

OUTRIGGER CLUB AND ITS MISSION

What It Has Accomplished and What It Hopes to Accomplish.

Honolulu, March 10, 1909.

Editor Advertiser: If space will permit, I would like to say a word or two about the affairs of the Outrigger Canoe Club, which seem to be misunderstood. In the first place, there seems to be a misunderstanding as to when the fees fall due for the annual payment. Therefore, I beg to quote the bylaw in regard to the exact date when the payments should be made.

"Article X. Fees and Dues. The dues shall be five dollars per annum for every year, or part of a year, and shall be paid in January of every year. Any person who shall have failed to pay the fee of five dollars before the 31st of March of each year shall be expelled."

I hope this is plain enough, and I would beg to say that as Guy Rothwell has resigned as collector, I would be obliged if the members would send their dues to me, care Trent & Co. I would also like to say that I regret to see that the members and also the business men of this city take so little interest in this club, which, as everyone knows, is to encourage canoeing, surfriding, swimming and all other aquatic sports, for the pleasure and health of the members, and to encourage and revive all the old Hawaiian sports.

I also regret to see that the hard work done by Mr. A. H. Ford in promoting this club, and the hard work he is still doing, is not better appreciated by people at large and the members, and especially by the business men of this city. It is well known that Mr. Ford put in six or seven months of hard work, working almost day and night, in promoting and in trying to put the club, canoe, ground, building, etc., in shape. It is known, too, that it took him months before he could secure a lease to the premises, and which are worth twenty times what he paid for them, and the lease could be sold today for \$5000. It was also Mr. Ford's idea to make a worldwide reputation for this club; and most everyone will admit that the regattas given by the club, with one exception, were equal to anything given by the city in the way of entertainments. Indeed, it is my opinion that these entertainments given by the club will linger in the mind of the members of the fleet, and tourists, and all those that were fortunate enough to witness them, when everything else is forgotten.

It is also safe to say that no man has ever been here who has worked for the interest of this club and the welfare of the whole community as he has done, and, for that matter, is still doing. I would also like to say that Mr. Ford has imbued some of us with the same spirit, and therefore we regret that his work is so little appreciated, and that so little interest is taken in the club, and also that the members, with few exceptions, seem to pay their dues so reluctantly. But, notwithstanding the many drawbacks, the club is coming to the front, and, we feel sure, will in the end prove a great success. Work on the club premises is also being pushed along with dispatch, and things in general are looking more encouraging. The great lanai is practically finished, the woman's bathhouse is also about finished, but we still have the canoes to put in shape, a wall to build, and the grounds to put in order.

All of this work, etc., has put the club in debt, but we are not discouraged, for not only have many of the members paid their dues promptly, but Mr. E. D. Tenney, John and James McCandless and Dr. W. R. Brinckerhoff have sent us donations, and others have partly promised to send more. Mrs. Swanzy has also promised to get members and secure funds enough to pay for the woman's bathhouse. A ball and supper is also to be given in the near future, which, it is hoped, will prove a great success and help to pay off some of the indebtedness.

Very truly,
GEO. OSBORNE.