo'

Norfolk, Va., Feb. 8 (AP)—The mighty battleship Missouri—freed from the mud, her damaged bottom shipshape—today was bucking the waves of the open sea.

She will race through the Atlantic for two days on a test run, and return to the Norfolk naval base Thursday. There she will reload for her interrupted training cruise to Guantanamo, Cuba.

Meanwhile three of her top officers serving aboard her when she ran aground Jan. 17 will stay behind to explain to a naval court of inquiry. They have been temporarily replaced by officers who had the same positions on the ship last summer.

Defendants are the ship's skipper, Capt. William D. Brown, her navigator, Lt. Comdr. Frank G. Norris, and her operations officer, Comdr. John R. Millett. Millett was named a defendant yesterday after he told the court he had confused shallow water buoys for deep water buoys just before the ship plowed aground in Chesapeake bay.

Capt. H. P. Smith, who preceded Brown as skipper, was back in command of the Missouri today. Comdr. Harold D. Fuller is back as operations officer, replacing Millett, and Lt. Comdr.

tions relief and rehabilitation administration in China.

He and his wife have one child, Mrs. Virginia Linderking, of Pasadena, Calif. The Gales live in Queens.

Miss Powers had inherited most of her money from her parents—much of it in mining property—and the rest piled up from dividends she rarely cashed.

Harry W. Hall is back as navigator in Morris' place. Comdr. George E. Peckham continues as executive officer.

Tot Gets Cardboard Box Oxygen Tent

Denver, Colo., Feb. 8 (AP)—Fourteen-months-old Ronald Gene Syslo was kept alive by oxygen fed into a cardboard box while he was rushed 50 miles to Children's hospital here.

The improvised oxygen tent was rigged by ambulance driver Robert Baxley after the infant fought against efforts to fit him with an oxygen mask for the emergency trip. Baxley cut a

hole in the top and sealed cellophane over it so the terrified child could see out.

Suffering from bronchial pneumonia, Ronald was still in serious condition today.

Flag Etiquette Topic

Monmouth — The regular meeting of the American Legion and its auxiliary will be held Thursday at 8 o'clock. In recognition of Americanism month the chairman, Mrs. Harvey Young, will discuss flag etiquette. Mrs. Lester Green has appointed Mrs. Hal Snair chairman, Mrs. Oscar Groves, Mrs. Harvey Young and Mrs. Abel Reid to preside as hostesses for the regular meeting and social night.

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While this "extra" money is in circulation, beware especially of "advisers" in these two categories: 1. The glib promoter who sounds very convincing, but is really unscrupulous and out to "turn a fast dollar" at your expense. 2. The well-meaning, but unqualified person, who wants you to invest money in ventures that have little or no chance of success.

It's wise to be cautious. Investigate thoroughly before you invest or buy. Your local Chamber of Commerce or your bank will be glad to give you whatever reliable information is available.

In the meantime, remember that there is no substitute for a bank savings account. And a First National Savings Account habit means security—cash for emergencies, or for long-range planning.

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