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1 - a wholesome form of competition. Basket ball was introduced as a deliberate attempt to supply for the winter season a game that would have the same interest for the young man that football has in the fall and baseball in the spring. There was a place that ought to be filled and that apparently was filled by basket ball.

The first principle on which the game was based was that it should demand of, and develop in, the player the highest type of physical and athletic development. This type in the mind of the writer was the tall, agile, graceful, and expert athlete, rather than the massive muscular man on the one hand, or the cadaverous greyhound type on the other. This necessitated that every player should have approximately the same kind of work; that it should demand of him that he be able to reach, jump, and act quickly and easily. Lacrosse was the ideal game to develop this type, but it was impossible to use it or adapt it for an indoor game. But the sport that we sought should embody the same factors.

The second principle was that it should be so easily taken up that any individual could make a fair showing without a long period of practice. It was necessary, therefore, to have very little apparatus and that so easily handled that anyone might make a start. The conclusion was that it should be played with a large, light ball. The only ball that answered that description was the Association football, and the first rules said that the game should be played "with an ordinary Association football."

The third principle was that, on account of the size and varying conditions of the gymnasiums of that time, it should be possible to play the game on any ordinary gymnasium floor. It is interesting to note that it was first played by two teams of nine men each, on a floor 35 x 45, equipped with apparatus, and having a running track in the gallery.

The fourth principle was that it should be capable of being developed to such an extent as to hold the interest of the player when he had become expert in the fundamentals of the game. In other words, it must be capable of being played as a team game. It has been thought that this element is being over-emphasized, but the game must have this quality in order to succeed. Indeed, it is the phase that is most interesting to this Association, as the scope of our work is intercollegiate athletics. That the game has the power to hold the interest of the expert makes its use as an intercollegiate sport possible.

With these principles in mind the several games were passed in review or tried out on the floor, but none of them seemed to meet the requirements. Football was too rough, so was Association football; baseball, lacrosse, and tennis were impossible at that time of the year. Track athletics lacked the element of personal competition with a moving competitor, while the gymnas-

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tic games lacked the team element. It was plainly evident that there was need for a new game.

The confident assertion that a game could be devised to meet these requirements was met with incredulity and a quiet assumption that the ideal could not be realized. At the same time ample opportunity was given to demonstrate the possibility of such an accomplishment, and the opportunity for testing it was supplied by a class of young men who were compelled to take gymnastic work one hour per day, and whose frame of mind was such that a strike was the only outlet for the natural feeling—and basket ball was the result.

A simple process of reasoning gave the clue that introduced a new element into the game and marks it from all others. This was so simple that the results are surprising. The roughness in football is due largely to tackling. This is necessitated because the opponent is permitted to run with the ball in his possession; therefore, if we eliminate the running, we eliminate the tackling and its consequent roughness. The first step was therefore to prohibit a player from running with the ball in his possession, but he was permitted to throw it in any direction, either to make a point or to pass it to a team mate. This at first sight seemed to take away the possibilities of the game, but when the individual was permitted to move about anywhere, so long as he did not have the ball, the game became spirited and kaleidoscopic.

Association football was rough because of the fact that the ball is kicked through a goal, and the more forceful the kick, the greater the probability of scoring. This would be equally true if the ball were thrown through a goal. To eliminate this form of roughness, it was necessary to so modify conditions that in order to make a goal the ball should be thrown with care rather than with force. A change in the position of the goal solved this problem, for if the opening of the goal were horizontal and above the head the ball would have to be thrown with a curve and this source of roughness would be disposed of.

On asking the janitor for a box of about eighteen inches in width, he informed me that he had a couple of large peach baskets. These were fastened to the gallery for goals and from these the name basket ball was derived.

Another difficulty remained unsolved, how to start the game without kicking or scrimmaging. A solution came from Rugby, where, when the ball goes out of bounds, it is returned by throwing it in between two lines of players. Then in order to avoid the scramble for the ball, which generally ensued, it was decided to throw it up between two men selected for this purpose. Kicking and hitting the ball with the fist were prohibited from the first. With the elimination of running with the ball, there was no excuse for any personal contact, so that all manner of holding or handling the person of an opponent was absolutely prohibited.