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PRINCE GETS ESTATE. Wins Fortune Not To Be Divided with Children.

Through a decision handed down on Friday by the Court of Appeals of Maryland, Prince de Béarn, secretary of the French Legation in Peking, becomes sole beneficiary of the estate of his wife, according to the statement made last night by Maurice Leon, a lawyer.

Mr. Leon said that the value of the estate is estimated at \$300,000. Prince de Béarn married Miss Beatrice Winans, daughter of Ross R. Winans, of Maryland, a few years ago.

Before her marriage her father had executed a deed of trust giving her the income of upward of \$300,000, with the right to dispose of the principal as she chose at her death.

After her marriage the princess made a will by which her husband became the sole beneficiary of the estate.

She died in St. Petersburg on October 17, 1907, but the trustees decided that the estate should be divided equally between the husband and her two living children.

Although somewhat adverse to this plan, principally because he did not wish his children to have so much money as soon as they became of age, the prince signed papers agreeing to the decision of the trustees and releasing them from all responsibility, according to Mr. Leon.

Later a friendly suit was brought to determine the legality of the action of the trustees. It came up before Judge Sharpe in Baltimore in May.

In his decision he upheld the trustees. In the decision handed down on Friday the Court of Appeals overruled the lower court and holds that the releases of the prince were illegal and that he is the sole beneficiary of the estate.

The prince is a member of the Bourbon family in France and has been in the French diplomatic service for eight years.

At the time the action was first brought Mr. Winans said the prince was a good and devoted husband, and that the action was an amicable one.

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