

(Knock at Door)

CHAD: Come in. (Door opens) Oh, it's you, Billy. Come on in, and meet Dr. Gulick. He's from the Springfield.....

BILLY: Yes sir.....I met Dr. Gulick yesterday, down at the warehouse.....

GULICK: Of course. How're you, Bill.....

BILLY: Swell, sir.....Why, Mr. Chadwick.....I suppose you've known about our basketball court down in the old warehouse...

CHAD: (Chuckles) Well.....I've had my suspicions.....

BILLY: We...We've found a way to raise money to pay our rent, if you think it's o.k. The fellows wanted your opinion.

CHAD: What's your idea?

BILLY: Well.....There've been quite a lot of people coming down to watch us play in our tournaments. We sort of figured we could raise enough money to pay our rent, buy suits and other equipment, if we'd charge spectators a small admission. (Fade) Do you suppose it would be all right...?

Music up _____ Fade

NARRATOR: And so, basketball became a professional sport....That is, it attracted spectators who were willing to pay to see teams in competition. Basketball became a moneymaker for its sponsors, as well as providing safe, invigorating, and thrilling competition for its participants.

In 1898, I was called to the University of Kansas as coach of sports, and chaplain. Basketball wasn't an inter-collegiate sport at Kansas when I assumed my duties. (Fade) Soon, however, we had a team and a regular season schedule. One evening, Chancellor Snow and I were watching a game in the gymnasium of old Snow Hall.

NAI: (Slight Crowd Murmur) Dr. Snow...See that young fellow out there...The one with the ball? He's getting ready to toss a shot...Look how beautifully it's arching toward the basket! It's going right in! (Cheer) If I'm not very much mistaken, young Allen's going to be a real star!

SNOW: I've never seen anyone with such accurate aim, Dr. Naismith. How many points has he made in this game? (Cheers) Look.... He just made another basket!

NAI: That's his 20th point in the game, Chancellor. He's an ace! (Fading)