Planning Golden Jubilee Memorial to Basketball Founder



At a luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria yesterday arrangements got under way for the court game's fiftieth anniversary. Here a portrait of the game's founder, Dr. James Naismith, is examined by members of the original basketball team and the Mayor of Springfield, Mass., chairman of the Naismith Memorial Committee. Left to right: Lyman W. Archibald, Mayor Roger Putnam of Springfield, Thomas Duncan Patton, William R. Chase and Ray P. Kaighn Herald Tribune-Acme

Golden Jubilee of Basketball Launched as Naismith Tribute

3 Pioneer Players Attend pion Twentieth Century Fox quintet, of Hollywood; the 1940 title-holders, Phillips Oilers, of Bartlesand Sport's Hall of Fame

By Everett B. Morris

With three of the five living members of the game's first organized Out in the Mid-West the drive for

writers paid tribute to the sport's doing. first heroes and heard formal an- An architect's drawing of the pronouncements of plans to erect on posed structure and a portrait of the Springfield campus a temple of Dr. Naismith occupied adjoining basketball as a monument to Dr. easels in the luncheon salon. It is James Naismith, who originated the the committee's hope to erect a game there in 1891. building which not only will contain

nam, Mayor of Springfield and facilities, but a Hall of Fame and chairman of the memorial commit- museum in which may be enshrined tee; Dr. Ernest M. Best, president records, souvenirs, documents and of Springfield College, and Irving T. curios of the sport. Marsh, head of the Metropolitan "Dr. Naismith gave us a complete-Basketball Writers Association.

Pioneers on Dais

Duncan Patton, of Toronto; Wil- boundaries. It is played everywhere liam R. Chase, of New Bedford, by men and women of all races and Mass., and Lyman W. Archibald, of Warren D. Warren D. D. Warre Warren, Pa., members of Dr. Nai- a universal memorial to a man who smith's original team; Ray Kaighn, a New Torker who had the distinction of being the game's first casualty—he cracked up a knee in the first scrimmage—and Dr. Lawrence Locke Doggett, president at Springfield from 1896 to 1936 and a leader in the early propagation of basket-

Nation-wide observance of the game's fiftieth birthday by the playing of "Golden Ball" contests by college, high school, club and institutional teams will be tied in with construction of a basketball Hall of Coffey, graduate manager at Fordthe efforts to raise funds for the

The first of these special events in Madison Square Garden Nov. 19 ropolitan A. A. U. basketball comwill take the form, of a tournament and 24, involving four outstanding dent of the Ohrbach A. A. U. teams—the national cham-A. A. U. teams—the national cham-

ville, Okla.; Ohrbach A. A., rulers of the metropolitan district, and the Roanoke (Va.) Legionnaires, champions of the Southern area.

All-Star Game Set for Chicago

team participating in the cere- funds for the memorial will receive monies, the golden jubilee of bas-its impetus from the second annual ketball was given a send-off yester- "Chicago American" all-star game day at a Waldorf-Astoria luncheon in the Chicago Stadium, Nov. 29 sponsored by the Naismith Memo- Even at this early date, it was anrial Committee. | nounced, 150 colleges and 115 high| Springfield College dignitaries schools have scheduled "Golden and alumni, A. A. U. officials, met-Ball" games. Hundreds of others ropolitan coaches and basketball have signified their intention of so

The speakers were Roger L. Put- a model playing court and spectator

ly democratic game," Mayor Putnam said in his talk, "one which knows With them on the dais were T. neither sectarian nor national was loved universally for his contribution to competitive athletics and their democratic traditions and

Dr. Best sketched the origin of the game, Springfield's role in its development and turned over to Mayor Putnam a deed for the ground on which the memorial is to be erected. Then he introduced the game's first players and Dr. Doggett.

Basketball in this area was represented by Clair F. Bee, coach of Long Island University; Nat Holman, C. C. N. Y. coach; Jacques basketball officer at. West Point; | Harry Henschel, head of the met-

This is a reproduction of the article in the New York Herald-Tribune of October 15, 1941 concerning the inaugural luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The luncheon was the opening gun for the Golden Jubilee of Basketball campaign.