

Voice 1 - The years clicked on. In 1895 he left Springfield to take a job as physical education director in the Denver YMCA. He served there three years until 1898. Five children had come into the family, two sons and three daughters. In 1899 he came to the University of Colorado where he was a professor and a doctor, but he was interested in the spread of the physical education movement by American soldiers. He was 37 years old - vigorous and strong - when he came to the University of Kansas two years before the beginning of the century -- and he brought the game here with him. Let his words tell how he received the K.U. job.

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Voice 2 - One of my classmates at Springfield in 1899 had been Alonzo Stagg, later to become the famous coach at the University of Chicago. About the time I finished my medical course at Gross School, now the medical school of the University of Colorado, Alonzo Stagg was in the University of Kansas. Chancellor Snow was looking for a combination man -- one who could direct the physical education work and at the same time conduct chapel exercises. Stagg recalled that I had prepared for the ministry at McGill and had turned to the YMCA only because I thought opportunities for helping young men lay more through exercise than through preaching; and he recommended me. I have been at Kansas ever since.

Voice 1 - Meanwhile the years rolled on. His children grew up. His game spread to Paris in 1901, to China, Greece, and Germany by 1904. By 1908 basketball was started in the Missouri Valley conference. That year Dr. Naimith quit coaching the game here. The game spread to Turkey, America Indians were playing it on reservations. In 1910 he was granted a master of physical education degree by Springfield college. In 1911 he wrote his second book, "The Modern High School." Came 1914 and the war broke out in Europe. In 1916, Dr. Naimith, then 55 years old, was with the First Kansas Regiment. From 1917 to 1919 he was with the YMCA in France for 19 months and in the United States for 3 months. Somehow during that time he managed to write his third book, "The Basis of Clean Living." During the war, he was his idea of preaching through letters realized in the following way:

Voice 2 - Strangely enough, though I qualified and was ordained as a Presbyterian minister, and have a M.D. degree, I have never held a pastorate, or have I put out a physician's shingle. The nearest to preaching came in Y 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, we Y secretaries here at the military camp saw