

## #2. The International Growth of Basketball.

missionary, went to East China in 1908, and figured prominently in the extensive development of the game there. Dr. Charles Siler, a Kansas cage Athlete, and also a medical missionary, left the states in 1912, China-bound, to add a further contribution to the game, in the way of his personal knowledge of scientific basketball.

C. Herok, another Springfield man, transplanted the game in Persia as early as 1901. In 1924, Roberts College in Constantinople became the first college in a foreign land to incorporate basketball in its curriculum. Chester N. Tobin has done much for the game in Turkey. In 1924, he brought about the publication of the first translation of the American Basketball Rules into the Turkish language. Many of the pictures of American players were reproduced in this book of rules.

Today, the game is enjoying a rapid and enthusiastic growth in the land of the Moslem. Louis W. Riess has done for Greece what Tobin did for Turkey. He has translated the American game into Greek. Salonica was the birthplace of basketball in Greece.

The game in Mexico is well established. H. C. Aguirre of the University of Mexico, City of Mexico, and T. B. Rodriguez, at Chiluhua, both graduates of the Y.M.C.A. school at Springfield, have done much to promote the game in that republic. At present we are in communication with Mexican basketball teams who are desiring to make a tour through the United States.

In Canada, hockey is the big game among the men, although basketball is growing in proportion to the growth of indoor playing space, much of which is now under construction in the dominion.

Canada possesses the World's Champion Girls' Basketball Team in the personnel of the Commercial Grades of Edmonton, Alberta. This team has successfully defended its laurels both in this country and in Europe. Coach J. P. Page has tutored this quintette for eight or nine years.

After the Armistice was signed, two American teams, by invitation from the British government, demonstrated basketball in the British area of the war zone. The English took to it readily. In the earlier days in England, basketball was introduced as a girl's game. Until a little more than a decade ago, the British did not know that there was a game of basketball for men.

In Poland and Russia, where the cold weather prohibits outdoor play, the lack of large indoor playing spaces is a hindrance to the game. Czechoslovakia received the game with open arms in 1920.

In the last decade, the World War has contributed its share of advancement to the play program of Germany. Many years have passed since the American Army of Occupation vacated German soil, but it left behind something that it could not take away. That something was the American enthusiasm for Sports and Games. The results of the Olympic Games of 1928 verify the above assertion. Germany assembled the largest Olympic group of competitive participants for the try-outs, of any country in the world. A war-weary world turned "en masse" to recreation through sports and games.

Very early we learned that the whole is equal to the sum of its parts. Basketball is one of these parts. Germany is now taking up basketball with an enthusiasm unsurpassed. To the immense population in her crowded and congested areas this sport has particular