

Vero Beach, Fla.
March 23, 1957.

File Memorandum re Giants, Los Angeles, etc.

Following yesterday's major league meeting in Clearwater Mr. Stoneham and I had a three hour talk. This was a confidential conversation, of course, and the only reference we will make to it would be to have a record placed in our files. Mr. Stoneham made up his mind sometime ago to move his franchise from New York to Minneapolis. He told me that his decision was quite independent of anything Brooklyn might do. He is prepared to move for the 1958 season. He has already had talks with a man who could be helpful in expediting the delivery of steel which would be needed to enlarge the Minneapolis Stadium. I asked Mr. Stoneham if he had considered San Francisco and he said he was not at all impressed by that location. I believe as a result of this talk that Mr. Stoneham had made a commitment to the Minneapolis people at the time they built the new stadium. He said he would offer the St. Paul Club \$50,000 for damages and that he intended to follow the pattern of the Milwaukee payments when they converted their wholly owned farm team to a major league operation.

I suggested that if he left New York and if the Dodgers were eventually to do the same thing it would leave New York City unprotected in the National League. He agreed with me that before the territory in New York City should be abandoned to the American League that an effort should be made to induce a National League Club to move its franchise to New York or Brooklyn. I told Mr. Stoneham that I fully briefed Mr. Giles, President of the National League on Brooklyn's problems and I indicated several possible solutions. Our preference would be to stay in New York but political inertia there seemed to be such that a new stadium could not be expected to materialize for many, many years. Mr. Stoneham said he would talk to Mr. Giles about his own plans and would prefer to ~~xxxxxx~~ tell Mr. Giles directly rather than have me brief Mr. Giles. All I am to do is tell Mr. Giles I had a talk with Mr. Stoneham and that he would hear from Mr. Stoneham on that subject.

WALTER F. O'MALLEY

WFO'M:EM