

Kansas City To Get A's

Deal Splits Connie Mack With Baseball

By TOM BRADSHAW
PHILADELPHIA (U. S. —) Busting big league baseball and aging, ailing Connie Mack were all but separated today after an up-and-down "marriage" that lasted more than half a century.

Mack was abed in his suburban apartment with a million memories and a check for \$604,000 received yesterday from Chicago businessman Arnold Johnson for Mack's share of the stock in the A's franchise.

There remained to formalize the sale of the A's some paper work



ARNOLD JOHNSON
... man with the money

involving Mack's sons Roy and Earle, and the granting of approval by the league owners.

TYCOON

A league meeting was scheduled by President Will Harridge Monday morning at New York's Commodore Hotel. At that session the owner of the seven other clubs in the loop will be asked by the Mack family to okay the sale to Johnson, 47-year-old former naval lieutenant commander and present coin-machine tycoon.

Johnson plans to pay Roy and Earle Mack each \$450,000 for their stock and shift the Athletics to Kansas City, where plans were being pushed to remodel the ball park now occupied by the American Assn. Blues.

Harridge said in Chicago yesterday that Johnson's ownership of New York's Yankee Stadium "will be thoroughly explained" at Monday's meeting.

There have been reports of opposition to Johnson because of this union.

Prior to the Oct. 12 meeting in Chicago at which the American League had approved the transfer of the A's to Kansas City, Johnson had given assurance he would take any steps the league wished in regard to Yankee Stadium.

Only one league owner, W. O. (Spike) Briggs of Detroit, has expressed opposition to the Johnson deal and he would have to be joined by two others to block the transaction.

Tommy Richardson, president of the Eastern League, who had made an unsuccessful bid for the A's last month, said last night he still is interested in a deal. He said he and a group of associates would be willing to pick up the Athletics losses through 1955 up to a maximum of \$250,000 and then buy out the Macks. The club would be moved out of Philadelphia if it then appeared a hopelessly losing proposition here.

"OUTRUSHED"

There was no immediate indication as to whether an "outrush" Philadelphia syndicate was still in the picture.

The Johnson deal involves a total of about \$1.5 million dollars. In addition to the payments to Connie and his two sons, Johnson and his associates would take over the \$1,200,000 mortgage on the A's property plus the \$800,000 in outstanding club debts.

Johnson said yesterday he would have a million-dollar fund set aside to rebuild the A's from a player standpoint — aiming at a first division spot within a couple of years.

Both Roy and Earle, as well as their sons, may be retained in the club's front office organization. And Connie Sr. would be given the honorary title of chairman of the Board of Directors.

The apparent end of the Mack baseball dynasty — to all intents and purposes — came yesterday in the setting of Connie Mack's sick room, against a backdrop somewhat resembling the land rushes of the early West.

Representatives of a four-man Philadelphia syndicate — the remnants of an eight-member group that had failed previously to get league approval of their offer for the club — showed up at the Mack home with checks for \$604,000.

Johnson had beaten them there, however, by an hour and the Chicagoan emerged the winner. Mrs. Connie Mack told newsmen:

"Mr. Johnson is a nice man and he won out. We said whoever got here first would be the buyer. Mr. Johnson was here at 9 o'clock; the Philadelphia group came at 10 a.m. The Philadelphia group dilly-dallied."

A source close to baseball's elder statesman said he was dejected over the strong possibility his team was headed for other parts.

Ducks Face Task Of Stopping UCLA

LOS ANGELES (U. S. —) The unbeaten UCLA football squad is well aware it has been named the top outfit in the nation, but the young men of Westwood are studiously trying to ignore the fact.

Their main concern is to defeat a threatening Oregon team Saturday and keep the record straight.

Fortunately, in Henry R. (Red)

SF Proud Of Sports Heritage

By GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK (U. S. —) The citizens of San Francisco are extremely proud of their sports heritage, especially of the dominant role their city played in the early days of prize fighting in this country. It was to be expected that they would vote overwhelmingly for a five-million-dollar bond issue to build themselves a big league ball park.

Everything points to the probability that the Coast city will within a period of not too many years strongly rival New York City and Chicago for recognition as the nation's sports capital. Indeed, it is a virtual cinch to do so once it has a 50,000 capacity stadium and can bid for the heavyweight championships.

The next two title bouts are scheduled there. Paddy DeMarco defends his lightweight crown against Jimmy Carter there Nov. 17, and Bobo Olson gives Joey Cardello a shot at his middleweight bauble Dec. 15.

The national audience which saw Olson annihilate Garth Panter in a tuneup fight two nights ago can realize without being told that the latter bout figures to be a terrific attraction—one which only a short time ago would have been held nowhere except in the populous East. While the DeMarco-Carter return is not quite the same promoter's dream, it is sufficient to bolster San Francisco's ego.

Nothing of the kind is going on around here, at least. The closest this city has come to seeing a championship lately was Rocky Marciano passing through hurriedly on his way to a banquet engagement. Since the Saxton-Gavilan welterweight showpiece in Philadelphia recently, about the only ones even discussing the fight

are district attorneys. Getting back to San Francisco, there may be those who do not know that Jim Corbett, the first great heavyweight champion of the modern school, was born there and did all his early fighting there in the 1880's. Or that Bob Fitzsimmons fought and won his first bout in this country there in 1890.

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