

**Bancroft, Jessie Hubbell – (1867 – 1952)**

American physical education promoter and specialist

Jessie Hubbell Bancroft was born (Dec 20, 1867) in Winona, Minnesota, the daughter of a railway superintendant. She attended the Minneapolis School of Physical Education, and chose physical education as a career instead of teaching infants. After further study concerning physical education at Harvard, Bancroft served as director of physical training in the Brooklyn Public Schools (1893 – 1903) in New York. Miss Bancroft was then appointed as assistant director of the New York City Schools, a position she held for over two decades (1904 – 1928). Bancroft remained unmarried and was the author of *Games for the Playground, Home, School, and Gymnasium* (1909), which was considered a benchmark. Bancroft was the first woman to be appointed a member of the American Academy of Physical Education, and was the first woman to receive an honorary degree from Springfield College (1926). After her retirement (1928) Bancroft travelled extensively throughout Europe. Jessie Bancroft died (Nov 13, 1952) aged eighty-four, at Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Jessie's mother was Susan Maria Hubbell ME# 2778; b: 1839 d: 1920  
her father's name was Edward H Bancroft



GAMES  
FOR THE  
PLAYGROUND  
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AND  
GYMNASIUM



JESSIE H  
BANCROFT

