

In Memoriam



JAY B. NASH

JAY B. NASH, born in Ohio seventy-eight years ago, received his early inspiration at Oberlin College, which produced so many pioneers in our field. Like that other earlier legendary figure of the Midwest, Johnny Appleseed, Dr. Nash—Jay or Ranger to so many—went his happy way through his homeland and around the world planting the seeds of play and happiness in all whom he touched. From the Old Chief of the Southwest Indians he learned the thousand trails which lead to the top of the mountain where the view is always one full of wonder.

A determined scholar and educator, he joined the other early leaders in the effort to have physical education, health education, and recreation education accepted among the legitimate study disciplines, taking the spirit of play into the cloistered halls. He preached the uniqueness and oneness of man; that learning was doing, acting, moving; that the most vivid learning comes through total involvement.

For the most part he was humble and patient in his dealings with people though he rose in righteous anger against those who dared to exploit their fellows for selfish gain, desecrated the city or the land, denied others their human rights. A teacher all his life, he extended and expanded his range of influence far beyond the lecture hall and the seminar through his many writings, his constant travel and his energetic, enthusiastic example. His good influences were brought to the councils of people at local club meetings, professional conferences or with presidents and foreign heads of state. He was a counselor in the fullest sense.

Students around the world came to respect and love this man who took such a keen personal interest in each of

them. For Jay Nash, the "Kingdom" was where two or three were gathered together "in wonder and in awe at the loveliness of life," whether the place was the classroom, the marketplace on the busy street, or the star-covered, open fire far back in the wilderness.

Such a person gains the respect and confidence of his associates and fellows. He was entrusted with many tasks—local, national, and international—most of which were completed with distinction. And so, many honours were conferred upon him in recognition of his marked contributions. These he wore humbly and proudly, acknowledging that he had not walked alone.

While he was "at home" anywhere, his real home was his family. Here was the "heart" of his life, the base from which he drew the vast energies he needed, the inspiration which motivated him, and the affection and love which sustained him through a long, long active life.—C. R. Blackstock, executive secretary, Canadian Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

Following is a brief summary of some of the positions held and contributions made by Dr. Nash during his long professional career.—Editor.

At the time of his death, Dr. Nash served as special consultant and taught two classes at Montclair State College, Upper Montclair, New Jersey. He was formerly Executive Secretary, New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation, Dean of Brigham Young University, College of Recreation, Physical and Health Education and Athletics, and before this was chairman for many years of the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, School of Education, New York University.

Dr. Nash was graduated from Oberlin College in 1911. He studied at the University of California and Columbia University, and received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from New York University. Springfield College conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Science.

During the period 1919-1926, Dr. Nash was successively teacher, superintendent of recreation, Oakland, California, and director of physical education for the State of California for two years. He then became an associate professor at New York University, rising to a full professorship in 1928, and was named chairman of the department two years later.

An executive of many national health, recreation, and education organizations, Dr. Nash has been president of the American Association for Health, Physical Education, and Recreation.

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JAMES F. ROGERS, for 18 years chief of the Division of Health and Physical Education of the U. S. Office of Education, died July 31, 1965 at the age of 95. Born in Ohio, he went to the Anderson Normal School of Gymnastics in New Haven and also studied medicine at Yale University, obtaining his M.D. degree cum laude in 1905. He taught at Yale for 15 years and then in 1920 joined the staff of the Public Health Service. In 1923 he was appointed to the top federal job in the field of physical education; he retired from the position in 1941.

Dr. Rogers conceived the idea of establishing communication among the leaders of physical education in the several state departments of education. His was one of the first and most effective channels between the U. S. Bureau of Education and the state offices. It was he who, in 1926, worked with a small group to found the Society of State Directors of Physical and Health Education (as it was then called).

Dr. Rogers was honored by the Society in a special ceremony held at the U. S. Office of Education in 1948. The commissioner of education and other high-level officials of the government and officers of the Society joined in this tribute to his outstanding contributions to education.

Dr. Rogers was also honored by the AAHPER. He was among the first recipients of the Association's Honor Award, receiving his in 1932.

In 1930, Dr. Rogers published his first of a series of studies, *State-Wide Trends in School Hygiene and Physical Education*. The surveys and statistical analyses were notable, not only for the

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JAMES F. ROGERS

