

#10

## Roger Langley

Born: 1901 Died: 1986

*Roger Langley was a high school educator. He first became interested in skiing when, as athletic director of Eaglebrook High School in Deerfield, Massachusetts, where he formed a junior ski program. This was in the early 1920s, and he spent the next twenty-five years promoting skisport.*

Roger Langley was born in Natick, Massachusetts, on June 4, 1901, and he attended the Natick Public Schools, graduating from Natick High School. He went to Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts, and graduated with a Bachelor of Education Degree. He then attended State Teachers College, Fitchburg, Massachusetts, where he received his Master of Education Degree.

Langley became of teacher and athletic director at Eaglebrook High School, Deerfield, Massachusetts, from 1924 to 1934; principal at Rice School, Holden, Massachusetts, from 1934 to 1943; and finally he was the principal of High Plains School, Barre, Massachusetts, from 1943 until his retirement.

Langley first became interested in skiing while at Eaglebrook High School, and for the next quarter century or more devoted a large part of his life to the promotion of skisport. He served as an early director and vice president of the United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association of America, an organization he joined in 1925.

In 1932, Roger Langley became prominent on the national level, serving as secretary of the National Ski Association from 1932 until 1936, as president of the NSA from 1936 to 1948, and as executive secretary of the NSA from 1948 to 1954. Roger was also vice president of F.I.S. from 1946-1951, and attended the F.I.S. congresses at Pao, France, Sohevinigen, Holland, Oslo, Norway, and Innsbruck, Austria, and was instrumental in bringing about better relations with the International Olympic Committee and bringing the F.I.S. World championships of skiing to the United States in 1950. Langley was a member of the Olympic Ski Games Committees of 1936, 1948, 1952, and 1956, serving as secretary of the latter committees.

Despite all the national and international committees he served on, Roger Langley still had the time and energy to be the editor of the *American Ski Annual* from 1941 through 1954, a monumental task in itself. In 1949, Roger was elected honorary director of the USEASA and was awarded honorary life membership in the organization. He served as its president from 1956-1958.

Roger was also instrumental in establishing the National Ski Patrol System, and was certified as Patrolman Number 1 by Director Minot Dole. In 1946, he was awarded the National Ski Patrol System trophy. In 1947, he was awarded the prestigious Julius Blegen Award, and in 1953, he received the American Ski Trophy.

Langley was a historian as well as an active participant in the politics of the NSA, USEASA, and NSPS. He wrote much about the early ski history of the United States in newspaper articles and articles for the *American Ski Annuals*. A staunch supporter of the U. S. National Ski Hall of Fame, Langley through his many connections both nationally and internationally, was a great boon to skiing. His influence was felt in every quarter of skiing, and he has left his mark on the sport he loved so openly and dearly.

Roger Langley was elected to the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame in 1958.

