

#16
**Dr. Raymond S. "Doc"
Elmer**

Born: 1879 Died: 1947

Dr. Raymond S. "Doc" Elmer helped to form the U.S. Eastern Amateur Ski Association. Dr. Elmer became a highly respected ski jumping judge and was a member of the Olympic Competitions Committee, the international Competitions Committee, and formed the Ski Union of America.

Dr. Raymond S. Elmer was born in Brattleboro, Vermont, in 1879, graduated from the Brattleboro School System and went on to Baltimore Dental School where he graduated in 1902 with the highest honors in the class. He practiced dentistry briefly in Morgantown, West Virginia, after graduation and then began his practice as a dentist and dental surgeon in Bellows Falls, Vermont, and as a dental consultant to Rockingham Hospital in Bellows Falls for many years.

Extremely active in civic affairs, Dr. Elmer and the service groups he belonged to, particularly the Rotary Club, pushed the Bellows Falls Outing Club to new heights in the 1920s. He was director of athletics at Bellows Falls High School for many years and coached their championship football team in 1911. Dr. Elmer was the first to interest high school boys in skiing and formed Bellows Falls first high school ski team.

In 1922, he and a small group met at Saranac Lake, New York, to organize the United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association and was elected president in 1928, a position he held until illness forced his retirement in 1946.

In 1930, Dr. Elmer was elected president of the National Ski Association, at the Canton, South Dakota, Convention and served until 1932. During his tenure as president of the National Ski Association, much of the planning for the 1932 Winter Olympic Games at Lake Placid, New York, was done, and the California Ski Association and the Pacific Northwest Ski Association were admitted as members of the National Ski Association.

Dr. Elmer was a highly respected national and international jumping judge, serving at several national championships, including the 1932 National Jumping Meet at Lake Tahoe, California. He was a member of the Olympic Competition Committee, the International Competitions Committee, and he was founder of the Ski Union of the Americas.

In 1946, Dr. Elmer received an Honorable Service medal from the National Ski Association in recognition of his many years as an able administrator and ski official. "Doc" Elmer, as everyone called him, stood for a sense of fairness and a spirit of sportsmanship that are necessary to build great traditions in skiing.

On May 16, 1947, following several months of illness, "Doc" Elmer died. "Doc" Elmer was elected to the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame in 1959, the sixteenth person so honored.

