



Scenes in the Life of a Leader in Physical Education, Great Spirit in the World

At upper left Dr. Naismith views with interest a recent Kansas basketball game.—In center above he is with his college classmate and life long friend, Amos Alonzo Stagg, when Stagg visited Lawrence in 1932 as referee of the Kansas Relays.—Right above, a Japanese basketball team gathers about him when they made a pilgrimage to his office several years ago while on an American tour.—At lower left is the first University of Kansas basketball team. Members are, first row: left to right—Coe Russell, Raymond Hoyt, and Henry Yahn. Middle row—Hubert Avery, S. C. Emley (deceased), William Sutton, and W. A. (Bill) Hess. Back row—Herb Owens, Royal Henderson, Walter Sutton (deceased), and Dr. James Naismith, coach.—At lower right is Dr. Naismith in college days as a football player. He is in front over the ball with the quarterback behind giving him the signal to snap the ball by pinching his leg, which was the regulation signal in those days. Basketball is not the only Naismith invention. Here he wears a headgear made of several thicknesses of canton flannel. He made it chiefly to protect his ears. From that headgear was developed the modern leather helmet.

A MASTER SPORTSMAN Has Completed His Assignment

DR. JAMES NAISMITH, originator of the game of basketball, died at his campus home Nov. 28 after having been stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage, Nov. 19.

Dr. Naismith had been actively connected with the University's department of athletics since 1898 and was professor emeritus of physical education since he resigned full-time teaching duties in 1937.

The game that he conceived in 1891 at Springfield (Mass.) Y.M.C.A. College has outstripped both baseball and football in number of spectators and in number of participants. It has been adopted by countries which never have been tempted by the attractions of other American sports. Twenty-two na-

tions sent championship basketball teams to the 1936 Olympiad at Berlin, where the games were watched with keen interest by Dr. Naismith himself, who was an honored guest sent by basketball fans throughout the U.S.

Dr. Naismith wrote several books pertaining to physical education and one published in 1918 had the title, "The Basis of Clean Living." Those five words characterized the life ideal of the 78-year old man who spent his life "building character in the hearts of young men."

Dr. James Naismith, was born at Almonte, Ont., Canada, in 1861. In boyhood he determined to be a Presbyterian minister, and after finishing at McGill University obtained his doctor's de-

gree in theology at Presbyterian College, Montreal. He decided, however, that because athletics attract youth, he could do more for souls by working through athletic channels, this despite the fact that athletics and gymnastics were regarded as works of the devil in those days.

He taught physical education at McGill and then went to the Springfield, Ill., "Y" college. In 1895 he went to Denver in charge of the Y.M.C.A.'s physical department and at the same time earned his doctor's degree from the medical school which later became a part of Colorado University. In 1898 he came to Kansas where his service was uninterrupted except for war service. He served as chaplain with the

PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Paul Endacott

THE thing that makes for progress in any organization is to have on hand at all times an adequate supply of worth-while projects to rally around. Recent developments regarding the proposed dormitory for self-supporting men students bring this particular project into the spotlight. Acacia fraternity bondholders of the property have made an unexpected and generous concession of almost \$6,000 by reducing their selling price. With more than \$10,000 already pledged, only \$5,000 more is needed to purchase and improve the property. K. U. alumni cannot now afford to risk the loss of this opportunity. Everyone who contributes hereafter helps in a two-fold way—saves the pledges already made, besides adding his own bit to the fund.

This dormitory is particularly close to the heart of our new Chancellor Malott. He recognizes its full significance. He made the initial contribution and since has encouraged the Endowment Association and the Alumni Association constantly, because he sees in it more than the physical properties alone. This task is little enough to do to show the new Chancellor that Kansas alumni have plenty of real loyalty. It is the volume of contributions that counts—so don't be reluctant to send only a dollar to the K. U. Endowment Association, if you can't spare more.

The passing of Dr. James Naismith who, although not a student of K. U., was a Jayhawker through and through by virtue of his many years of instruction work, brings this same point to mind. His origination of the game of basketball, caused his influence to be felt by literally millions of youthful players and spectators of all ages throughout the world.

Last month I mentioned the possibility of publishing alumni suggestions and criticisms in this magazine. Al-

U.S. troops on the Mexican border in 1916 and with the "Y" in France.

In 1894 Dr. Naismith married Miss Maude E. Sherman of Springfield. Three daughters and two sons, all of whom live in the mid-west, were born to the marriage. The children are Mrs. Thomas L. Dawe of the home in Lawrence, Helen Naismith Dodd, '20, of St. Louis, Mrs. George B. Stanley of Pueblo, Colo., Jack E. Naismith, ed-'34, of Topeka, and James S. Naismith, e-'33 of Dallas. Mrs. Naismith died in March, 1937.

Last spring Dr. Naismith and Mrs. Florence Kincaid, for many years a housemother for Sigma Phi Epsilon at K.U., were married.

Some Quotes from Dr. Naismith

Three-in-One

"I helped myself to soccer, lacrosse and duck-on-a-rock for the fundamentals of the game of basketball."

The Devil Can Be Beat

"I felt that if the devil was making use of athletics to lead young men to evil, there must be some natural attraction in sports that could be used to lead young men to a good end."

He 'Worked For Humanity.'

"Speaking as one who is soon to lay down the working tools of life, to those who are just taking them up, let me say: 'Do not be afraid to work for humanity and wait for the reward.'"

The Forgotten Age

"It is a sad commentary on our social system that there is so little to interest the youths from 16 to 21. It is natural for boys to want to travel, to go places, and not surprising that they go to the wrong places. The sad thing

ready there has been enough response to indicate that many would like the idea. One three-page, single spaced, typewritten letter came in from an alumnus who holds a very important editorial position on a leading magazine. He offers many worth while suggestions as to the kind of news that readers like to find in an alumni magazine. The time and attention this individual gave to the problem undoubtedly will prove beneficial to other persons. But a hundred or more similar suggestions dealing with a variety of alumni questions are needed.

Then there is the question of whether an alumnus really has any financial obligations to repay to the institution from which he has gained many benefits. I once heard an alumnus of another school discuss this point. At a reunion of his class, he asked each fellow alumnus to put down on paper his present annual income, subtract from it what his annual income probably would have been without a college education, then compare the difference with the total of all contributions he makes annually to projects for building up the Alma Mater. Try it yourself sometime.

Anyone who has looked into the subject is impressed with the fact that Jayhawkers, far in excess of their rightful proportion, have gained prominence in science, business, art, the professions, and public service. Because we have rubbed elbows with many of these people we are not properly conscious of their achievements. Just before I started this letter, an instance came to my attention. On one of the front pages of my *Business Week* magazine I saw the picture of Harold D. Smith, e-'22, Director of the United States Budget. Everybody knows what a tough job Harold has on his hands, but with a record of outstanding public achievements behind him, he will handle the problem as well as anyone can.

is that the juvenile court can do nothing because the lad is more than 16; the police can do nothing until he has committed some overt violation of the law. The age 16 to 21 is, indeed, the forgotten age."

Strange Preaching But It Worked

"Strangely enough, though I qualified and was ordained as a Presbyterian minister, and have an M.D. degree, I have never held a pastorate, nor have I put out a physician's shingle. The nearest to preaching came in Y.M. Service with the Twentieth Kansas on the Mexican Border before the World War, and in two years of service with the Y. in France. And the preaching was of a rather indirect kind, at that. For example, too many of the boys got into devilment in the town. We set up a boxing ring near the camp entrance and would start a lively match about the time the boys began starting on 'leave.' They stopped to watch; then begged to participate; and the next thing they knew it was time to be back in quarters. Prize fights may sound like strange preaching, but they did the work."