

Griffith Ouster Sought in Court

From the Tribune Wire Services

Opposition to the Washington Senators' proposed move to Minneapolis came from two sources Tuesday.

A minority Senator stockholder, Robert R. Rodenberg, asked a federal district court in Washington to oust President Calvin Griffith and other team officers, place the team in receivership and enjoin its proposed transfer. He also asked \$500,000 in damages.

And Baltimore Manager Paul Richards said that unless American league officials and club owners wake up and act to meet the threat of losing its team in the nation's capital, the National league could become dominant in baseball.

IF THE Senators move out, Richards envisions the National league filling the gap in Washington and establishing itself in such other cities as Dallas, Houston, Toronto and New York as a 12-club league.

Split into six-team divisions, Richards said, the Na-

tional eventually might take over the World Series.

Rodenberg's suit charged that Griffith "has practiced fraud, deceit and trickery on the community and the stockholders, thereby forfeiting the good will of the community necessary to a successful operation of the team."

RODENBERG, who described himself as a stockholder for 39 years and owner of 75 shares, said the conduct of the defendants has "seriously diminished the corporate revenues and, unless enjoined, will result in the insolvency of the corporation."

The court was asked to order an accounting of all corporate expenditures during 1956, 1957 and 1958. Griffith took office in November, 1955, after the death of his uncle, Clark C. Griffith.

Rodenberg cited Griffith's alleged violation of the unanimously approved board of directors resolution of last July which forbade any officer or director from negotiating or discussing a transfer of the Senators.