

OPENING NEW SIGHTS FOR TOURISTS,--THE GARDENS OF THE SEA

The Outrigger Club is to have a glass-bottomed canoe for use on the reefs. The recently returned president of the organization has the canoe and the plans, and work will be rushed forward so that if any very remarkable marine gardens are discovered near Waikiki in time they will be shown for the benefit of the Clark cruisers.

The president of the Outrigger Club acted as a committee of one during his trip away from Hawaii and visited both Bermuda, in the Atlantic and Catalina Island off the coast of California, both of which places are famous for their marine gardens and glass-bottomed boats. At Catalina George Freeth stated that he knew submarine gardens near Castle point that surpassed those of the California coast. If this is true, and the Outrigger Club means to investigate, an entirely new tourist industry may be built up here.

From Bermuda a commodious steamer goes out to the reefs daily, towing sometimes as many as a dozen spacious glass-bottomed boats and tens of thousands of dollars are earned annually by these boats. The Pacific marine gardens are infinitely more beautiful than those of the Atlantic.

All about Fiji and the New Hebrides there are miles upon miles of submarine coral forests of many hues, in which swarm gorgeous fish of every kind and description.

At Catalina there are wonderful gold colored fish, that are protected by law. Off Waikiki there are places where the natives feed the fish regularly, and sometimes catch them, but the most important fact is that fish will congregate where they are fed and protected.

If the Outrigger club boys find an attractive marine garden the legislature will be appealed to set it aside as a public park.

The advantage of the glass-bottomed boat is that several people at a time may enjoy the novelty of looking down at the bed of the sea and all between. Fish may be seen swimming over the coral, and where there is a marine growth, the effect is indescribable, for the glass makes everything visible. It would be possible to see fish sixty feet below the glass bottom off the reefs of Waikiki, and as these appear magnified, they would seem to stand out boldly.

The results of the search of the Outrigger Club for submarine gardens in Hawaiian waters will be watched with interest.