

CHASE CASE PENDING

Sherman Anti-Trust Law Is Brought Into Baseball

BUFFALO, N. Y., July 10.—A decision on the plea to dissolve the injunction restraining Hal Chase, the former first baseman of the Chicago Americans, from playing with the Chicago Federals, was promised by July 18 by Justice Herbert P. Bissell at the close of arguments here today.

"If this injunction is to be dissolved it should be done promptly," he said.

The grounds upon which Chase's personal attorney, Keene H. Addington, of Chicago, and counsel for the Federal League sought a dissolution of the injunction was based largely upon the allegation that the Chicago team did not come into court with clean hands because, as a member of organized baseball, it is operating in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

It was intimated by Attorney Addington in his final argument that further proceedings against the National Commission under the anti-trust law were under consideration.

"There is more at stake here than Chase's individual case," he said. "Before many weeks have passed we may see the standing of organized baseball tested under Section 4 of the Sherman act."

Section No. 4 makes it the duty of Federal attorneys to start proceedings where they believe there has been a violation of the act.

Other claims made by the Federal League attorneys were that Chase's contract with Chicago was void because it was improperly drawn when signed and because it lacked mutuality on account of the ten-day clause and the reserve feature.

John W. Ryan and Ellis G. Kickade, attorneys for the Chicago team, argued and read numerous opinions to sustain their contention that the playing of baseball cannot be designated as commerce in the sense that it is used in the Sherman act.