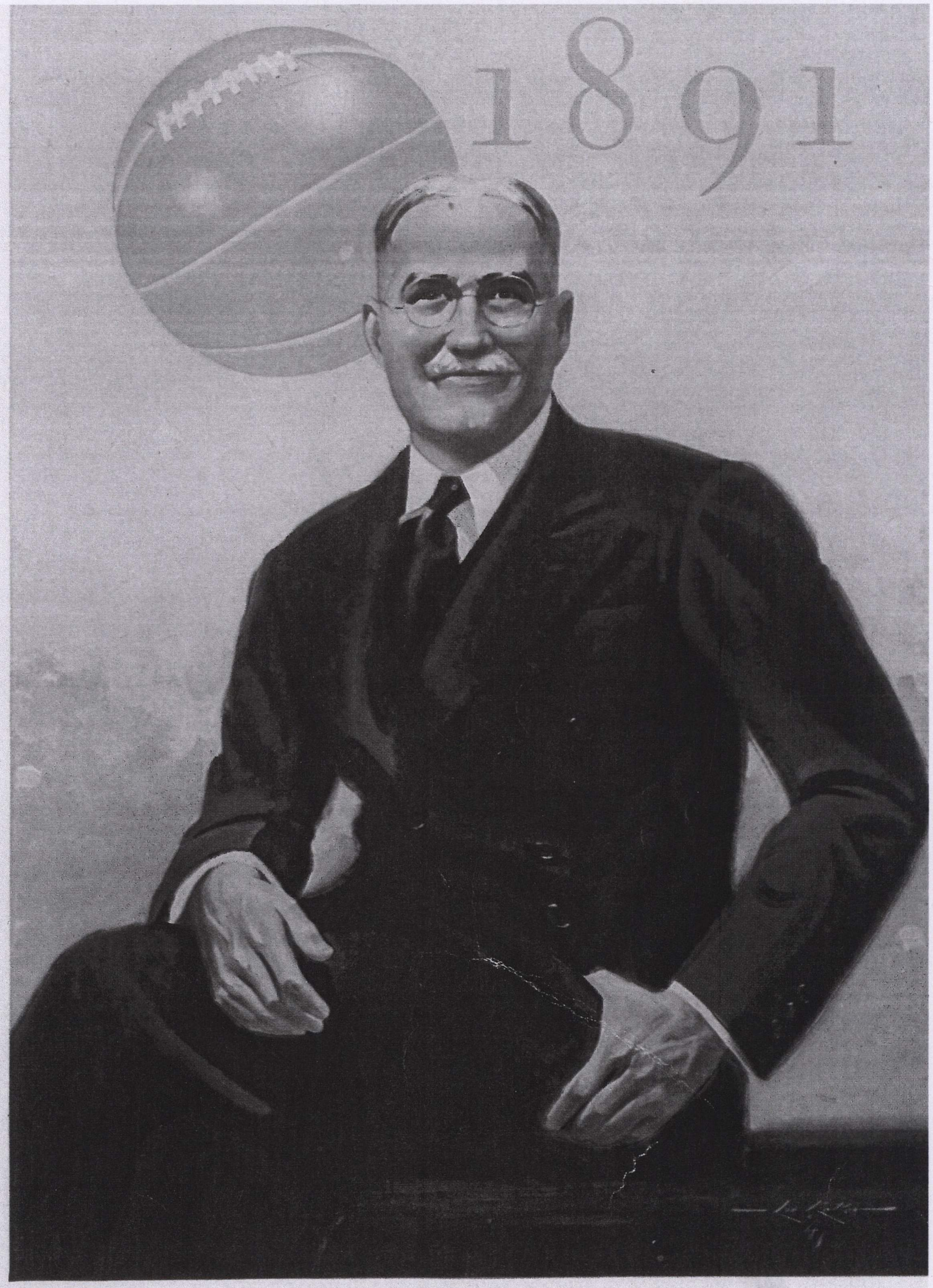
RG 66/13/3
Naismith

1891 * 1941



Dr. James Naismith

THE GOLDEN JUBILEE of BASKETBALL

SOUVENIR MAGAZINE

FORREST C. ALLEN, Director of Physical Education and Recreation, as well as Varsity Basketball and Baseball Coach at the University of Kansas, was closely associated with Dr. Naismith from 1903 until the latter's death in 1939. He played on the team coached by Dr. Naismith and knew him perhaps as well as any man in the athletic world.

A FOSTER SON HONORED HIS MOTHER COUNTRY

"DO NOT be afraid to serve humanity and wait for your reward." So said Dr. James Naismith when he was informed of the action of the National Association of Basketball Coaches back in 1936 when this organization raised funds to send the kindly inventor of the game of basketball to Berlin. Until this time Dr. Naismith had never made a penny out of basketball. The happiest moment of his life, Dr. Naismith said, came in 1936, when he attended the Olympic Games in Berlin and saw the game of basketball played for the first time in international Olympic competition. The teams of all nations filed in behind their respective flags and Dr. Naismith addressed the players.

The youth of the world lost a great benefactor in Dr. James Naismith. Eighteen million young men all over the world are playing his game of basketball—a game which he originated for eighteen young men in Springfield College. Dr. Naismith is directly responsible for all the large field houses, the large auditoria and gymnasia where basketball is played. Before this game was originated there were few large indoor arenas that were used for any indoor sports. Thickly dotting the middle western states are high school gymnasia that are much larger in size than the entire school buildings were thirty years ago.

Frederick Froebel, a poor, unhappy German boy, gave to the world the theory of the kindergarten —education through play. Dr. Naismith, an orphan boy at eight, gave to youth basketball, a game that takes the youngster from the eighth grade to maturity. Eight nationally known educators, speaking from the same platform, declared that basketball had all the qualities necessary to teach the educable child; poise, rhythm, grace, coordination, development of skills, and 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 Dr. Naismith as a great educator, a kindly humanitarian, and a practical Christian. He loved youth. He and his classmate, Alonzo Stagg, both working together, chose the profession of physical education over the ministry, in which they were ordained, because they felt they could do more for youth. The youth of the world will arise and call Dr. Naismith blessed.

When it is recalled that Dr. Naismith was a Canadian by birth, and yet became one of the greatest sports' benefactors this country ever had, the homage the world is paying him today, takes on a larger aspect. He gave to our country, which, virtually all his life was his country, its most popular pastime. Surely it is a case of a foster son having honored his mother country.

And you tonight sitting in comfortable seats in this building dedicated to a wonderful sport doubtless can make a small contribution which will keep alive the memories and traditions of a young man who struggled and who gave of himself the finest qualities that he had. He gave them to youth, and youth can pass along the durable things of life to the next youthful generation.

Please remember that the youth of fifty-two nations of this world are playing basketball. It is not a national sport—it is an international one. And the United States is the mother country of this game, to whom it was given by her foster son, James Naismith.

from the **K.U. NEWS BUREAU**

■ KANSAS UNIVERSITY ■ LAWRENCE, KANSAS ■ RAY HEADY, Director

For Release in event of death Nov. 28, 1939

Lawrence, Kas., Nov. .---Dr. James Naismith, who 48 years ago gave the game of basketball to the world, wrote a book in 1918 that had the title of "The Basis of Clean Living."

Those five words characterized the life of the 78-year old professor emeritus of physical education at the University of Kansas, who retired from active teaching duty in 1937 after 40 years of "building character in the hearts of young men" at K.U.

Dr. Naismith, who at the age of eight was left an orphan, was born in Almonte, Ontario, on Nov. 6, 1861. After making his home with an uncle, he went to McGill University in Montreal, Canada, and graduated with an A.B. degree in 1887. This was the first of his three degrees. In 1890 he graduated from Presbyterian College, in 1891 he received his master of physical education degree from Y.M.C.A. College in Springfield, Mass., and in 1898 he earned his doctor of medicine degree from Colorado University.

Dr. Naismith married Miss Maude E. Sherman of Springfield, Mass., in 1894. Three daughters and two sons, all of whom live in the Middlewestern area of the United States, were born to the marriage. Mrs. Naismith died in March, 1937.

Dr. Naismith, also prepared for the ministry, but never, as he said, preached a sermon in his life. At least, not directly. His sermon of clean living was delivered indirectly through teaching young men to love clean athletics. Neither did Dr. Naismith practice medicine, although he was a member of the Kansas Medical Association.

Four jobs in physical education occupied Dr. Naismith's career. From 1887 to 1890 he was director at McGill, from 1890 to 1895 he directed the work at Springfield Y.M.C.A., from 1895 to 1898 he was director at the Denver Y.M.C.A., and in 1898 he came to the University of Kansas. Here he served 40 years.

Military service during the World War included four months service in 1916 with the First Kansas regiment, and 19 months with the Y.M.C.A. in France from 1917 to 1919.

Dr. Naismith was a member of the following organizations: Society of Directors of Physical Education in Kansas Colleges, Kansas

-more-

State Medical Association, National Association of Physical Education, Kansas Association of Physical Education (president), Pi Gamma Mu, Sigma Phi Epsilon, International Basketball Federation (honorary president), Basketball Coaches Association (honorary president), Basketball Rules Committee (honorary chairman and life member), Presbyterian church, and Masonic lodge.

The game of basketball was originated in 1891 by Dr. Naismith at the Springfield Y.M.C.A. to fill the need of a winter sport. Two old peach baskets, a ball, and 13 rules were the original equipment of the game which has spread around the world and was played in the 1936 Olympic games in Berlin.

Besides many magazine articles, Dr. Naismith wrote three books: "Basketball Rules," 1891; "The Modern High School" (section on athletics), 1911; "The Basis of Clean Living," 1918.

"The happiest moment" of his life, Dr. Naismith said, came in 1936 when he attended the Olympic games in Berlin and saw the game of basketball played for the first time in the international competition. "The father of basketball" was sent to Berlin following a national drive for funds by spectators, officials, and players who wanted to have Dr. Naismith present when the teams of all nations filed in behind flags of their countries. Dr. Naismith addressed the assembled players before the start of the tournament--and, he said later, his eyes were misty.

1939

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

Dr. Naismith's children are Mrs. Thomas L. Daw of Topeka, Mrs. L. H. Dodd of St. Louis, Mrs. George B. Stanley of Pueblo, Colo., John Edwin Naismith of Topeka, and James Sherman Naismith of Dallas.

Dr. Naismith first was stricken ill on Sunday night, Nov. 19, at the home on University Drive. He made a remarkable recovery from effects of the cerebral hemorrhage and was released from the hospital to return to his home on Wednesday, Nov. 22. A relapse in his condition came Thursday, and he died on Nov. 28.

--30--

Notes From Dr. Naismith

Faculty Meeting --- Dr. Gulick was told by several of his professors that the class he had assigned them to was impossible to manage. Dr. Naismith told him that it was probably due to their method. Dr. Gulick after meeting as they were walking down the hall said, "Now Naismith it would be a good time for you to invent that new game that you have been thinking of." Dr. Gulick had lecture once that there was nothing new under the sun that everything was a motification of something else or a combination. After that Naismith thought that with the present games, football, soccer, and lacrosse he should be able to invent another game. Now he had on his hands a class that was almost impossible to handle and also the additional responsible of inventing a new game. After Dr. Gulick gave him the assignment he ~~xxxx

the other players run, and require the man with the ball to dispose of it. There were 18 in the class, so the first teams were of nine men each, later cut to seven, and still later to the present five.

Dr. James Naismith came to the university as director of physical education and chapel. He was ~~unheralded~~ unheralded as the inventor of the game. At the time the students were playing the game on outdoor courts. First played the game here in the old Snow Hall where the height was 11' feet with the baskets placed at a height of 10'. One of the first games played against Independence, Mo. was played in a hayloft with lanterns as the lights, ½This game was over a ~~livery~~ livery stable. Dr. Allen's bros. played on this team. Dr. Allen only a young boy then.

In Cornell '96 and 97 the game was played with 50 players on a side.

First team that Dr. Naismith had at Kansas was composed of three Phi Beta Kappas and one Sigma Psi.

Dr. Naismith in attempt to have more height for the game in old Snow decided to raise the roof but seeing that it was impossible decided to lower the floor four feet. When you entered the court you had to use the steps and when the game was in process you took them off the floor.

In the 1932 Olympics there was an exhibition of two of the outstanding basektball teams of U.S. In the '36 Olympics the game was incorporated as one of the international sports. In the United States there was a Dr. Naismith and funds were collected so that Dr. Naismith might be allowed to go over and witness the growth of his game. United States won the championship, Mexico was second. Dr. Naismith said that the Chinese handle the ball better than any of the other countries and that Poland played the best game.

~~The~~ In 1896, Philadelphia, Pa., Chadwick the director of the local Y.MC.A. declared that the game of basketball would not be played there because he believed that the game should be enjoyed by more than just ten players. He believed that a sport should be for the masses rather that just five or ten players. So the local youths went down to the empty warehouse and rented it. They started playing the game here and slowly it became an attraction. In order to help pay the rent they charged admission and this is the first instance of making this a professional sport.

Dr. Naismith spoke before the 21 teams that representated their various nations in the '36 Olympics. He said that only two of the teams were able to understand him. The importance that he saw in basketball in the Olympic was the fact that here were the Chinese and the Japs playing together; the English and the Arabians. He told them that they were assembled to see which one was the best. Only one could take away the recognition as the best but the cementing of good fellowship was the important factor in this sport. He said that he was greatly inspired in the friendly attitude that existed between the various players. This is the idea which he would like to have enlarged. The game that started to keep a few roudy gym students in place becomes a factor in promulgating good will between the various nations of the world.

Minor notes- Dr. Naismith has never played an official game of basketball in his life. He did not envision the game that is being played today. His idea was to give the players a chance to play. The game has reached a specialization that he never foresaw due to its popularity with spectators. Since the

Since basketball was invented there have been 36 games that are variations of this game. In the early days of basketball the number of players on the various sides was determined by the size of the court. Dr. Allen played here in 1907 and was a great free thrower. He at the present time ~~holds~~ holds the high scoring record of 26 points in one game. He was told after playing one year here in '07 by Dr. Naismith that there was a vacancy at Baker University. When Dr. Allen told him that he thought he could handle the position Dr. Naismith chuckled. Naismith called Dr. Allen the "Bloody ~~Baker~~ Beggar". Allen got the job and later came back to K.U.

BASKETBALL

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF MEN

STANFORD UNIVERSITY, CALIFORNIA

December 7, 1939

Dr. Forrest C. Allen
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Doctor Allen:

This will acknowledge your letter of December 2. Both the newspapers and the radio have carried the accounts of Doctor Naismith's death. I was so glad that he died in such a quick fashion. He was always such a happy, active individual that it would have been too bad for him to have had a lingering illness. I am happy to know that he was able to live to see his brain-child reach such a great stage of popularity and acme of perfection. I know he has derived a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction out of watching the growth of basketball. It just doesn't seem possible that he is no longer with us. It has been most gratifying to me to notice the recognition that he has received here on the coast.

Now with respect to the photostatic copy of the original basketball rules. I have just the one copy which Doctor Naismith very kindly permitted me to make before I left Lawrence. He made me promise that I would not permit another copy to be made until after his death. I have not violated this promise. I think, however, that the negative is in the possession of Mr. Moore, the photographer in Lawrence. I would suggest that you get in touch with him. Also the original copy of the rules is in Doctor Naismith's safety deposit box. It seems to me that some plan should be worked out for preserving this original and for placing it on display somewhere at the University. If you can not find either of these I imagine that it will be possible to make copies from the one I have here at Stanford. I will be glad to hear from you further in this connection.

Cordially yours,

John W. Bunn,
Dean of Men.

"THE EPIC OF BASKETBALL"

ANNX: Tonight, The Department of Physical Education of the University of Kansas, with the cooperation of the K-Club, brings you the dramatized story of basketball, as told by its inventor, Dr. James Naismith, of the University. Characters in the dramatic scenes will be portrayed by members of the K-Club, the organization of lettermen of the athletic department.

MUSIC: nBe 209 E FADE

ANNX: And here is your narrator, Dr. Naismith, inventor of basketball.

NARRATOR: Good evening, friends. We are going to re-create a few scenes from the history of basketball, showing its development from a YMCA sport to a world-wide popular form of recreation. The story of basketball goes back to the fall of 1891. James Naismith ~~was~~ an instructor in the YMCA college in Springfield, Mass. (START FADING) At a faculty meeting, Dr. Gulick, the director of the college, is speaking.

GULICK: (Fading in) Gentlemen.....It is a serious problem which we face! We're getting nowhere, now that the football season is over. (Murmur of voices)

VOICE 1: Dr. Gulick.....We've tried our level best! The mob of boys you assigned us is the most unruly group I've ever seen. The whole point of our trouble is.....They've gotten fed up with continual gymnastics during the cold season. It's too long a time between football and baseball periods. And we have no suitable indoor sport.

VOICE 2: Mr. Williams is right, doctor. We've tried indoor football, but it's not practical. It's too rough. And the football boys don't go for the lighter games...Like lacrosse..and soccer! They're losing interest.

GULICK: (Quiets undertone with gavel) Well...Gentlemen...Bear with it a while longer, please! Meanwhile, I've an idea that might be developed. (Pause) If there's no other business, we'll adjourn the meeting until next week. (Noise) Mr. Naismith..If you have a moment, I'd like to speak with you.

NAI: Why, certainly, sir. (Noise Fades)

GULICK: Jim.....I'm going to assign that class of boys to you. You've been pretty good at devising new forms of recreation.

NAI: Well, sir.....I don't know how well I'd be able to handle

them, but I can try.

GULICK: Why don't you work on that new idea of yours?.....You spoke to me the other day about adapting football and soccer and figuring out a new indoor game.....

NAI: Well.....There's not so very much to it yet, Dr. Gulick..... However, I'll try and work it out. (Dooropens) I've some work to do in my office.....

GULICK: Thanks, Jim! It'll help us a great deal, I know. (Fading) Of course I'll give you any help I can. (Door Slams)

NAI: Well! (The Following should be rather disconnected, in the manner of talking to one's self: A verbal expression of thoughts passing through his mind) Might as well got right down and work it out. Let's see, now...Can't run with the ball, indoors....Hmmmmmm.....I've got it! Whoever has the ball must stop and throw it: He can't run....Might as well let the others run, though. Now...What kind of a ball to us...Football isn't the right shape...Won't bounce evenly...But the ball's got to be good sized...Well then, why not use a soccer ball...That's big enough. It's got to pass some sort of a goal....What kind of goal would be best?.....In soccer and lacrosse, the harder the ball is thrown, the greater the chances of making a goal..... But a goal on the floor would be too easy to defend... I've got it! We could put a box up on the wall at each end of the court. A score would be made when the ball is tossed into the box! Combination of throwing and tossing will put plenty of variety in the game....And it won't be rough .....Now, let's see....How many are there in the class.... Sixteen...Seven....No, eighteen. That'll make nine men on a side. (StartFading) I guess the best way to start it would be to toss the ball.....Rushing it might hurt somebody....(10-Second Pause....Fade In.)

NAI: (Door opens and Closes) Dr. Gulick. Look these papers over, and see what you think of my new game. It might work out into something useful.

GULICK: What?...SO SOON? Well, let's see here...(Paper crackles)

NAI: It needs considerable polishing up, I'm afraid. The custodiam didn't have any boxes I could use for goals, so

I got hold of some peach baskets and nailed them up for goals. They've just finished marking the floor on the gym.....

GULICK: Why, Naismith, you've really figured out a game here. This is just exactly the thing we've been looking for. Zip and action, with no danger to the players from roughness. (Rattles Paper) Let's go into the gymnasium and explain the rules to the boys. (Starts Fading) I want to see how this looks in action.

NAI: Yes sir. I started outlining the rules to some of the fellows in class yesterday.....

(Music Up NBC 577 N Fade)

NARRATOR: And so the first game of basketball was played on the makeshift court of the Springfield, Massachusetts, YMCA.... With peach-baskets for goals. Every time a player made a goal, an official had to poke the ball out of the basket with a long pole, through a hole in the bottom of the basket. The game spread rapidly to other YMCA's, and soon regional tournaments were scheduled. Within two years, major colleges and universities had started teams, and it wasn't long before there were intercollegiate contests, played on regular schedules.

Down at the Philadelphia YMCA, Director Chadwick said:

CHAD: No, Dr. Gulick, I'm not including this basketball game of Naismith's in our sports calendar. Personally, I can't see why only a few players should be privileged to enjoy a game. We use games here in which more boys can participate.

GULICK: Mr. Chadwick...You probably have had some idea of this... But in case you didn't know it, already some of your YMCA boys are playing basketball...As long as they can't play it here, there's danger that they may be drawn away from the center of 'Y' activities. Because you've refused to let them play here, a group of boys have rented a warehouse, down in the industrial district, and fixed a court. I was down there yesterday. Chadwick, they <u>like</u> the game! In our search for Christian recreation, I believe that any such wholesome, clean sport should.....

(Knock at Door)

CHAD: Come in. (Door opens) Oh, it's you, Billy. Come on in, and meet Dr. Gulick. He's from the Springfield.....

BILLY: Yes sir.....I met Dr. Gulick yesterday, down at the warehouse....

GULICK: Of course. How're you, Bill....

BILLY: Swell, sir.....Why, Mr. Chadwick....I suppose you've known about our basketball court down in the old warehouse...

CHAD: (Chuckles) Well....I've had my suspicions....

BILLY: We...We've found a way to raise money to pay our rent, if you think it's o.k. The fellows wanted your opinion.

CHAD: What's your idea?

BILLY: Well....There've been quite a lot of people coming down to watch us play in our tournaments. We sort of figured we could raise enough money to pay our rent, buy suits and other equipment, if we'd charge spectators a small admission. (Fade) Do you suppose it would be all right...?

Music up_____Fade

NARRATOR: And so, basketball became a professional sport....That is, it attracted spectators who were willing to pay to see teams in competition. Basketball became a moneymaker for its sponsors, as well as providing safe, invigorating, and thrilling competition for its participants.

In 1898, I was called to the University of Kansas as coach of sports, and chaplain. Basketball wasn't an intercollegiate sport at Kansas when I assumed my duties. (Fade) Soon, however, we had a team and a regular season schedule. One evening, Chancellow Snow and I were watching a game in the gymnasium of old Snow Hall.

NAI: (Slight Crowd Murmor) Dr. Snow...See that young fellow out there...The one with the ball? He's getting ready to toss a shot...Look how beautifully it's arching toward the basket! It's going right in! (Cheer) If I'm not very much mistaken, young Allen's going to be a real star!

SNOW: I've never seen anyone with such accurate aim, Dr. Naismith. How many points has he made in this game? (Cheers) Look.... He just made another basket!

NAI: That's his 20th point in the game, Chancellor. He's an ace! (Fading)

Says he's going to study medicine.

(Pause: 5-10 seconds....Fade In)

SEC: Here's a letter from the President of Baker University, Dr. Naismith. You should look at it right ~~off~~ away. (Paper Rattles)

NAI: HMMMM....They need a basketball coach at Baker....Well, we'll have to see what....

(Knock at Door: Door opens)

ALLEN: Are you busy, Dr. Naismith?.....

NAI: Not at all, Phog.....Come in! I was just reading a letter from the Dean down at Baldwin City.....They need someone to run their basketball team. I've been asked to find them someone.

ALLEN: A coach, oh.....Goo! Have....anyone in mind, Dr. Naismith?

NAI: That's the trouble.....Can't think of anyone available, right now, anyway.....

ALLEN: Say, Dr. Naismith, I'd sure like to take a try at that. You wouldn't recommend me for that post, would you? As I think of it, there are a lot of things about basketball that could be coached...don't you think, Doctor?

NAI: You?? (Laughs sympathetically) Well....I don't know...Phog... Phog Allen.....Basketball coach! Sounds kind of strange! Of course, I'll agree you're a fine player, Phog....But.... Coaching's different. (Chuckle)
Coach Allen..You bloody beggar!...

ALLEN: I think I could do it, Doctor. I know I could! You could tell them that I know how to throw free throws, that we always pass in angles and run in curves. You could at least send me down for a try. I'll show 'em! I know I can do it. I've got some definite ideas about certain fundamentals of playing the game.....always passing to the open man...and so forth.

NAI: I know, Phog...I know....No young fellow has ever tried to coach basketball around here.....But still, I'm almost tempted...By George..I will write them! They ought to be willing to give you a try. They can't get anyone else...

ALLEN: Thanks, Dr. Naismith. You can bet your life I'll give them everything I've got, and I'll bet we will win some ball games!

Nai: (Fading) I'll write them right away, Phog.....We ought to hear soon. (Music Up___ _____Fade)

NARRATOR: Phog Allen went to Baker to coach their team to victory in their next basketball season. Any doubt I may have had about his capacities as a coach were dispelled that very year. His scientific approach to the game, his dazzling attacks and defenses bewildered almost every enemy team his Baker boys played. He entered medical school soon after that, however, and devoted his attention to methods of guarding against and relieving athletic injuries. In the Fall of 1919, Phog Allen became athletic director at the University of Kansas. Before the Basketball season was over, he was also basketball coach. Conference victories and championships came frequently to Kansas after that. (Fade) His teams beat the best from all over the country.

VOICES: (Fade In: Background of Murmuring) We won again...Another championship...That makes thirteen straight...What..Again... Kansas Wins another championship. Only lost one this year... That makes four championships in a row...What, five?..... We've won seventeen straight....Only one more to go.... Midwestern champions!.....Another championship.....Win again... United States Finals...Olympics?.....Kansas may go to the Olympics...(Fade) Madison Square Garden....Best Coaching.....

NARRATOR: In the 1932 Olympics there was an exhibition of the two outstanding basketball teams in the United States. In the 1936 Olympics, the game was incorporated as one of the international sports. In the United States, funds were raised in a national campaign to send basketball's inventor over to the Olympics to witness the growth of his game. After the tournament was completed, the winners were announced to the spectators, with the 21 competing teams on the courts... (Fade) From the Judge's stand, a voice!

VOICE: Ladies and Gentlemen.....The winning team in the international basketball tournament....Is from the United States. (Fade) Second place to Mexico, and third, to the dominion of Canada.....

NARRATOR: And later, the 21 basketball teams from all parts of the world were gathered together. (Fade) There were several speeches.....

VOICE: (Fade In) And now....Here is the Inventor of Basketball.... The man whose inventive genius produced a game which has helped bring the world together in friendly competition. Dr. James Naismith, of the United States of America..... (Cheers)

DR. NAISMITH: Friends of Basketball....I'm extremely sorry that all of you cannot understand me....I fear there are only two teams who know what I shall say. In olympic basketball competition, I see a great and far-reaching factor in the preservation of world peace and good will. Here we have teams from China and Japan playing in friendly competition. Here we have brotherly rivalry between the Englishman and the Arab...We Assemble on the Olympic field to see which one of us is the best...Of course only one of us can claim superiority, but the cementing of good fellowship is far more important than a golden cup! My fond hope is that the friendly attitudes existing between opposing players will grow. (Start Fading) I am still astounded to realize that my game, started to keep a few rowdy gym students in place, has grown to command such an important place in the promotion of good will among the youth of the world. (Music, starting softly as speech fades, up to Climax!)

ANNX: You have heard the dramatized story of basketball, as told by its inventor, Dr. James Naismith, of the University of Kansas. Characters in the dramatic scenes were portrayed by members of the K-Club, the organization of lettermen of the Athletic department. The following K-Men participated in tonights broadcast:

I

January 30, 1940.

Mr. J. E. Naismith,
1347 Winfield Street,
Topeka, Kansas.

Dear Jack:

I am writing you at your request to give you the information concerning the set-up of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the so-called Intercollegiate Basketball Championship tournament of the United States. The National Collegiate organization is an organization of colleges of the United States. The National Collegiate publishes the National Basketball Guide in conjunction with the National High School Federation, the Young Men's Christian Association, and the Canadian Association.

This National Collegiate organization derives its powers from the presidents of the universities, and they delegate their powers to the faculty representatives who make the laws for the Association. The faculty representatives empower the athletic directors and coaches with authority to serve on the National Collegiate committees, such as the Rules Committee, and so forth. The National Collegiate has as honorary members for life your father, Dr. James Naismith, chairman, L. W. St. John of Ohio State University, Ralph Morgan, A. E. Metzdorf, and George T. Hepbron, two of Dr. Naismith's former friends and acquaintances.

I am enclosing a copy of the letterhead of the National Basketball Committee of the United States and Canada. Your father's name does not appear on this letterhead because only active members' names appear hereon, but in the Basketball Rules Guide following the National Collegiate Athletic Association set-up your father's name does appear along with the other National Collegiate members. In the front pages of Spalding's Guide are the names and on the following pages are the photographs of the honorary life members. I am sending you also a letterhead of the National Association of Basketball Coaches in which your father's name appears as the honorary president.

Now for the National Intercollegiate Basketball champion tournament of the United States. There is no organization of faculty representatives, and Mr. E. E. Liston is the acting executive secretary of the National Association of Intercollegiate Basketball. You will notice on this sheet that the prizes are the

"James A. Naismith Memorial Trophy". I called your attention to the fact that these were printed in October long before Dr. Naismith's death, and no authority was given by Dr. Naismith or by his family for a memorial trophy. The trophy that Dr. Naismith gave previously was the "Maude Naismith Trophy". I am sending you this announcement to show the rather irregular and unethical manner of printing such a thing.

According to our conversation last evening, I am of the very definite opinion that the National Association of Basketball Coaches, as an organization, would be very happy to present a James Naismith Memorial Trophy to be played for by the National Collegiate Athletic Association basketball championship. I am very sure that the Coaches Association would be happy to pay for this trophy and they would consider it an honor to have the originator's name on this honor trophy. If it meets with the Naismith family's wishes, I would be very happy to present this to the National Association of Basketball Coaches, asking them if they would be willing to do the thing that I have just mentioned. Since Dr. Naismith has been long associated as an officer and honorary president of these organizations, and since he has given this "Maude Naismith Trophy" to the National Intercollegiate basketball group who apparently have no organization other than the directors of athletics in small colleges, I am setting forth the difference between the two organizations and asking you if you care to have me do this particular thing.

I think it would be necessary for the Naismith family to wrote to Mr. Liston as acting executive secretary of the National Association of Intercollegiate Basketball, at Baldwin, Kansas, and state to him that your family deplores the action of his group by announcing the James A. Naismith Memorial Trophy without the consent of the family. Further that you wish emphatically that the National Intercollegiate Basketball Championship Tournament Committee, and Mr. Liston as acting executive secretary, do not offer any trophy which is represented as the James A. Naismith Memorial Trophy, or any basketballs or emblems with the Naismith name connected with it or them. Further, I would ask for a reply to my letter, and say in addition that your family would want to have an explanation of why this thing of announcing the James A. Naismith Memorial Trophy without permission having been granted had been done.

If I have not explained this fully to you I will be glad to have you write me at length, but I trust I have made the differences between these two organizations plain enough to you so that you may see Mrs. Naismith and you two in turn may write the necessary letter that you desire.

Very sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

I

Lawrence, Kansas

February 23, 1940.

Dr. Forrest C. Allen,
Varsity Basketball Coach,
University of Kansas.

Dear Doctor Allen:

It is the wish of the Naismith family that the National Association of Basketball Coaches of the United States be permitted to purchase and offer the Dr. James Naismith Memorial Basketball Trophy to the championship winner of the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament which will be held annually in some city of the United States.

It is understood that the entire control of this basketball championship tournament will be under the National Collegiate Athletic Association and its officers. No other Dr. James Naismith Memorial Basketball Trophy is to be offered to any organization other than the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

We deeply revere his beloved memory and we are happy to have this contribution made so that his life and personality will ever be before the youth of the world.

Very cordially yours,

Maude Ammie Dame

Executrix of the James Naismith Estate

Mrs. James Naismith

Wife of Dr. James Naismith

Lawrence, Kansas

February 23, 1940.

Mr. Emil Liston, Acting Secretary,
National Intercollegiate Athletic Association,
Baker University,
Baldwin, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Liston:

It is the wish of the Dr. James Naismith family that the Dr. James Naismith Memorial Trophy be competed for by the National Collegiate Athletic Association in their basketball championship tournament each year, the date and the place to be determined upon by the officers of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

It is the understanding of the Naismith family that the National Association of Basketball Coaches will select and pay for the trophy, and the Basketball Coaches Association will determine the rules of competition for the competitors.

It is the further wish of the Naismith family that no other Naismith trophy be competed for at this time. For this reason we are asking that you or your National Intercollegiate Athletic Association present no Naismith trophy.

Very sincerely yours,

Executrix of the James Naismith Estate

Wife of Dr. James Naismith

* D ✓

bonion skin

August 3, 1940

Mr. G. F. Alcott
1206 E. Jefferson
Bloomington, Illinois

Dear Mr. Alcott:

I acknowledge with pleasure receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo.

Some fifteen years ago I visited with Dr. Naismith and asked him this question. I said, "Doctor, if a memorial were planned in your honor where would be your choice of location as concerning states?" Dr. Naismith replied, "Well, I had thought some of going to California to spend my latter days but since I have lived in Kansas most of my life, my family was raised and educated here, I am determined to spend the rest of my days in Kansas and, of course, I would like to see anything that is done for me placed at the University."

~~I had~~ Mr. Glenn Frazier, an artist who has sculptored under Lorado Taft in Chicago, make a life mask cast of his face and head. He did this while Dr. Naismith was well and strong because we had learned that so many men wait until later years to have photographs taken or ~~until they pass on and then it is too late to have a mask made, unless it is a death mask and no one wants one of those.~~ I have this plaster paris likeness of Dr. Naismith in his prime in the safe so that when someone plans something to his memory it will be lifelike. I certainly agree with you that a utilitarian memorial is something that would give pleasure to millions of people and would add dignity to the splendid life that Dr. Naismith has lived.

I agree with you that time is too short to do it this season. It would take a lot of planning and since this coming year is the fiftieth anniversary of basketball, it would be the logical time to ~~form~~ organize a committee of nationally prominent educators and coaches, ~~for it.~~ It seems to me as if it would be necessary for one man to devote most of his time to such a project. All of us have a desire to do things honoring great people, but when it comes to taking the time away from our bread and butter schedule it is generally delayed.

I appreciate more than you know your writing the letter and initiating this thought, ~~from your angle. When I learned that you were interested and living in Bloomington, Illinois I was more anxious than ever to hear from you,~~ but I see that you attended Washburn College and the College of Emporia and since your home is in Chanute I can ~~understand~~ conceive your great love for Dr. Naismith and this memorial.

Knowing of your interest and

I once coached ~~at~~ Baker University; the first coaching job in basketball I ever had. We turned out a wonderful team down there. Mason, Hoover, Sample, Preston, Arnett, Brainard, ~~Woodrow~~ Withrow, Leo Jones and Bristow that group ~~of boys~~ were the boys that played on the team. Joe Bristow was the manager of the team and we had a fellow named Bacon who had some active part in it. ~~So~~ I am very strongly attached to Baker.

A few years ago I learned that Dr. Naismith had lost his home through the foreclosure of a mortgage. This was just before the Olympic games in 1936. I visited Major Griffith and members of the National Basketball Rules Committee and put the proposition before them that we have a Naismith night in which one penny of each person's admission should go toward that fund. Over $7,000 was realized and this money was turned over to Dr. Naismith. When this was presented to him he made this wonderful statement, "Do not be afraid to serve humanity and wait for your reward." Truly he was a wonderful character and he did not expect any reward for the things he did.

I am very sure that some scheme could be worked out such as you suggest, but the fact that you have a Kansas background might make you more enthusiastic than someone who has never lived in Kansas or had anything to do directly with Dr. Naismith. I am wondering if some people would not think we were endeavoring to become materialistic and building a field house, as they might call it, at the expense of Dr. Naismith's ~~contribution~~. If you could give me the opinion of some of these people who have talked to you who are not connected with Kansas or with the University of Kansas, then your statement would strengthen my hope that such a movement as you suggest would result in building a great basketball palestra as a memorial to Dr. Naismith. Certainly a National Naismith Memorial Committee should be organized and that organization should determine the success or failure of the project.

Please give my regards to Brick Young if he is in or around Bloomington. I have known him for many years and consider him a wonderful friend.

With all good wishes and hoping to hear from you at your convenience, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

cc: Chancellor Malott
Fred Ellsworth
Glenn Charlton
George Hedrick

E

July 31, 1940

Dr. Forrest Allen
Director of Athletics
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

The game of basketball is probably played and watched by more people than any other game in America. Having been originated by Dr. Naismith, I feel that it is proper that a memorial be erected in his memory. I feel that this would be the wish of the millions of men and women who play, coach, or watch the game. It is fitting and proper that this memorial be the most modern and beautiful basketball gymnasium ever built in America, and the proper place for it is the University of Kansas campus, where he spent so many years.

I believe that such a gymnasium could be built at no expense to Kansas, by having every willing basketball team in America play one home game as a memorial game for Dr. Naismith, under the auspices of the Naismith Memorial Committee--giving a portion of the gate receipts to the fund. In this way no individual would be asked to contribute a penny. It would cost the teams little if anything, for by featuring the game as the "Naismith Memorial Game" the added attendance should increase the receipts by the small portion to be given.

Time is too short to do it this season, for quite a bit of planning should be done. The committee should have several nationally prominent educators and coaches on it. The idea should be sold leading sports writers and coaches. Much of the publicity could be handled by the Journalism school at Kansas University, and the mailing and correspondence should furnish employment for several students.

Suitable plaques or certificates should be given schools or organizations whose teams take part in the project.

The game of basketball has touched and is touching the lives of so many thousands that teams--school, high school, college, university, semi-pro, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., and professional--could, I feel sure, be interested in the undertaking; and the money raised by each team, be it large or small, would reach a large total and make such a gymnasium possible.

I am a Kansan, and graduated from Chanute High School in 1921. I attended the College of Emporia and Washburn College, though never had the privilege of attending the University. My wife is a Baker graduate. I have discussed this plan with several Kansas University alumni, a few newspaper men, and coaches and find them all very favorable to it.

Summed up, a man who originated a game which has touched the lives of so many deserves a memorial for all time. There could be no more fitting memorial than one such as I suggest, and no more fitting location for it than at the University of Kansas. This method of obtaining the necessary money would work no hardship on any one and I feel sure would have the full support of the basketball world.

I shall appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely,

G. F. Alcott

G. F. Alcott
1206 E. Jefferson
Bloomington, Illinois

UNIVERSAL ADJUSTMENT & INSPECTION CO.

GENERAL INVESTIGATING, INSPECTING AND ADJUSTING FOR INSURANCE COMPANIES

WICHITA, KANSAS
PHONE 2-4616
1006 BROWN BLDG.

PITTSBURG, KANSAS
PHONE 1002
423 N. BROADWAY

KANSAS CITY, KANSAS
PHONE DREXEL 0992
609 MINNESOTA AVE.

SALINA, KANSAS
PHONE 685
FARMERS UNION BLDG.

TOPEKA, KANSAS
PHONE 9245
LIBERTY LIFE BLDG.

Topeka, Kansas
February 23, 1940

Doctor F. C. Allen,
Department of Physical Education,
University of Kansas,
Lawrence, Kansas.

Dear Doctor:

In answer to your letter of February 22 regarding the National Intercollegiate Basketball Association giving the James Naismith Memorial Trophy, I wish to say that Mr. Liston has been specifically requested to withhold any action on presenting the James Naismith Memorial Trophy, and we have asked that he not take any steps to purchase such a trophy.

It is the unanimous wish that the Doctor James Naismith Trophy not be given to the winner of the National Intercollegiate Basketball Tournament.

I expect to hear from Mr. Liston in a very few days and will keep you advised as to the developments. It is possible that I may have to ask for help from you; and will not be backward in doing so.

Thanking you very much for your cooperation in this matter, I am

Very truly yours,

Jack E. Naismith

JEN:ra

February 24, 1940.

Mr. John T. Doyle,
American Sports Publishing Co.,
115 Fulton Street,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Doyle:

Dr. Naismith's wife and his daughter, Mrs. Maude Anne Dawe, the executrix of his estate, were in to see me this morning to give permission to the National Association of Basketball Coaches for the award of a "Dr. James Naismith Memorial Basketball Trophy", to be presented to the championship team of the N.C.A.A. American basketball tournament. The finals this year are to be played in Kansas City on March 30. The trophy each year is to be presented by the National Association of Basketball Coaches with the sanction of the Naismith family.

Mrs. Dawe, Dr. Naismith's daughter, has a complete set of Dr. Naismith Basketball Guides. This is from the publication of the first rules to the present date. I told Mrs. Naismith and Mrs. Dawe that I would write you and see if the American Sports Publishing Company each year would be kind enough to send Mrs. Dawe a copy of the Guide as it comes off your press. Mrs. Dawe's address is 1006 Forest Avenue, Topeka. Dr. Naismith's wife resides here in Lawrence.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH

February 4, 1941

Mr. E.B. Black
Black & Veatch
Consulting Engineers
4706 Broadway
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Black:

I am answering your letter which you wrote regarding the manufacturers of a liquor using Dr. Naismith's reputation to further their nefarious business.

I took the matter up with Dr. Burdick, after being unable to contact him for quite some time and failing to contact Dean Moreau. Dr. Burdick said there is no possible way to stop an outfit like that from using Dr. Naismith's name so long as they record only historical events.

Dr. Burdick said there was one exception, down in Georgia, in which the Supreme Court took action, but the individual they discussed was living and he protested against their doing it and the Supreme Court held in favor of the plaintiff. I am sorry that such a condition exists in regard to this "Old Underoof" outfit, but as I see it nothing can be done.

I do appreciate your having enough love for the University and interest in its past great teachers to take the time from your busy life to write me regarding the matter.

Assuring you of my cooperation at all times and with my kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

December 26, 1940

Mr. E.B. Black
Black & Veatch
Consulting Engineers
4706 Broadway
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Black:

Dr. Allen is out of town at the present time, but before he left he asked that I write you and report that he has talked with Dr. Burdick regarding liquor firms using Dr. Naismith's name in their advertisements.

Soon after the first of the year Dr. Allen will return to the office and he will write you then.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Forrest C. Allen

December 16, 1940

Mr. E.B. Black
Black & Veatch
4706 Broadway
Kansas City, Missouri

Dear Mr. Black:

I acknowledge with thanks the tear sheet from the Chicago Herald-American and your letter of the 13th, in which you tell me of the nefarious practice of the liquor interests in endeavoring to draw in Dr. Naismith's name without consent of his family.

I am taking this matter up with Dr. Burdick and Dean Moreau to see if we cannot protect his name and his family from such a smirk.

You will hear from me as soon as I have a progress report.

Sincerely yours,

Director of Physical Education and Recreation
Varsity Basketball Coach

FCA:lg

E. B. BLACK
N. T. VEATCH, JR.

A. P. LEARNED
J. F. BROWN
C. I. DODD
F. M. VEATCH
H. F. LUTZ

BLACK & VEATCH
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
4706 BROADWAY
KANSAS CITY, MO.

December 13, 1940

E. L. FILBY
W. G. FOWLER
W. D. THOMPSON
G. C. BREWSTER
R. E. LAWRENCE

Dr. F. C. Allen
Department of Athletics
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Dr. Allen:

Passing through Chicago Wednesday evening of this week, I picked up a copy of the Chicago Herald-American and found Dr. Naismith's name in an advertisement of "Old Underoof" whiskey, and I am attaching the page of the paper containing that advertisement.

It may be within the law for manufacturers to use Dr. Naismith's reputation and basketball in order to keep step in modern advertising, but somehow this particular ad makes me somewhat "hot under the collar", and if you know of any way in which I can help to minimize the effect of propaganda which evidently is intended to show that whiskey, like basketball, is popular, I will be glad to have you advise me.

Yours very truly,

E. B. Black

(E. B. Black)

EBB:ML
Encls.

P.S. I am told that there may be some legal reason preventing the use of Dr. Naismith's name without the consent of his family. EBB