

Braves Field Bought by Boston University

Braves Field, 38-year-old the university's long-range expansion program, which includes "big time" sports, was bought by Boston University yesterday afternoon. B. U. Pres. Harold C. Case did not disclose the price.

Acquisition of the 10-acre Allston site, at a figure estimated near \$250,000, is part of

The 468,000-square-foot property will house B. U.'s varsity athletic facilities and physical education plant, and will also be used for intramural sports, according to Dr. Case. Purchase of the field from Louis and Joseph R. Perini, president and treasurer of the Milwaukee Braves, included all physical equipment except the big electric scoreboard and eight transformers. These may be destined for County Stadium, the Braves' new home.

Nickerson Field, the present athletic plant in Weston, may be converted to general university use. This would ease cramped conditions at some of the school's downtown buildings, Dr. Case said.

B. U.'s Athletic and Physical Education Department offices and classrooms will be moved to Braves Field within a few day, and plans will be rushed to prepare part of the field for Fall use. A group of school officials, including athletic director Aldo "Buff" Donelli, toured the field last night to map alterations there for the varsity football season.

B. U.

Page 19

B. U.

Continued from the First Page

The university's gymnasium will be built at the Commonwealth av. site, according to Donelli. The normal football field, extending from home plate to the "jury box" in right field, is all that has been used in the past.

The entire left field bleacher section, plus a 90-foot section behind the centerfield fence, can be utilized for construction. An M. T. A. right-of-way between Babcock and Gaffney sts. also is included in the sale.

Additional space gained by razing part of the field's seats would allow room for the gymnasium, a field house track and other facilities.

Braves Field now becomes free land, tax-wise, and the City of Boston stands to lose \$30,000 in taxes by the sale.

The field was bought in 1949 for \$352,000. Since the Braves franchise was shifted to Milwaukee, prospective buyers have offered the Perinis from \$250,000 to \$265,000. Perini's asking price was close to \$500,000.

Asked if the Terriers would play their 1953 football schedule at Braves Field instead of Fenway Park, as in the past, Donelli said, "We have had discussions with Fenway Park, but have not signed any contract. Of course, we would rather play at our own field."

All athletic teams, including football, baseball and track, will begin using Braves Field immediately, according to Dr. Case. The Fall classes in physical education also will use the field, the announcement said.

"The acquisition of Braves Field is a natural and logical move in the enlargement of the university's physical plant, and thus in the improvement of its educational services," Dr. Case said.