

# Senate Takes Close Look at Game

*Ol' Professor Reaches Oratorical Peak*

*On Capitol Hill*



"Our Club Has Been Successful Because We Have the Spirit of '76."



"If I've Been in Baseball 48 Years, There Must Be Some Good in It."

Photos by DON WINGFIELD

## Anti-Trust Group Questions Stengel and Standout Players

'Parts of Bill Worry Me,' Says Chairman Kefauver; Major League Luminaries Strongly Back Measure

By JACK WALSH

WASHINGTON, D. C.

In his own inimitable if often unfathomable way, Casey Stengel stole the show as the Senate opened hearings on bills granting anti-trust exemptions to Organized Ball and other professional team sports.

Luring a standing-room-only crowd to the Senate caucus room, as well as a battery of TV and still cameramen, were bright stars of the game like Mickey Mantle, Ted Williams, Stan Musial, Robin Roberts and Eddie Yost, who testified in that order.

But behind the carnival atmosphere were clear indications that the Senate Anti-Trust and Monopoly subcommittee, headed by Sen. Estes Kefauver (D., Tenn.) would take a hard look at the House-passed bill.

Chairman Kefauver said: "Parts of the bill worry me considerably. To give a blanket waiver to anti-trust laws is a big request. We must consider what it does to the players, the owners and the public itself. The public has an important place in this."

The Keating-Walter bill, which the House passed by an overwhelming voice vote, and an identical Senate bill introduced by Sen. Thomas C. Hennings, Jr. (D., Mo.), would grant complete anti-trust exemptions to playing phases and player control in professional sports. Included, too, would be an anti-trust exemption for telecasting and broadcasting rights and policies.

### O'Mahoney Raises Question

Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.) used strong language in raising some searching questions to Stengel and the players.

Commenting on the bill, O'Mahoney said:

"If it becomes law, nobody in government, nobody in Congress could question the actions of those managing baseball."

Then he asked Robin Roberts, the Phillies' fine righthander who is player representative of the National League, "Do you think that's fair to the fans and fair to the players?"

Roberts replied: "I feel the things that have been happening in baseball have been fair to all."

At another point, O'Mahoney said: "The big brass of baseball is asking

Griffith, Jackie, Chandler, Frick and Feller to Be Heard

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Hearings by the Senate anti-trust subcommittee on the sports bill were scheduled to resume on July 15, with testimony from Calvin Griffith, president of the Washington Senators, and officials of the Justice Department, FTC and FCC.

Chairman Estes Kefauver announced the following schedule:

July 16—Commissioner Ford Frick and President George Trautman of the National Association.

July 17—Gov. Albert B. Chandler and Kentucky, former commissioner and former senator, and ex-Senator Edwin C. Johnson, former president of the Western League.

July 18—Jackie Robinson and Bob Feller.

## Stengel Positive in Views --But What Did He Say?

Yankees' Manager Touches All the Bases at Hearing; Senators, However, Have Difficulty Following His Path

By JACK WALSH

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The United States Senate, one of the world's most renowned debating societies, has heard its share of spellbinding and double talk. Until July 9, though, it never had experienced a full hour of pure, unadulterated Stengelese.

It still may be recovering.

Casey Stengel, the irrepressible manager of the Yankees, may not have added much to the understanding of the problems in the

involved sports bills before the Senate anti-trust and monopoly subcommittee, but he proved one of the most entertaining witnesses ever to appear on Capitol Hill. Never cracking a smile himself, Stengel continually created guffaws among the Senators and the standing-room-only crowd in the Senate caucus room.

It could be said, too, that Ol' Casey proved you don't have to take the Fifth Amendment to evade a Senatorial question. Touching all bases, with the exception of first, second and third, Stengel left the subcommittee members bewildered and baffled. And when he was excused, they still were looking for their first direct answer.

Sen. Estes Kefauver, like Stengel no stickler for correct names, later characterized Casey's testimony as "rather general." Kefauver, chairman of the subcommittee, added with a smile: "It was amusing, though. He's a great actor and personality."

### Kefauver Puzzled

Once when Stengel had rambled seemingly aimlessly for several minutes, Kefauver interrupted to say politely: "Mr. Stengel I am not sure that I made my question clear."

After the ensuing laughter died, Stengel replied: "Yes, sir. Well, that is all right. I am not sure I am going to answer yours perfectly, either." (More laughter.)

Kefauver: "I was asking you, sir, why it is that baseball wants this bill passed?"

Stengel: "I would say I would not know but I would say the reason why they would want it passed is to keep baseball going as the highest paid ball that has gone into baseball

## Mickey's No Switcher as Witness



"MY VIEWS are about the same as Casey's," Mickey Mantle testified. It was an answer that brought down the house, with the Senators having difficulty in figuring out Stengel's views.

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