

No Reason Given Why Player Quit

PHILADELPHIA — Mrs. Olivia Chamberlain, mother of Wilt Chamberlain, was still in the dark concerning her son's future plans when interviewed by the AFRO two days after he announced he was quitting professional basketball.

"I haven't have the chance to talk to Wilton since he made the decision," Mrs. Chamberlain said. "So I have no idea why he did it or what he intends to do."

"He has kept quite busy the past week," Mrs. Chamberlain continued, "and actually has spent very little time at home. He's in New York even now."

"When he is at home, there is usually somebody around to prevent any mother-son discussions."

"Even so, I'm not sure that he'd tell me what may be bothering him. Children today don't confide in their parents the way they used to in my day."

What is Mrs. Chamberlain's attitude toward the action of her son? Would she like to

see him continue in the National Basketball Association?

"I don't know much about the game of basketball. I have seen him play a number of times, and I have been quite proud," was the reply.

"As for his continuing with the team (the Philadelphia Warriors), I'd like to see him do so. It is what has made him famous and it offers a (financial) security not to be found elsewhere."

Will his withdrawal from such a lucrative job have any effect on the Chamberlain way of living?

"Not too great an effect," Mrs. Chamberlain answered.

"Wilton has bought the family (parents and nine children) this new home on Cobbs Creek Parkway, but we already owned a home."

"He bought us a new car and we've enjoyed it. But we will manage, regardless of his final decision."

Wilt's father, William has been an employee of the Curtis Publishing Co. for 14 years.

He and Mrs. Chamberlain raised the family of nine children, including Wilt the Stilt, and educated each while purchasing the former home on North Salford St. here.

Wilt is 23 years old. It is believed he received close to \$35,000 this year. A bonus expectation from Gottlieb could bring his earnings to \$40,000.

Gottlieb admits that he has already talked to Wilt. He won't deny a report that he has offered the tall star a 3-year contract that might amount to \$100,000 for 1960-61.

At 23, it is hard even for Wilt to conceive of getting that kind of money anywhere else.

Neither the Warrior owner nor Chamberlain would verify a Philly report that the player was chafing over anti-racial activity. Both held out that Wilt is incensed over the rough treatment accorded him in the league.

I know there are some things I can't do. But I think of all the things I can do and I don't worry so much about the rest of it.

—John Kemp, 10, of Bismarck, N. D., born without arms and legs, who was chosen 1960 Easter Seal boy.

Cardinal's Appointment Significant In Africa

The news of the Vatican appointment of Cardinal Rugambwa brought a quick response from Negro leaders throughout the country. Also in the wake of the appointment came press releases concerning Negroes and the Catholic Church in the United States.

Dr. Ralph Bunche, Under-Secretary for Special Political Affairs of the United Nations, viewed Rugambwa's elevation as "an especially striking application of racial equality" and "a highly significant recognition of the world importance of emerging Africa."

Mr. Channing Tobias, chairman emeritus of the NAACP board of directors, cabled the Pope, saying that the appointment "give American Negroes a deep sense of pride and an abiding feeling of encouragement."

Many of the same papers which brought news of Rugambwa's appointment also carried a brief notice of a declaration by Bishop Walter A. Foery of Syracuse, calling upon Catholics to observe a policy of 'open occupancy' in respect to housing. He issued the statement to halt racial segregation of neighborhoods. Bishop Foery's statement adds one more name to the growing list of American bishops who have taken strong stands against segregation in any form.

Cardinal Meyer of Chicago made public last year his unqualified opposition to segregated housing. Early in the battle against segregation, Archbishop O'Boyle of Washington, DC., and Archbishop Ritter of St. Louis demanded integrated Catholic schools throughout their archdioceses. In New Orleans, Archbishop Rummel drew a storm of protest for his stand against segregation. He condemned it

as "morally wrong and sinful" because it denies "the unity of the human race as conceived by God" and it violates the dictates of justice and the mandate of love.

He has shown that he belongs to a still poor people. When he visited his former college president in Rome, he walked rather than taking a taxi. When questioned about it he said simply, "I am a missionary and can't spend money for taxis."

Raised to the rank of Cardinal with him will be six other bishops including the first Japanese and the first Filipino to be named cardinals.

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