



# OUTRIGGER CANOE CLUB

MAY

# FORECAST

1952



*The above is the first building erected for the OCC. It was a grass shack moved from Kapiolani Park and re-erected on the Club grounds. (See story by McClellan.)*

## FREE MOVIES FOR ALL . . .

**FOR KANES AND WAHINES  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 14  
8:00 P.M.**

**"CAPTAIN FURY"**

**with Brian Aherne, Victor McLaglen,  
and John Carradine**

*Note the earlier hour.  
Come early for dinner.*

**FOR THE KEIKIS  
FRIDAY, MAY 23**

**7:30 P.M.**

**ALL CARTOON FEATURES**

*Note the change in hours. If you haven't  
a keiki, borrow one and come.*

# OUTRIGGER CANOE CLUB IS BORN

By EDWIN NORTH McCLELLAN

"When Burton Holmes visited the Seaside [he arrived Honolulu on March 2, 1908] and suggested the formation of the Outrigger Club," reported the *Advertiser* of June 10, 1908, "he became a slave to little Marie [Brooke], and declared that she should become its mascot, and so she has." Later on, you'll read more of Marie.

On March 13, 1908, Burton Holmes and Alexander Ford walked the Beach at Waikiki, "studying and photographing the lanais [verandas] along the Beach with a view of suggesting designs for the Clubhouse [of the Outrigger Canoe Club] which will be almost entirely lanai," described *Evening Bulletin* of March 14, 1908. "The land lies along the bank of the [Manoa] Stream separating the Seaside and Manoa Hotels. . . . A channel will be kept open, just wide enough to admit the passage of . . . a large outrigger canoe. The Lagoon will be used for an anchorage for . . . the larger canoes and *catamarans*; but the present plan is to build a lanai framework parallel with the Beach and plant *hau* trees that will, in time, afford umbrageous protection for the outrigger canoes."

## THE PROPOSED CLUB HOUSE

"The Clubhouse proper will probably consist of a polished *koa*-wood floor beneath a spreading *hau*-tree lanai," continued the *Bulletin*. "For the native canoe men and native surfboard-boys, it is proposed to erect a Hawaiian grasshouse facing the Beach, the wide grass lanai of which will be dressed with *lei*-covered Hawaiian women who will sell curios under the direction of the holder of this privilege.

"The site for the Club at Waikiki is ideal," explained the *Bulletin*. "The trolley passes its back entrance; the ocean beats up into its front yard; on one side is the Liquid-Lagoon; on the other side the Seaside Hotel with its liquid refreshments and a circular *hau*-tree lanai that can be reserved as a dining and wining room.

"Alexander Hume Ford and Burton Holmes are here on their vacations and are having the fun of their lives in making Honolulu all over," reported the *Advertiser* March 15, 1908. "The gifted Ella [Wheeler Wilcox] put the bee in the Holmes-Ford bonnets and it is buzzing there to beat the biograph."

## OSCAR DEPUE ARRIVES; LEAVES WITH HOLMES

"Among the through passengers by the *Siberia*," on March 16, 1908, "was Oscar Depue, companion and assistant to Burton Holmes," published the *Ha-*

*waiian Star* of March 17, 1908. Mr. Depue had been with Mr. Holmes in Honolulu in 1898 making the first movies ever made in Hawaii. As explained by the *Advertiser*, March 17, 1908, Oscar Depue "had with him" the "finest and most up-to-date picture machine. . . . Mr. Bonine, Mr. Holmes and Mr. Depue spent considerable time . . . in examining the new machine."

On board the *Siberia* when she sailed from Honolulu on March 16, 1908, were Burton Holmes and Carl Depue planning to visit the entire Far East and India.

## A. H. FORD ADDRESSES COMMERCIAL CLUB

A. H. Ford made a speech at the Commercial Club on March 18, 1908, before a distinguished gathering. The *Hawaiian Star* covered the event but made no mention of the "Outrigger Club project." However, the *Advertiser*, March 19, 1908, quoted Mr. Ford:

"Another thing that has to be done is the organization of the Outrigger Club. Some of us had the nerve to go to one of the hotels on the Beach and asked for the use of the ground for our Clubhouse. We said we would put up a substantial cement building."

## OLD LETTER OF APRIL 7, 1908

An old circular letter, dated April 7, 1908, in the Club archives, explains why the Club should be created and asking local clubs and organizations to support it. "Will you put before your members the project of the Outrigger Canoe and Surfboard Club at Waikiki?" the letter starts out. The letter was signed by James F. Morgan, James A. Wilder, W. R.

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An early picture  
of original  
Club Buildings



## OUTRIGGER CLUB IS BORN

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Castle, A. H. Ford, Richard H. Trent, J. Waterhouse, J. A. McCandless, H. P. Wood (Secretary of the Promotion Committee), A. M. Brown, A. L. C. Atkinson and J. A. Gilman. Accompanying this letter of about 115 names of members—no women (See *Forecast*, May, 1948). (These names plus others who joined prior to the signing of the lease on May 19, 1908, are Charter Members.) Those interested were asked to contact Charles R. Frazier, 122 King Street, Phone 371.

This old letter appears to be the same as published (with date of April 15, 1908) in the *Advertiser*, April 16, 1908 and *Hawaiian Gazette*, April 17, 1908.

"It is probable that land for a *hau-tree lanai* will be secured at Waikiki on nominal rental," explained this ancient letter. "The main object of the Club being to give an added and permanent attraction to Hawaii and make Waikiki always the Home-of-the-Surfers with, perhaps, an Annual Surfboard and Outrigger Canoe Carnival."

### SITE OF THE CLUB

According to the *Hawaiian Star* of April 16, 1908, there was "some talk about taking the *Virtue Villa* for a Clubhouse instead of having the *hau-tree lanai* as first proposed." The *Advertiser* of April 16, 1908, reported that "several locations along the Waikiki Beach have attracted the attention of those interested in forming the Club. The famous *Virtue Villa* has just been vacated and might prove an excellent ready-made home for the Club until the proposed *hau-tree lanai* can be grown on the grounds of the Seaside Hotel, where a site was of-

fered the Club at a nominal rental by the Seaside management. The Club is only awaiting confirmation and endorsement by Mr. Macfarlane, who is now in San Francisco. This project involves the construction of an open *lanai* about fifty feet wide along the Beach and two hundred feet facing the Moana Stream.

"The native Hawaiians will be encouraged to aid in the renaissance of surfing, free quarters and a native grass house are planned for those who can ornament the scenery by deftly handling a board or a canoe on the crest of the waves."

### THE FISHING CLUB

Several prominent Honoluluans had met on April 8, 1908, and discussed the formation of a Fishing Club. On April 16, 1908, H. L. S. Herbert, of the Fishing Club, and A. H. Ford of the Outriggers, met "at the office of R. H. Trent to consider plans for uniting the *Anglers* and the proposed Outrigger Club," reported the *Evening Bulletin*, April 16, 1908. "Mr. Herbert and his friends will attend the first general meeting of the Outrigger Club and the two organizations will probably combine.

"A meeting of persons interested in organizing the Outrigger Club" will be held April 24, 1908, "at the rooms of the Promotion Committee," publicized the *Evening Bulletin* of April 22, 1908. "There is a proposition to amalgamate the Fishing Club with the Outrigger Club and the idea is finding much local favor," added the *Advertiser* in announcing this meeting. The *Hawaiian Star* also did its share of publicity.

### MOTT-SMITH PRESIDES AT FIRST MEETING

"The first meeting of the Outrigger



Club was called to order yesterday afternoon by Acting Governor Ernest A. Mott-Smith at the rooms of the Promotion Committee," reported the *Hawaiian Star* of April 25, 1908. "On the nomination of A. L. C. Atkinson, seconded by James F. Morgan, A. H. Ford was elected Temporary Chairman; R. H. Trent, Treasurer; and H. P. Wood, Secretary," published the *Advertiser*, April 25, 1908. "A Committee on Membership, Organization and Plans" was appointed consisting of A. H. Ford, A. L. C. Atkinson, H. R. Macfarlane (Jr.), Lucius Eugene Pinkham, and H. H. Hand. "H. L. S. Herbert of the Fishermen's Club was made a committee of one to enroll those interested in the sport of Isaak Walton and, during the afternoon, secured a number of new adherents for the Outriggers."

**COMMITTEE MEETING, APRIL 27, 1908**

"At a meeting of the Committee on Organization and Plans" on April 27, 1908, held in the office of A. L. C. Atkinson, the following sub-committees were appointed, reported the *Evening Bulletin* of April 28, 1908: "A. L. C. Atkinson, to draft Constitution and By-Laws; A. H. Ford, to secure the option of a lease at nominal rent for a *Lanai* at Waikiki, and L. E. Pinkham, to draw up plans for the *Lanai*. Dr. Hand also was present at this meeting which agreed on annual dues of \$5.00."

**COMMITTEE MEETING, APRIL 30, 1908**

A meeting of the Committee on Plans and Organization was held in the office of A. L. C. Atkinson on April 30, 1908. L. E. Pinkham reported that during the week he had visited the "proposed site

of the *Lanai*; A. H. Ford reported success in lease of land between the two hotels 'provided the Club would make certain proposed improvements thereon'; A. L. C. Atkinson presented draft of the Constitution and By-Laws" (*Advertiser*, May 1, 1908).

The expected arrival of the Big White Fleet in July of 1908, helped in the creation of the Outrigger Canoe Club which would be an ideal organization to stage an Aquatic Carnival to entertain the officers, bluejackets and marines. As early as April 24, 1908, the *Advertiser* had suggested that "the Outrigger Club will probably demonstrate its usefulness during the visit of the Fleet."

**CLUB FORMALLY ORGANIZED MAY 1, 1908**

"The Outrigger Canoe Club was formally organized yesterday [May 1, 1908] at the Promotion Committee rooms and elected the following officers for the coming year," reported the *Advertiser* of May 2, 1908: "Alexander Hume Ford, president; H. L. S. Herbert, vice president; Henry P. O'Sullivan, secretary; Richard H. Trent, treasurer; Kenny Winters, captain; Charles R. Frazier, auditor; J. P. Cooke, Harry Macfarlane (Jr.), J. R. Galt, trustees.

"About a score of the 150 members were present at the meeting. H. P. Wood acted as secretary and it has been *owing largely* to his active assistance and that of the Promotion Committee [same as present Visitors' Bureau] that the Outrigger Canoe Club has been so successfully launched." The Constitution and By-Laws, as drawn up by A. L. C. "Jack" Atkinson, were adopted as was the report

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of the Committee on Plans and Organization.

"The Club will build a *Lanai* on the piece of ground along the Manoa Stream, *ewa-side* at Waikiki, L. E. Pinkham having charge of the plans," continued the *Advertiser*. "This piece of property has been practically *donated* to the Outrigger Canoe Club so long as its chief object is to maintain and keep alive the Hawaiian sports of surfing and native canoeing. Queen Emma's Cottage is adjacent to the site of the proposed Club *Lanai*, and the estate of this Queen still possesses the land to be occupied by the surfing enthusiasts."

#### MAY-DAY, LEI-DAY, IS CLUB-DAY

"And so started the Outrigger Canoe Club that has contributed so much to Hawaii," I wrote in the *Advertiser* of June 10, 1939. "May Day is Outrigger Canoe Club Day as well as Lei Day, for it was on the first of May in 1908 that the Outrigger Hui first saw the light of day. So, Lei Day celebration . . . should whirl around the Beach at Waikiki to the accompaniment of dashing surfboards and speeding outriggers."

"The formation this summer [1908] of an Outrigger Club . . . is an aid to the movement [surf-riding] and, with its occasional tournaments, will enhance the fame of Waikiki," predicted the *Hawaiian Annual*, 1909.

#### LEASE SIGNED MAY 19, 1908

While "the Outrigger Club organized and elected officers" on May 1, 1908, it was not until May 19, 1908, "that leases were signed that gave the Club a house and an acre and a half of choice property at Waikiki Beach," reported the *Advertiser* of May 15, 1910. "It was due to the kindness of William Lishman of the Seaside Hotel that this lease was signed, the hotel waiving its right and lease that the Outrigger Club might secure the property." J. H. Hertsche, general manager of the Moana, rated appreciation, also.

"The Outrigger Canoe Club secured its leases from the Queen Emma Estate, May 19, 1908, and paid one year's rent on same," recorded the *Evening Bulletin*, May 19, 1908. "The property which is now the home of the Club for twenty

years, lies between the Moana and Seaside premises, having a sea frontage of about one hundred and sixty feet and a depth of four hundred to the Waikiki Road [Kalakaua Avenue].

"The Club starts out with a membership of two hundred. A meeting of the officers will be held tomorrow [May 20, 1908] when the matter of securing canoes for the Club, erecting a *Lanai* on the property and purchasing a number of surfboards, will be brought up as well as the stand the Club will take as to its part in entertainment of the Fleet [arriving in July].

"A vote of thanks will also be extended to Messrs. Kinney and Marx, E. M. Watson, Mr. Bruce Cartwright, Ollie Sorenson and others who have donated their services that the Club may start its existence without a debt to be paid for organization or legal fees.

"Mr. L. E. Pinkham and the contractor spent May 19, 1908, on the Club property making estimates as to the cost of putting in a retaining wall and building a *Lanai* that would serve both as a clubhouse and a shed for the canoes," stated the *Advertiser*, May 20, 1908.

#### LADIES' AUXILIARY

"Numerous requests have come from the wives, daughters and friends of the Club members asking that a Ladies Auxiliary be formed. Space for a ladies' bathhouse on the Seaside property has been offered, and the advisability of having such an annex will come up for consideration. Many well-known ladies already have arranged for lessons in surfing and a number of school girls are making up afternoon parties with the object of showing the boys of Waikiki that the girls can also learn to stand on a surfboard."

#### FIRST LIFE-MEMBER AND BUILDING FUND

A meeting of the Club directors was held on May 20, 1908, in the office of Treasurer Richard H. Trent, reported the *Hawaiian Star* of May 21, 1908. "Allan [Allen] Herbert asked to become a life member upon payment of fifty dollars," explained the *Evening Bulletin*, May 21, 1908. The directors accepted the offer and named Mr. Herbert as "chairman of the Building Fund Committee to



Corner of Canoe Shed and Lanai which later replaced original grass shacks.  
(Pic. courtesy of Mrs. Fred Cordes.)

which the dues of the life members will be turned over, subject to approval of the Club as a whole," stated the *Advertiser*, May 21, 1908.

At this meeting of May 20th the directors voted full cooperation of the Club with the Fleet Entertainment Committee, of which Ernest A. Mott was chairman. "The meeting adjourned with the understanding of an early call to consider the plans being prepared by Mr. Pinkham for the *Lanai* on the Waikiki grounds."

#### TWO GRASS HOUSES PURCHASED

"The Outrigger Canoe Club will move into its clubhouse next week," reported the *Advertiser*, May 23, 1908. On May 22, 1908, "a purchase was made of the two grass houses at the old zoo and they are now being moved in sections down to the Outrigger grounds at Waikiki. These two native grass houses are probably the best remaining samples of ancient Hawaiian house building to be found in the Islands . . . the Outrigger Canoe Club learned from C. G. Ballentyne of the Street Railways that these houses were still in perfect condition, but about to be pulled down . . . the owner, Charles A. Biddinger, an ardent Outrigger enthusiast, . . . saved the houses for the Club. . . . One of these [grass houses] will be put up facing the ocean about midway between the Seaside and Moana Hotels This will

be used as a bathhouse for the members of the Club. The other will face the stream and here will be stored the Club surfboards." The "spacious thatched *lanais* about these grass houses will afford ample protection from the glare of the sun, and, while ample space will be left on the grounds for the carrying out of L. E. Pinkham's design of a *hau-tree lanai*, doubtless his plans will now be modified and the Outrigger Canoe Club will become the home of Hawaiian sports with only such buildings on the grounds as suggest the Hawaii that the tourist comes to see and the old Hawaii still loved by the *kamaainas*." The *Evening Bulletin* of May 28, 1908, told Honolulu that "the grass houses for the Outrigger Club are on the ground at Waikiki and will be put up at once.

"The first van load of dismantled Hawaiian grass houses arrived at Waikiki Beach" on May 27, 1908, and were "deposited on the grounds of the Outrigger Club," reported the *Advertiser* of May 28, 1908. "The work of erecting will commence shortly and, within a few days, the members will have two houses . . . in which to keep their bathing suits and surfboards.

"A temporary canoe shed of coconut leaves, Hawaiian style, will be erected at once, and at the next meeting of the

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In 1940  
the Club grew up.

Club the question will come up for settlement as to whether or not only Hawaiian houses shall be built on its property. Many of the Club members are in favor of turning this part of Waikiki Beach into a bit of old Hawaii that will attract visitors from everywhere."

#### FIRST "CLUB" MASCOT

"The Outrigger Club has adopted a mascot—a pair of them, in fact," declared the *Advertiser*, June 10, 1908. Every day tiny Marie Brooke, of the Seaside Hotel, trots over to help supervise the erection of the grass houses that the Outrigger Club is putting up. . . . The Outrigger Club grows in their present state of building . . . [and is the] frequent lounging place of all the urchins of Waikiki. Prince David's little son and daughter, who are the guests of Major Purdy, are daily visitors. . . . Master Arthur Gilman . . . had the honor of placing in commission the first of the fleet of outrigger canoes belonging to the Club members. Dr. Humphris bought a small canoe the day he paid his dues and became a member" and this was the canoe commissioned by Arthur Gilman.

#### FEMININE SURFBOARDERS

Ruth Soper, under the tutelage of Harold Hustace, "is learning to ride the board like a professional. Ruth is the leader of a little group of Punahou school

girls who have taken up surfing . . . and insist that they will have a club and clubhouse of their own if the boys' club dues do not admit girl members.

"Little Margaret Center, the charming fancy dancer, is another dainty youngster who comes to the beach frequently to take surfing lessons from the Club members. . . . Master Harold Hustace won the cup [for surfboarding] at the last surfing contest, but his brother Curtis, Atherton Gilman, Lane Webster and several newcomers in the field are among those named as possible winners of the first Club contest."

#### MRS. ARNOLD AND "MASCOT" MARIE

"Balls, dances, smokers, and concerts are already being discussed under the open grass roofs of the Outrigger Club, and Mrs. Arnold, who now presides over the destinies of Seaside Hotel, but was once protegee of Queen Emma and used to stand on the surfboard with her in the good old days, is taking a deep interest in the Club that now owns the land once possessed by the Queen. Mrs. Arnold and little [five-year-old] Marie [Brooke] discuss quite seriously sometimes a great *luau* that is to take place on the grounds of the Outrigger Club, when it is expected that the Club mascot will be permitted to remain up long enough to assist the friend of Queen Emma, who is

to prepare the feast. There are happy faces at the seaside just now, and more new boards were tried Sunday [June 7, 1908] than ever before."

#### CLUB FINALLY IN COMMISSION

"The Club grounds at Waikiki . . . is now ready for actual use by the members of the Outrigger Canoe Club," announced the president of the Club in the *Advertiser* of June 29, 1908.

"Thanks to the generous aid of the proprietors of the Seaside Hotel the Club can now offer its members free bathing quarters and shower baths on its own premises. Those wishing lockers, however, will have to provide the same. The Club carpenter, always on the grounds, would build these for about two dollars apiece." On this subject members were directed to see Treasurer R. H. Trent.

"A room for surfboards is in course of construction. . . Several Club surfboards are being turned out by the carpenter. Members desiring private surfboards may have same made on Club grounds at a cost, including lumber, of from two dollars up. . . Club is considering the purchase of several *koa*-wood native canoes . . . built in Kona . . . dues being so small (five dollars a year and no initiation fee) . . . a ladies auxiliary is contemplated but at present the Club is for men only. . . A canoe shelter on the beach, of coconut leaves, is almost completed . . . a large permanent rainproof canoe shed will be built . . . several canoes may be secured from twenty dollars up . . . pinewood paddles cost \$1.50 each and *koa*-wood paddles, \$2.50. . .

"Two native grass houses have been erected . . . the front *Lanai* of the house on the beach will be used as a lounging place for bathers, an extensive *hikiee* [large couch] being in course of building. The spacious side *Lanai* will be used as a dining room . . . electric bell connects with the Seaside Hotel . . . two large *hikiees* will take up most of the space within the grass house on the beach . . . spaces under *hikiees* will be reserved for lockers—rented . . . retaining wall will be built . . . the large tent house belonging to the Seaside Hotel will be removed from its present position and an exten-

sive *lanai* erected in its place as a general clubhouse for members and their friends. . . The Fleet Committee will construct a permanent bridge of coconut logs across the Lagoon. Prince Cupid, the Seaside Hotel, Mr. James Wilder and others have contributed the timber."

*A toast to the founders of the Outrigger Canoe Club!*

#### MOUNTAIN SOFTBALL

The Outrigger ten (yes, they play 10 men in the softball league) have to date played two games — and we are sorry to say, they have lost two. But wait 'til the boys really get their eyes on the apple. We predict they will be up in the top flight. The first game at Monsarrat Field April 18 ended: OCC 2, Bishop Estate 3. Second game at Elks' Field: OCC 4, Austin & Towill 5, played on April 25th.

Trophies will be awarded by the league for first and second place. Maybe our team needs a few more rooters every Friday p.m. Here is the OCC lineup: J. Ackerman, catcher; W. Ackerman, field; V. Kahn, pitcher; W. Beers, field; J. Beardmore, 1st base; A. Williams, 2nd base; C. Philpotts, shortstop; W. Casey, 3rd base; W. Barnhart, pitcher; P. Wyman, field; P. O'Connor, field; F. Nott, field; J. Conant, pitcher; R. Value, field.

#### ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bill "Whiskey" Barnhart has been appointed vice chairman of the canoe committee and Pat Barker a member.

Art Schofield has been appointed to the Building and Grounds Committee.

Herbert Taylor's name was omitted inadvertently in the last issue of the *Fore-cast*. He is a member of the Beach Services Committee. Vic Kahn and George Emmert have been appointed to the Men's Entertainment Committee.

#### COCKTAIL LOUNGE

TUESDAY thru SUNDAY

12:00 Noon 'til Midnite

MONDAYS—4:30 P.M. to Midnite