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Author Faced US Tax Claim for \$170,000

LACONIA — Confirmation was made here Friday of a Federal Tax claim of \$170,000 against Mrs. Grace Metalious, Gilmanton author who died five days ago. The claim dates back to 1957.

The case may be heard sometime this year in the U. S. Tax Court, said Atty. Bernard I. Snierson, who had represented Mrs. Metalious since she first entered the national spotlight eight years ago.

Boston Consultant

A tax consultant, associated with the local firm of Snierson and Chandler, had appeared for the late author in the tax controversy, Attorney Snierson said.

He is Atty. Burton Williams of Boston, widely known in this field, who the local lawyer said, represented John Fox, Boston publisher and Bernard Goldfine, Boston industrialist, in much publicized tax suits.

Meanwhile, George Metalious of Ludlow, Vt., husband of Mrs. Metalious, is expected to return to Ludlow today to resume his position as a high school guidance counselor.

Accompanying him is said to be the younger Metalious children, Christopher "Mike," 17, and Cynthia, 13. The eldest child, Mrs. Marsha Metalious Dupuis, is married to Edward Dupuis of this city, and reportedly employed at a local store.

Husband Claims Part Of Metalious Estate

LACONIA — Two developments regarding the estate of the late Grace Metalious, controversial Gilmanton author, were revealed Friday, while a third action is slated for Monday.

Total worth of the estate is valued at \$127,322, according to an inventory filed in Belknap County Probate Court.

Of this amount, \$25,750 is listed in real estate, and \$101,622 in personal property.

Claims Part

Meanwhile, George Metalious is claiming that, as surviving "spouse," he is entitled to one-third of the estate by waiving provisions of "any last will," which he has done recently.

An appearance for Metalious has been filed with the Probate Court by Atty. Peter Makris of Laconia.

At 10 a. m. Monday there will be a hearing in solemn form here on the "deathbed" will of the author, allegedly made only a few hours before she died last Feb. 24 in a Boston hospital.

In this will, she left all of her property to John Rees, a British journalist, who had acted as her manager for the preceding few months. Rees later renounced his claim, while Metalious also stated at the time he would do the same, in favor of their three children.

An earlier will, in which the Metalious estate would be left to the three children, in trust, through their father, was filed in Probate Court shortly after the one decreeing Rees as sole beneficiary.

This other will was entered by Atty. Bernard I. Snierson of Snierson and Chandler, whose firm represents the Metalious children.

The inventory discloses that the Gilmanton home of the author was valued at \$25,000, a Gilmanton tract of 93 acres,

known as the Jasper Mudgett homestead, \$750.

A motel property on Weirs Boulevard was owned through a corporation, all of whose shares belonged to Mrs. Metalious.

The inventory, however, listed these shares as "worthless," explaining that the property had a mortgage indebtedness of \$150,000, with other obligations of about \$10,000, and that the property had been for sale for six months, with no firm offer to buy being received.

Appraisers for the estate were Atty. Conrad Snow of Gilmanton, Stewart Lamprey of Moultonboro and Edwin Chertok of Laconia.

Executor of the estate is Atty. John Cremens of Boston, while Atty. John Holland of Manchester is administrator with will annexed.