

MAJORS RAP RADIO, PLAN EXTENSIVE SALARY CUTS

*More Showmanship and Shorter Training Periods
Also Favored in Majors' Economy Campaign*

NEW YORK, Dec. 7. (AP)—On the eve of the annual major league meetings, when baseball men and fans alike are wondering what steps, if any, will be taken to lift baseball out of the depression area, the six-teen club owners of the National and American leagues have spoken their minds.

Their ideas bring out the following prospects:

Salaries of players and cost of upkeep must be cut 20 per cent.

There must be no easing of the rules bearing down on showmanship.

Training seasons should be shortened, perhaps prescribed by baseball law.

Trading is to be encouraged, if anyone will trade.

Radio should be banned for all but world series games.

Ladies' days and boys' days are to be encouraged, along with old-timers' games and even field days.

There should be no further reduction in the player limit, now twenty-three men.

These reactions stand out in a copyrighted symposium gathered by the World-Telegram with an eye toward anticipating the results of next week's annual meetings.

Three clubs, the Yankees, Brooklyn Dodgers, and Boston Braves, oppose a general reduction in expenses that even intimates a reduction in the \$65,000 salary of Kenesaw M. Landis.

Owners of these three clubs insist that publicity along these lines is harmful, that every team should set up its own financial standards. But with the remainder of the mag-

nates, economy is the outstanding issue.

"Baseball salaries must be cut," said Charles A. Stoneham, "principally for the reason that they were increased in good times, and no increase was made in the cost of seeing a ball game."

"The ball player, for six months' work, is receiving more than the presidents, officials, and owners of 99 per cent of other businesses. Baseball is a highly speculative enterprise. The club owners assume all the risks."

Stoneham represents the New York Giants.

Opinions from other club officials include the following:

Clark Griffith, Washington Senators: "The ball player alone has not felt the depression. I believe he will be fair enough to realize he must take a 20 per cent reduction. I am opposed to uniform training seasons and radio except for world series."

William E. Benswanger, Pittsburgh—"A shorter training season will accomplish as much physical good. Salaries must be kept within bounds. We are against broadcasting. Baseball needs the application of business common sense."

Billy Evans, Cleveland—"A club needs two things to sell the game

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MAJORS WOULD BAR OUT RADIO

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strongly to its fans—a good ball club and a tight race. The National League is more willing to make trades. As a result they have had better balance, closer races, and increased receipts. Stronger clubs should dispose of surplus talent to weaker clubs."

Gerald P. Nugent, Philadelphia Nationals—"I believe our player limit should be lowered to twenty-two. One month of spring training is enough. We favor ladies' and boys' days, but are against radio. Baseball is not slipping."

Emil Fuchs, Boston Braves—"Players should share in the good fortune of clubs, and also stand their share of financial bad luck. Training season should not start before March 1. I am strong for radio."

Robert Quinn, Boston Red Sox—"If ball players will hustle every minute the fans will support baseball. The value of radio is open to debate, but it would be a mistake to take the World Series off the air."

L. C. McEvoy, St. Louis Browns—"We favor shorter training seasons. We oppose radio."

Samuel Breadon, St. Louis Cardinals—"Expenses from top to bottom must be cut. We are shortening our training season, reducing salaries and overhead."

William Veeck, Chicago Cubs—"Too much importance cannot be attached to the benefits of radio. Four stations broadcast Wrigley Field games and increased attendance, even in depression times, reflect its value."

Connie Mack, Philadelphia Athletics—"Baseball has been running wild financially. We must have saner policies."

Frank Navin, Detroit Tigers—"Baseball must adopt business methods. In times of depression it has done better than other amusements."

Louis Comiskey, Chicago White Sox—"Give the fans a winner and they'll break down your fences to get in. Six weeks of training are plenty."

Sidney Weil, Cincinnati Reds—"Salary lists must be cut deeply. We are opposed to long training and would like a uniform rule on this. We believe trading revives interest."