



## FRESHMAN BASKET BALL

**T**HIS year's freshman basket ball squad, under the tutelage of Scrubby Laslett, showed promise of sending several good men up to Coach F. C. Allen next year. The squad worked hard and consistently throughout the season and put up many good scrimmage games against the Varsity.

Such men as John "Irish" Lonborg, Charlie Black, Dee Mifflin, Ed Speck and James Collins deserve special attention for work of stellar character. Black is possibly the best floor guard developed in freshman circles for some seasons, playing a game similar to that of Coach Laslett. He comes here from Alton, Ill., and was sent here by Walter Wood. Lonborg, at either forward or center, is one of the cleverest shots in school, and also has uncanny ability in playing the floor. He is a brother of Arthur "Dutch" Lonborg.

Dee Mifflin, a former Lawrence High player, showed great ability at center and guard. Collins, center from Oxford, who showed well in the 1920 high school tourney, played an excellent game in the center of the floor all season. Speck, forward from Kansas City, Mo., got most of his experience at Wentworth. He is a good, heady floor man, and hits the basket quite regularly.

The yearlings played two games against the Ober team, composed of old K. U. and Baker stars, winning one and losing one. The men are all working out now with the Varsity for next year's team.

## HOW DR. NAISMITH INVENTED BASKET BALL

The game of basket ball had its thirtieth birthday this year. And at the University of Kansas the man who invented the game still helps teach young athletes how to play it. He is Dr. James A. Naismith, head of the department of physical education.

Thirty years ago Doctor Naismith was an instructor at Y. M. C. A. College, then a training school for athletes and coaches, at Springfield, Mass. He had charge of a class of men who did not like the form of gym work provided for them. At a faculty meeting the problem was discussed and Doctor Naismith hazarded the opinion that the invention of a new game was possible by utilizing the things at hand. The head of the school was interested, and Doctor Naismith went to work on the new game.

Hockey, soccer, lacrosse, football, he decided, were all impracticable for indoors. Since the men in his class were most interested in football, he began to make plans for adapting it for indoor play. First, he analyzed the reasons for the roughness of the game, which made it unsuitable for indoors. These he found were running, tackling and kicking. The running and tackling he eliminated by allowing the player to advance only when he did not have the ball. Kicking was abolished by having the ball passed with the hands only. To protect spectators and players, he specified a large ball.

The question of goals came next. The upright type used in football was found impracticable, and Doctor Naismith finally remembered the old game of "Duck on the Rock," in which a receptacle for the ball is used. The best the superintendent of grounds could provide was two peach baskets, which he hung on the gallery at each end of the court. The gallery chanced to be 10 feet from the floor, and this height is still retained in the game.

Dr. Naismith has been connected with the department of physical education at the University for 23 years. This year he was made a life member of the national basket ball rules committee by the National Intercollegiate Athletic Association of America. His experience in the game during its entire history has been found invaluable to the rule-makers, and the invention he made thirty years ago from the "things at hand" is now the favorite indoor sport of practically every school in the United States.