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2 Q And did you feel that as far as you personally  
3 were concerned, you were treated well?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q And would that also be true of your year with the  
6 Pittsburgh Pirates?

7 A Yes, sir.

8 MR. GOLDBERG: Would you talk up, Mr. Greenberg,  
9 because the court reporter has to get it.

10 Excuse me, Mr. Hughes.

11 Q And as I understand the thrust of your testimony,  
12 it is not that you consider that the owners of the base-  
13 ball clubs treat their players poorly so much as you think  
14 there is a misunderstanding between the player attitude and  
15 the owner attitude; isn't that really the main thrust of  
16 your testimony?

17 A I think there is a lack of understanding between  
18 the players and the owners, and I think it's understandable,  
19 because there's so few players among the owners.

20 Q Since you ceased to be a player, there has  
21 developed a players' association, has there not?

22 A I understand there has, sir.

23 Q I mean, you are aware of its existence? You are  
24 aware of the existence --

25 A I'm not a member of it, sir.



Q I understand you are not, but you are aware of its existence?

A Yes, sir.

Q And would you say that one of the functions of such an organization would be negotiation with the owners with reference to these very things that you are talking about?

A Well, I don't know who should do it.

Q Somebody should do it?

A Someone should do it, and --

Q You think it should be a matter of negotiation between parties acting in good faith towards one another?

A I certainly do. I think the players must recognize that they have responsibilities to the game as well as the owners, and that will come about when you do have this relationship between the owners and the players, in my opinion.

Q And you do have to have some kind of a system that will assure continuity of the game and attracting people from the business side, the financial side, to put the necessary money into the game, to finance it as a game? You recognize that, do you not?

A It would seem so; yes, sir.

Q And you would feel that the game has to be so structured -- whether you have specific views about it or



not, it has to be so structured that you have to be able to attract owners into a system which assures competition to the field. Isn't that the primary object of the game?

A Well, I don't know what aspect you are discussing here. From the standpoint of investing in the game, from a new owner?

Q From the standpoint of investing in the game.

A Well, I don't think people go into the game as an investor because you have a reserve clause that was passed by the Supreme Court in 1923. I don't think that's any consideration. I think that the game -- I would be perfectly willing to invest in baseball tomorrow if we had no reserve clause.

Q And when you refer to the reserve clause, are you referring to that provision in the Uniform Player's Contract?

A Yes. Well -- yes; I am.

Q Now, Mr. Greenberg, in the latter part of your association with baseball, you were on the owner-management side of the table so to speak; is that right?

A Yes, sir.

Q And are you familiar with the fact that the major league clubs do make investments in the minor league clubs and in player development generally? You are familiar with that?



1  
2 A Yes, sir.

3 Q And you regard that as important and necessary to  
4 the game?

5 A I definitely do, sir.

6 Q In other words, it is your feeling that you have  
7 to bring a player along, so to speak? He goes through a  
8 period of training and development; is that right?

9 A Yes, sir.

10 Q And when he gets to the major leagues, would you  
11 say -- and I am talking now generally, because there are  
12 certainly dramatic exceptions, including yourself -- but  
13 when he gets to the major leagues, is there a period even  
14 when he is on the major league club when he is coming along  
15 and developing right on the club itself -- the average  
16 player?

17 A Do I think what, sir? I didn't follow that.

18 Q Do you say that even after he's gotten onto the  
19 major league club, there is a period of years necessary  
20 for him to come to the full development of his skills as a  
21 major league baseball player?

22 A In some cases that's correct, sir.

23 Q Yes, and in some cases not, but in most cases  
24 is it not correct?

25 A I wouldn't have statistics, but I would presume



1 that most young players that join major league clubs, it  
2 takes them a year or two before they can break into the  
3 line-up.  
4

5 Q But my question is, does it take them a year or two,  
6 perhaps longer, really to develop their full skills as a  
7 player?

8 A Well, the only way I could answer that is that it  
9 took me five years to develop my skills.

10 Q And would you --

11 A I don't know how it would apply to other players.  
12 Some sooner, but --

13 Q On an average, would you think it would take four or  
14 five years?

15 A I would think so; yes, sir.

16 Q So it would really be a period of four or five years  
17 before the owner, who had developed the player, would be  
18 getting the full benefit of this player's playing skill; is  
19 that correct?

20 A Well, I don't know how you want me to answer that,  
21 sir.

22 Q I want you to answer it yes.

23 THE COURT: Of course, you are not here to accommodate  
24 anybody.

25 MR. HUGHES: I realize that.



THE COURT: What is your answer, under oath?

MR. HUGHES: Perhaps you would like the question again.

THE WITNESS: Perhaps I don't fully understand it.

THE COURT: You will get the question, and see if it is clearer. If it isn't, Mr. Hughes will be delighted to reframe it.

Read the pending question, Mr. Reporter.

(Question read.)

A In my particular case, Mr. Hughes, I played three years in the minor leagues and two years in the major leagues, and when I said it took five years for me to develop, I meant that at the end of the second year I was already an established ballplayer, and I played in the World Series. I was very fortunate in the second year, we were in the World Series.

But the average player, I couldn't tell you that. I think it takes a definite period of time before a player develops, and the owners then could take advantage of his services.

Q Without boast, would you say you came along faster than the average?

A I really wouldn't know that, Mr. Hughes. I really don't know.

Q Now, is there a factor of team stability, that is,



1  
2 in developing a team, that it does take time to develop a  
3 good team?

4 A Yes, sir.

5 Q You take a good double-play combination, such as  
6 Mr. Robinson and Pee Wee Reese. It takes time to develop  
7 that kind of a combination, does it not?

8 A Definitely so.

9 Q And would you say that team stability is a factor  
10 that should be taken into account in deciding whether and  
11 when and to what extent players can shift around from one  
12 club to another?

13 A I definitely think it takes time to develop a club,  
14 and the players get familiar with each other's abilities,  
15 and most of the clubs in the days when I played were players  
16 who had been together, the nucleus of the club were players  
17 who had been together for a reasonable length of time or even  
18 longer than that.

19 Q It brings a stability, and it also improves the  
20 overall playing quality of the club if they play together?

21 A Yes, sir.

22 Q Over the years?

23 A Yes, sir.

24 Q And would you think it was desirable to have a  
25 system which would assure that they would play together at



1  
2 least over a reasonable number of years, some reasonable  
3 number of years?

4 A I believe I answered that in saying yes; I do.

5 Q Mr. Greenberg, I want to go back for a moment to  
6 your testimony with reference to the reserve clause in the  
7 player contract. I understood you to say that you would  
8 favor the elimination of that provision entirely; is that  
9 correct?

10 A Yes, sir.

11 Q Well, does that mean that you would favor a system  
12 by which a player at the end of each playing year would be  
13 free to play for some other club or any club he chose?

14 A Let me -- the reason I said, eliminate it, rather  
15 than revise it was that there had been so much conversation  
16 about the reserve clause should be revised or changed.  
17 I think that the reserve clause, as everyone understands  
18 it -- very few people do, unless you have been a ballplayer,  
19 and you have to get the definition of it -- it's merely a  
20 clause in a uniform contract, one paragraph, which gives  
21 the club the right to retain the services of the player  
22 over a period of years, and I think that ought to be elimin-  
23 ated so that in the eyes of the public the reserve clause  
24 is eliminated.  
25

Now, what you substitute for it to protect the



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2 owner's rights to the player is something that should be  
3 negotiated between the players and the owners that's satis-  
4 factory to both parties.  
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1 Q Well, you do agree that if you eliminate it,  
2 as you say, because somehow or other it has become a clause  
3 that has created friction between the owners and the  
4 players, you do agree there has to be something in substitu-  
5 tion for it?  
6

7 A I do. I think that should be negotiated.

8 Q If I can pursue that allegation further, you  
9 do not feel that at the end of each playing season any player,  
10 whether he is a one-year player or a two-year player, is  
11 just free to go to any other club and play for that  
12 other club, is that correct?

13 A I think the players themselves, having functioned  
14 under the reserve clause all these years, recognize the fact  
15 that the club has some equity in the players' services and  
16 I think that they -- as far as I know, I have never dis-  
17 cussed it with them. I met Mr. Miller for the first time  
18 today and haven't discussed this with the players. I mean  
19 I stopped playing in '47, so it has been a good many years.  
20 But I think that the players recognize that the club should  
21 have some hold on them and I feel that it should be very  
22 simple to negotiate a term or a period of time in which  
23 the player is signed to a club and he has no rights to  
24 leave until that period of time has expired.

25 Q So what what you are really saying -- you express



1 it in terms of eliminating a reserve clause, but you do  
2 think, as you put it, that the club over some period of time  
3 should have a hold on the players' services?  
4

5 A I do. I think that's --

6 THE COURT: "I do" is sufficient, unless you  
7 feel you have to amplify.

8 THE WITNESS: "I do" is fine.

9 Q And you think it is a subject matter of negotia-  
10 tion between the clubs and the Players Association?

11 A However it works out, whether it is the Players  
12 Association or players or how it works out. Whether the  
13 owners -- I would prefer the owners of their own volition  
14 would change it themselves and say, "We recognize that  
15 times have changed and it's time for baseball to revise  
16 its contract and we think that maybe we can function under  
17 a new system," and do it themselves instead of having  
18 to take it to court or having to take it to the Players  
19 Association, and work it out that way. That is my personal  
20 opinion, and I think it can be done in many, many ways,  
21 and the game would continue to function and operate and  
22 the players would be probably more satisfied and I think  
23 it would be best for all interests concerned.

24 Q But you do feel that the owners should have some  
25 hold over the players?



A I would think so, yes, sir.

MR. HUGHES: That is all, your Honor.

MR. KRAMER: No questions, your Honor.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. GOLDBERG:

Q Mr. Greenberg, just one additional question.

In your capacity as part of the ownership and management of professional baseball teams, are you familiar with the practice of how development costs of a player are written off for tax purposes?

A Well, it is an expense. It is an expense. It is written off entirely during the season in which it is incurred, unless you have a contract with a player, as we did in the old days, three, four, five-year contract, 30,000 a year, and then you would write off the 30,000 that first year, thirty the next year until such time as you paid the player all he is entitled to.

Q Absent a long term contract --

A Yes.

Q -- do I understand you to say it is written off within the year?

A That's right.

MR. GOLDBERG: Thank you very much.

THE COURT: Gentlemen, I take it that I can say to Mr. Greenberg that his testimony has been completed and