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A'S BOSS RAPS CRITICS OF HIS DEALS

Daffy-Don-Dilly

By Darvas



'Yank Farm' Talk Rouses Johnson Ire

'Ditmar-Shantz Trade Made to Strengthen Our Club;' Assails Greenberg, Chuck

By ERNEST MEHL
WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.



Arnold Johnson

Arnold Johnson, president and principal owner of the Kansas City Athletics, took turns watching the members of his 1957 edition go through their drills and glancing at several clippings of stories critical of what has been described as a suspiciously close alliance between the New York Yankees and Athletics. Johnson obviously was nettled at what he considered an unfair interpretation of the efforts he has made to rehabilitate a club which had almost nothing to recommend it two years ago and which since then may be considered to have taken on at least some semblance of major league value.

The impulse of the owner to fight back at the insinuations which have been made seemed rather obvious.

"Why not an answer to all the things which have been written?" we suggested.

"I think it would be fine," Johnson agreed. "I'd like to get my side over in a story in *The Sporting News*. There's a great deal which has been printed which, I believe, is unfair and should be corrected."

Says Yank Tag Unjustified

The following is the result of this conversation—a series of questions we submitted and which have been answered by the head of the Athletics.

Q. Arnold, because of the numerous player deals which have been made with the Yankees, some of the writers are referring to Kansas City as a farm club of the Yankees. Do you believe such comment is justified?

A. I certainly do not! My associates and I are considered to be good businessmen—sufficiently so to be able to pay three and one-half million dollars for a major league club. Certainly it would not make good sense to pay three and one-half million for the privilege of being a farm club of the Yankees or of any other major league organization. The Yankees have the players on both a major league level and youngsters coming up in the farm system. Isn't it logical to deal with an organization this rich in playing talent?

Q. Do you believe that in your last deal, in which you gave up Art Ditmar and Bobby Shantz, you got back value received in players?

A. My only purpose in making the deal was to strengthen the Athletics. I'm not particularly concerned about the results for the

... SIX MEMBERS OF THE DODGERS ANSWER TO THE NAME OF DON!!

Half Dozen Dons in Dodgers' Duds --Others on Way

Four of Them Are Fixtures; Demeter and Elston Also Rated Excellent Chances

By ROSCOE MCGOWEN
MIAMI, Fla.

Back in the Gay Nineties, and perhaps before then, there was an alliterative sort of tongue twister about "How much wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck would chuck wood?"

Today a variation of that bit of

Coast Major Ball Cinch—Del Webb

By DAN DANIEL

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla.—"Los Angeles and San Francisco are entitled to major league ball," said Del Webb, half owner of the Yankees, when asked to discuss the prospect of Brooklyn shifting to the Hollywood area.

"Los Angeles and San Francisco are growing cities, big league in everything but baseball. There are

tremendous industrial developments out there. We have a vast empire enjoying incredible growth and vitality, and it is inevitable that baseball join with that growth.

"Baseball cannot be handicapped by hidebound

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