

Naismith Helped Football, Too, for Use Of the Pass, Which Led to a Wide-Open Style, Was Borrowed From Cage Sport

(Editors: Dr. F. C. Allen, Kansas university basketball coach worked many years with Dr. James Naismith, "father of basketball," who died Tuesday. He wrote this statement regarding Doctor Naismith for The Associated Press.)

By DR. F. C. ALLEN

LAWRENCE, Kan., Nov. 28.—(AP)—The youth of the world has lost a great benefactor in Dr. James Naismith, the father of basketball. Eighteen million young men all over the world are playing his game of basketball, which he originated for 18 troublesome young men in a class at Springfield, Mass., Y. M. C. A. college in 1891.

Dr. Naismith is directly responsible for all the large field houses, the large auditoria and gymnasia where basketball is played today. Before this game was originated there were few large indoor arenas that were used for any

Details of Doctor Naismith's death will be found on page 1.

indoor sports. Dotted the middle western states are highschool gymnasia that are much larger in size than the entire school buildings were 30 years ago.

Dr. Naismith is indirectly responsible for the forward pass in football.

Then Comes the Pass

Until the popularity of basketball which began to spring up in the colleges of America in 1905, the forward pass in football was not thought of.

Then the football rules committee incorporated the forward pass or basketball pass in football, and immediately the open game became the element that spread the defense.

Basketball has become footballized and football has become basketballized. The forward pass of today is a Naismith innovation. Today it is the most spectacular of all plays on our gridirons.

Frederick Froebel gave to the world the theory of the kindergarten—education through play. Doctor Naismith gave to the youth basketball, a game that takes the youngster from the eighth grade to maturity.

He Left the Ministry

I once heard eight nationally known educators speaking from the same platform declare that basketball had all the qualities necessary to teach the educable child: poise, rhythm, grace, co-ordination, development of skills and the development of physical vigor.

The speakers were not competitive coaches nor were they athletes. This game, the only international game that is the product of one man's brain, stamps Doctor Naismith as a great educator, a kindly humanitarian and a practical Christian.

He loved youth. He and Alonzo Stagg both working together, chose

the profession of physical education over the ministry, in which they were ordained, because they could do more for youth, they thought.

The youth of the world will arise and call Doctor Naismith blessed.

Cubs Hope to Buy A Good Shortstop

Yes, and an Outfielder Would Help, Too

CHICAGO, Nov. 28.—(AP)—The Chicago Cubs hope to transform their fourth place team of 1939 into a National league title contender at the winter baseball meeting at Cincinnati next week.

Gabby Hartnett's crew needs most of all a ranking shortstop and fence-busting outfielder, but all efforts to uncover either since the season closed apparently have come to naught.

Dick Bartell bogged down at shortstop last season after several brilliant campaigns with the New York Giants. The Cubs still have hopes of acquiring a tried and true major leaguer for this spot at Cincinnati, but failing this may make a deal for an infielder from one of the AA minor league outfits.

Only a few weeks ago Owner Phil Wrigley said the Cubs were not interested in buying high priced stars from other clubs, but would endeavor to develop their own talent henceforth. But reports persist that the Cubs are trying to get Enos Slaughter, outfielder, and Don Padgett, catcher-outfielder from the St. Louis Cardinals.

Sure, Connie Will Trade

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 28.—(AP)—Connie Mack of the Athletics will trade Outfielder Wally Moses for the "right man." "I'm not crazy about trading Wally," the lean veteran declared, "but outfielders are easier to get than infielders and I'd trade him if I liked the deal."