

OUTRIGGER CLUB FREE TO ERECT MORE BUILDINGS

Secretary Beaven Tells How Women's Auxiliary Turned Down Consolidation

That the Outrigger Canoe Club has never made a promise to the Women's Auxiliary that it would provide accommodations for the women folk of its members, and offers made by the Outrigger to consolidate the two organizations on equal terms were rejected by the auxiliary in 1914 with the understanding that the question of consolidation should be definitely set aside, was stated today by Secretary J. Ashman Beaven of the Outrigger.

Beaven's statement was written by him for the Star-Bulletin to clear up misunderstandings as to the present status of the two organizations in view of the special meeting of the Outrigger called for Tuesday night at 8 o'clock in Cooke hall, Y. M. C. A., to discuss and take action on the proposition of erecting additional bath houses on the Outrigger's grounds to accommodate women guests of Outrigger members. The secretary's statement says:

Dates Back to 1912

"Never at any time has the Outrigger Canoe Club made such a promise, and the only excuse that the makers of that statement can have for making it is that back in August, 1912, when the women's auxiliary bathhouses were located on the Outrigger Canoe Club grounds, an agitation developed among Outrigger Club members for dressing-room accommodations for their women folk, who could not then be accommodated by the Women's Auxiliary.

"At that time the Outrigger Club decided to erect the building, as the members desiring it had subscribed the necessary funds. Before the building could be erected the Women's Auxiliary offered to admit into their organization all the women relatives of members of the O. C. C. who at that time desired accommodations, provided the money subscribed was turned over to the auxiliary.

Long List Is Prepared

"The Outrigger Club accepted this offer and the money was paid over to them. Then followed some correspondence conveying to the Women's Auxiliary the names of the ladies to be admitted and between the time of the acceptance of the offer and the final settlement of the matter a number of additions were made to the list of names. The list, if I remember correctly, contained about 60 at first, and this was gradually increased, pending the settlement, to a total of 75. At the time this matter was closed (November, 1912) the directors of the Outrigger Club voted:

"That no further requests be made to the auxiliary for the admission of anyone to membership in that organization.

"That from this date any application for membership in the auxiliary, even though a member of the family of some member of the Outrigger Club should be made direct to the auxiliary, and take its proper position on their waiting list; our list of applications may therefore be considered closed from this time."

Offer to Consolidate Made

"About two years later, in April, 1914, to be precise, when conditions again became acute, there was a strong sentiment among the members of the Outrigger Canoe Club that the constantly recurring demand for bathing accommodations for the women folk of members should be remedied in some way, and after much discussion it was felt that an amalgamation or consolidation of the two organizations would settle the problem.

"A special meeting of the club was held in May, 1914, and an offer of consolidation on equal terms was made to the Women's Auxiliary, which offer was subsequently declined by the auxiliary. Just about this time the Women's Auxiliary secured a piece of land adjoining the Outrigger Canoe Club's premises, and during negotiations which followed between the two organizations covering an exchange of leases for part of the land acquired by the auxiliary for a portion of the Outrigger Club premises, a condition proposed by the auxiliary as part of the consideration governing the exchange of leases was: 'That the status agreed upon shall be permanent.' Just what was meant by this was not clear to the Outrigger Club, but this was made plain in a letter dated October 12, 1914, written by Mrs. W. A. Wall, secretary of the auxiliary, in which it was said:

"* * * and it is also expected that the request for an assurance that the status agreed upon should be permanent, would be understood to mean that the question of consolidation should be definitely set aside."

"These are the only two agreements or promises that have been made between the two organizations during the past five years."