

A GREAT BEQUEST LEAVES COLLEGE IN A QUANDARY; By Provisions of the Will of Anna T. Jeanes Swarthmore Falls Heir to Millions -- but Must Give Up Football. Now Students and Faculty are Plunged Into a Controversy Which Deals With the Problem, Athletics Versus Money.

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In determining whether or not to accept the bequest to Swarthmore College of part of the estate of the late Miss Anna T. Jeanes, estimated at \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000, the Board of Managers will confront one of the most delicate, difficult, and important questions met in the history of the institution; in fact, one of the most unusual and most embarrassing questions ever faced by an educational institution in the country. If Swarthmore accepts the bequest it must abandon intercollegiate sports-baseball and football must go. Shall it be football or scholarships? On the one hand, Swarthmore needs the money. The institution is not old, and an extension of the curriculum and improvements of equipment would be welcomed. Some years ago the college, secured an endowment of \$1,000,000. Financially strengthened, it obtained a new President, and it came to the front as one of the best of the smaller institutions of learning. There were recently completed a chemistry building, an engineering building, a library built by Andrew Carnegie, and Wharton Hall. The provisional bequest of Miss Jeanes would mean much to Swarthmore. Like other colleges, one hand must be held out constantly to philanthropists in order to deal wisdom with the other to the young. Undoubtedly this will be a hard choice. Competitive sports have become so inter-related with college life that an abolishment to the young would seem like taking the marrow from its bones. Columbia, however, has abandoned sports, and President Eliot of Harvard favors the abolition at Cambridge. Such educators affirm that they detract from serious study and are antipathetic to the serious and studious spirit which should prevail in a college. Other instructors in contradiction declare that sports are undoubtedly helpful to students, that the spirit of rivalry and competition adds zest to a life which would become burdensome if confined to lectures and books. There is much to be said on both sides. The decision of Swarthmore will be of National interest. Upon the subject the students, the faculty, and the alumni are outspoken in their decision-athletics must not go. A visitor to Swarthmore will hear little discussed on the campus but the bequest which may have so disastrous effect on the sporting life of the boys; the dormitories seethe with indignation, and protests are murmured to one another at morning devotion in the chapel. The students have been told by gentle suggestion that in case the Board of Managers decides to accept the bequest they can play among themselves, as only intercollegiate sports would be abolished. But what would become of baseball and football if confined to the classes? What incentive, what inducement would there be to play? Play ball among themselves-little more than twelve months after a football victory over Old Penn! Not for a million-ten million dollars! Could the quiet, gentle little woman who made the singular bequest have known the tempest her terms have aroused among the student body there is little doubt she would have consented to football-to anything to have prevented it. Miss Jeanes shuddered at any thought of excited discussion; she was so averse to publicity that during her life her greatest benefactions were made under terms of inviolable secrecy; she shunned crowds of people, and was so timid that she even would not go to the Friends' Meeting House. And now a little clause in her will has given rise to a question which will be a topic of discussion in all the colleges in the land, and in her own favored Quaker college has evoked a storm of protests that echoes with grim irony over her quiet, unostentatious funeral a few days ago. Miss Jeanes in her later life had two pet hobbies-a fervid desire to help the negro race and a violent antipathy to football. These predominated; they were characteristic. When her will was made public last Monday, the provisional bequest to Swarthmore was received with dismay by the faculty, officers, students, and alumni alike. The will was read to the Board of Managers at their meeting on Tuesday afternoon. Undoubtedly the bequest is a large one, although the exact value will be ascertained only after a careful investigation. The provisional gift includes all of Miss Jeanes's coal and mineral rights in the State of Pennsylvania, with a five-eighths ownership in the Rebecca Steadman tract. On this tract is the Hazle Brook Colliery. According to the report of the Department of Mines it produced in 1904 128,189 tons of anthracite coal. The estimated yearly income, on this basis, would be about \$80,000. The other holdings are said to be valuable. Should the bequest be

accepted? Should Swarthmore sacrifice athletics for financial help? The wise ones at the meeting asked what was the value of the bequest; if estimated in dollars and cents it could be placed in the scales with the college sports. This, then, was the decision. A committee consisting of Joseph Wharton, Charles F. Jenkins, and Howard Cooper Johnson was appointed to ascertain the exact value. They will make their report at the meeting of the board in December. Of nineteen members who attended the meeting last Tuesday nine were women. It was tacitly understood the women favored accepting the bequest. It is generally believed that when the question is decided they will be reinforced by nine other women members. The men will have a majority in numbers of one member. To the veteran manager, Isaac Clothier, the student body look for a stand against the acceptance of the gift. Mr. Clothier has been an enthusiastic supporter of the athletic teams of the colleges. "The members of the board," said Mr. Clothier, "have decided to take no action until they learn the value of Miss Jeanes's bequest. Then it will be a difficult and delicate and hard question to decide whether or not the college shall give up intercollegiate sports and accept the gift, which is a munificent one. We shall decide on it only after long consideration." "Will the amount of the bequest influence the decision?" was asked. "Not if we come to the conclusion that such sports are beneficial to the students." Thus the matter rests-with the managers. Not with the students and alumni. Protest is rife. Walter Clothier, Chairman of the Alumni Athletic Committee, has declared: "So far as the Athletic Committee goes, athletics at Swarthmore will not be given up, no matter how many millions are involved. Rather a victory over Penn than \$80,000 any time. I do not see how the school could stand without athletics-no price they can give is sufficient for the wrecking of the college spirit." Capt. Pritchard of this year's eleven declared that he "would leave the school in fifteen minutes if intercollegiate games were cut out." "If you knock out athletics you'll have a college for women," asserted Kreider, the big guard of the team, "No self-respecting man would come here if there were no athletics." S. R. Millman, the big left tackle; Francis Butler, manager of the team, and George H. Brooke, the coach-each and every one has pronounced the anathema upon the acceptance of the bequest on Miss Jeanes's terms. Even the Faculty is said to feel averse toward making the sacrifice. Dr. G. A. Hoadley, Professor of Physics and Chemistry, is Chairman of the Faculty Committee on Athletics. "I never thought much of wills that made bequests with long strings attached to them," he declared. I cannot picture what Swarthmore would be like without athletics and I have never tried. I do not believe the board will comply with the conditions of Miss Jeanes's will unless the amount is a very large one. "In Swarthmore athletics form a very important part of school life, and we find that the best men in the classroom are the fellows on the different teams. Aside from that, our standing in athletics has brought a large number of good men into the school. Of course, I do not know what the managers of the college will do, but the abolition of intercollegiate sports would make a big difference with Swarthmore." And in the meantime other colleges keep a vigilant eye on Swarthmore. All of Miss Jeanes's estate, exceeding in value \$5,000,000, except a possible \$100,000, is bequeathed for philanthropic purposes. And most of the money will be devoted to charities in which Miss Jeanes was personally interested. For years she suffered from a cancerous growth-keenly, but uncomplainingly. In her bequest of \$2000,000 (sic) for the founding of a hospital for the treatment of cancerous diseases and of \$10,000 to the cancer ward of the Home for Incurables, one can see a great sympathy in the heart of the little woman for her fellow sufferers. Before she died Miss Jeanes asked that her body be cremated. She often declared that this is the only sensible and sanitary disposition of the dead. Not three days after her own body had been incinerated and the dust placed in an urn, the Trustees of the Fair Hill burying ground were informed of a bequest of \$20,000 as an endowment fund in perpetuity to aid and encourage the practice of the cremation of the dead. A bequest of \$5,000 to the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals may be decided only in court. Miss Jeanes was a life member of the Women's Pennsylvania Society, and although she often contributed to its support, she had never given any money whatever to the Pennsylvania Society, The heads of the Women's Society declare that Miss Jeanes must have meant the institution of which she was a member; the officials of the Pennsylvania Society no less strongly say that "if the money was bequeathed to the 'Pennsylvania Society,' the 'Pennsylvania Society' was meant." A bequest of stock, said to be worth more than \$81,000, to the Women's Hospital of Philadelphia, on condition that no ward for men be established in the institution, has aroused much comment.