

expiration of that time he would go to the Buffalo Feds.

President Comiskey denied that Chase had given him notice, and Hal substantiated the statement. But at the same time Hal said he would quit at the expiration of his present contract and go into business with Harry Lord, former Sox third baseman, in Philadelphia.

Chase's home is in California and Lord lives in Maine. What business would take them to Philadelphia Hal did not explain.

To further complicate matters, the officials of the Buffeds are out with the declaration that they have both Chase and Lord signed to contracts, and will have both athletes in the third circuit shortly. This, in connection with Chase's statement that he is going in business with Lord, is worth more than passing notice.

Hal has flirted with the Feds before. When the Sox were on their training trip Hal cast a few longing glances toward the Fed treasury, and it is understood that he made known the price for which he would flop from organized baseball. The war had not then warmed up, and the Feds were not trifling with members of the Sox and Cub teams. Therefore Hal's proposition was not considered.

Recently, however, court battles have been going against the Feds, and President Gilmore, in talking of the Chase rumor, said there was no agreement now between Fed magnates to keep hands off Chicago players. Further than that Gilmore would not discuss the report.

Pitcher Davenport of Cincinnati jumped to the Sloufeds yesterday, signing a three-year contract, and a hot tip came out of Redland that Pitchers Benton and Ames and Catcher Clarke were planning a similar move. These names have been used in this connection before.

As long as Herzog has his team winning, with a chance for a share in the world's series money, it is

doubtful if the players in question will desert. But let the Reds strike a bad slump, slip in the percentage column, and flip-flops by the disgruntled ones will not be surprising.

To the Sox the loss of Chase would be disastrous. Hal has proved a valuable man at the first corner and Callahan seems on the verge of welding together a strong inner defense. Chase and Weaver are already stars and Blackburne has taken great strides forward in the last ten days.

Breton was given a chance to show his ability at third yesterday, and, while he did nothing that even bordered on the sensational, he looked the part of a strong player, a fit running mate for the three regulars.

If Breton comes through Callahan will have three youngsters on the left side of his infield. Chase is older than the rest, but still has years of baseball left in him. And Hal is a big aid in making this infield a whale on defense. His ability to take weird throws is a big asset and puts confidence in the others. Place Fournier on first and the Sox infield will be a mediocre combination. Weaver and Blackburne will appear weaker if such a change is necessary, because they will miss Chase. They will have to make their throws perfect for Fournier.

Even if the reported jumping of Chase amounts to nothing but talk, it is just as well to understand how much Hall means to the South Side. He is temperamental, truly, but this season the worst cynic must admit that he is playing some wonderful baseball, and deserves more credit than has been handed him.

Just take him away and watch the work of the other infielders fall off.

No-hit and one-hit games were far from Joe Benz's mind yesterday. He was pitching against the Mackmen, and they nailed him for eight wallops in four innings. Jasper and Cicotte took turns at being battered the rest of the game.

The answer to the good pitching-