

# Cage Clinic Here Off to Good Start

*Ransom H-541*

The fiftieth anniversary celebration of the founding of the game of basketball was off to a good start in Kansas City Kansas today, its impetus provided by the kick-off event last night in which Dr. F. C. "Phog" Allen, famed University of Kansas coach, appeared here to conduct the first session of the Better Basketball clinic sponsored by the local YMCA.

The approximately 800 persons who witnessed the demonstration of basketball fundamentals given by Allen and five members of his K. U. cage squad felt that this provided a close link with the foundations of the game. Basketball was invented fifty years ago by Dr. James A. Naismith, then a YMCA physical director. Later Doctor Naismith was associated closely with Allen at the University of Kansas for a number of years until Naismith's death less than two years ago. And Allen, perhaps more than any other one individual, has led the way in developing and popularizing the game since it was given to the world by the YMCA.

## Local Cagers in Demonstration

Two of the five players with Allen were no strangers here. They were Paul Turner and Bob Johnson, former Shawnee Mission high school athletes. Others were Vance Hall, Jack Ballard and T. P. Hunter. And when they and their "horse and buggy" coach were thru, those present had a better idea of why Kansas teams have won twenty-three championships in the thirty years Allen has coached them.

It was advanced fundamentals which the players demonstrated. They showed how to take the ball down the court into scoring position on a fast break and on set plays, against both man-for-man and zone defenses. They showed how these methods were based upon proper pivoting, dribbling and ball handling. Fundamental floor work was explained and demonstrated, with players "passing at angles and running in curves." Various offensive and defensive exercises were gone thru, showing how Allen's teams get thoro drilling in application of fundamentals.

## Allen in Tribute to Naismith

At the dinner which preceded the clinic, Allen again bid for support of his efforts to bring about a "clean-up" of college athletics. He denounced the "reprehensible practice of placing both football and basketball players on salary lists," which, he said, existed in most of the colleges and universities of America.

He divided the Big Six schools into two classifications, the "big pocketbook" and the "little pocketbook" leagues. There are three schools in the circuit in each classification, he said, without mentioning names.

Allen paid tribute to Doctor Naismith as a great man, who never realized how big a thing he started in basketball. He urged greater emphasis upon Naismith's idealism concerning amateur sports and less of the process of commercialization of sports.