

January 27, 1933

Joe Judge leaves the Nation's Capital



Joe Judge, Former Washington Star, Signed by Robins

NEW YORK, Jan. 27 (AP).—Joe Judge, veteran first baseman who recently was given his release by the Washington Senators, Friday signed a contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers of the National Baseball League.

Signing of the veteran Judge, for years one of the leading players of the American League, plugs a gap at first on the Dodgers which they tried to fill unsuccessfully all last year after Del Bissonette was injured in spring training:

Bissonette recently underwent another operation for his heel injury and it is doubtful if he will be in shape to play this year, at least not at the start of the season.

Judge and the Dodgers have been dickering over terms since the baseball meetings in New York during December. Clark Griffith, owner of the Senators, at that time gave Judge permission to negotiate for himself. As a ten-year man in the American League he was entitled to his release if all other clubs waived on his services.

Following 18 seasons with the Washington Senators, first baseman Joe Judge signs a one-year contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

Following a 1932 season where he hits .258 with three home runs and 29 RBIs, Judge is told by team president Clark Griffith that he can have his unconditional release if he signs with a National League club ... Brooklyn reportedly offers the veteran \$10,000 while the American League's Cleveland Indians are willing to pay him \$15,000.

Spiked in the ankle by Philadelphia Phillies shortstop Dick Bartell in the second game of the year, Judge will miss close to a month and is hitting only .214 in 42 games for the Dodgers when he is released on July 24.

Judge is unemployed for only three days before signing with the Boston Red Sox on July 27 in 35 games for the Bosox, Judge hits .296 with 22 RBIs.

On May 14, 1934, 11 days shy of his 40th birthday, Judge's major league career comes to an end when the Red Sox give him his unconditional release ... in 20 major league seasons, Judge hits .298 with 433 doubles, 159 triples, 71 home runs with 1,034 RBIs.

<http://www.baseball-reference.com/players/j/judgejo01.shtml>