

CALL FOR SUPPORT OF NATIVE SPORTS.

Honolulu, Jan. 6, 1906.

EDITOR STAR:—The affairs of the Outrigger Club are still hanging fire, and not only do not outsiders come forward in its behalf, but the original members are hanging back as if the paying of their dues of only five dollars a year were going to ruin them. Now I would like to ask, if this idea of Ford's, of reviving the Hawaiian sports and games, and which he, an utter outsider, devoted nine months of his time, and no end of hard work, is of no consequence what ever? Indeed it is considered to be of so much importance that a great many consider that he has put us all to shame; and particularly when it's known that he had no means to speak of, and spent almost his last penny in this promotion work.

Again a great many consider its of so much importance that not only should this Outrigger Club of Ford's be continued, but a rival club start composed of all Hawaiians. It is said it is well enough for the foreigners or the haoles to form a club of this kind, but what is mainly wanted is a surf board and outrigger club that is purely Hawaiian.

But to do this someone must be found among the rich natives that will do what this man Ford without means has done for the haoles. And I would like to ask, if there is not someone among the many rich natives, who its well known have barrels of money and any amount of leisure, that will come forward and help out their own countrymen, and do what they can towards reviving these Hawaiian sports and games among their own people?

And I would also suggest, if no one among our white race, who it's well known have even more money than the natives, will do nothing in the way of helping along this club, that the Promotion Committee be asked to do something for it. It is said some twenty thousand dollars is spent in promotion work and the work of inducing people to come here; and if such is the case one would think a little of this large amount could be spent in promoting sports that the tourist most desires to see, or the Hawaiian sports and games. In paying or spending so much money in inducing people to come here, and then doing nothing, or very little toward reviving those sports and other things which would so highly interest, entertain and please the tourist, seems to me something like a man going to great expense in building a theater and then forgetting to engage the actors or performers. Of course I may be wrong in this supposition.

But if none of these people will do anything to help the club along, it will be no great hardship for the member to pay their due, which would, perhaps, be sufficient to carry the club along, though not enough to do all that is contemplative. Many thanks are due to Mr. Herbert, Mr. McCandless and others, as well as to the ladies, and to the boys for the various ways in which they have assisted and helped the club along. It is hoped that the wall, and also the roof of the dancing hall, will soon be started, as there is danger of much of the work being destroyed if those are not done or attended to at once.

It has been suggested that a rice straw roof be placed over the dancing hall, in place of a grass roof.

Very truly,

GEO. OSBORNE.