

# Myrtle Boat Club Negotiates Victory Following Long Wait

Red Was Winner of Regatta Day Races in 1910—Success in Saturday's Races Was Undisputed—Coxswain Hough and New Boat Played an Important Part—Boat Named for Duke

In winning undisputed victory in all but two of the nine races in which they participated in the 21st annual Regatta Day celebration Saturday, the Myrtle Boat Club again attains the rowing championship of the territory after a period of six years, during which the Healaní Yacht and Boat club has been supreme. Myrtle crews won every race in which they entered except the junior and the senior pair-oared sliding-seat barge events which were both won by Healaní.

Although no trophy was offered this year for the club winning the greatest number of points, nor, in fact, were the results of the races entered in any score, the total of victories bore as much significance to the members of the two old rival clubs—the Healaní and the Myrtle—as they have for 20 years in the past.

Hilo protested against making the total score of all of the races the object of the greatest competition because they had only one crew to offer. In response the Hawaiian Rowing Association agreed to make each race a strictly separate event and to offer the most cherished trophy for victory in the one race in which the Hawaii team competed—the senior six-oared sliding-seat barge race.

## Rivalry Was Keen

Nevertheless, the historic rivalry between Healaní and Myrtle prevailed supreme. Myrtle rejoiced for having won the senior, junior and freshman events, and likewise did Healaní become down-hearted, but the greatest source of feeling remained the sum total of all of the races in which the two rivals competed.

## Myrtle Won in 1910

The Myrtle club won its last regatta championship away back in 1910. For many years previous to that time they held the rowing championship of the territory. They boasted of the best oarsmen until it became almost traditional for them to win. The Healaní club was on the point of disruption after repeated defeats.

During the following year, however, the Healaní club entered the regatta competition with a final determination to do or die. They purchased a new boat and enlisted good oarsmen in their club to win the majority of the races in the regatta that year.

## Healaní Wins in 1911

Since 1911 the Healaní crews have been supreme. In 1912 they won four out of five races and it was during that year that the famous race between the two freshmen crews resulted in a dead heat and one of the competing men was sent to the hospital as a result of the strain.

In 1913 Healaní won every race that they entered, and during the next three years they continued to prove the better of the two although in 1915 the competition was very close. Last year Healaní won six out of the eight races.

But on Saturday the tables were turned with much surprise. The dope of even the oldest prognosticators did not give the Myrtle Club the victory which it won.

## Hilo Picked to Win

Hilo had been picked to win the senior race, and although the other two crews were conceded a good chance for victory, they were not expected to be near the Hawaii crew at the finish. Largely for this reason, the senior race was one of the most exciting that has been seen in the harbor for years.

Healaní supposedly had the strongest junior crew and the members of that club still contend that they would have won had not Gall broken his oar. Nearing the lighthouse, the Healaní crew was rowing by far the better race when Gall's oar cracked. He followed in form, but the boat lost much on the turn. Finally he tried straight pulling again after the boat had rounded the buoy. His oar broke in two and he jumped overboard, his crew finishing far behind the winners.

Myrtle was generally conceded the victory won by the freshman crew. They were also expected to win the senior scull race and there was little doubt about the junior scull race although victory in that race came to them by reason of a foul by one of their opponents.

The victory of the Myrtle "rookie" crew in the intermediate race was one of the features of the meet. In spite of the fact that the men were rowing in the poorest barge—a barge which, it was estimated, would put them back three boat lengths on the turn—and in spite of the second fact that they had never been in a boat together before, they won the race. Not the least conspicuous person in the winning boat was Sam Johnson, who rowed at number one.

## Barges Help Victory

Of the many things which entered into the responsibility for the Myrtle success, there were two, outside of the work of the men who actually propelled the boat, which have received only casual attention from the average layman. First of these was the boats used, and second, the work of the coxswain.

The Healaní club has been ahead of the Myrtle club in the success of their boat purchases since they began to win in 1911. At that time they had bought a new Rogers boat. The rival club followed them by also buying a Rogers boat. And so one club continued to be just behind the other in the purchase of barges.

For the 1916 regatta Healaní had

Harada, a local Japanese boat builder, make a barge largely after their own plans, and using it, they won most of the races that year. Myrtle had ordered a similar boat made by the same man, but it was not ready until this year.

The Harada barges are easily distinguished from the others by the way in which they set in the water. Both ends of the barge are much higher out of the water than is common in such crafts.

## Barge Named After Duke

Before the Myrtles entered the races Saturday with their new barge, it was christened Duke P. Kahanamoku. Members of the club desired to name it "Skinner," after Attorney Charley Davis, who had contributed the largest sum towards its purchase. But Mr. Davis protested, and because the club granted him the privilege of naming the boat for his generosity, they allowed his protest, and the boat was named after the world's champion swimmer.

Mrs. William Ladd Rosa broke the bottle of white wine in the christening, and shortly after the boat was lifted into the water for a great victory. The boat has not lost a race yet.

Luther Hough is the little coxswain who steered the winning barges for the Myrtle club on Saturday. Hough first began to steer Myrtle boats over 10 years ago and since that time has not increased much in size. For a time others took his place in Myrtle barges and that was when they began to lose. His direction of the Myrtle crews on the course has won them many races, and his work on Saturday undoubtedly played an important part in winning the victory.

## Regatta Was Lengthy

Although there were several good reasons for delay in running off the races, there was a great deal of unnecessary delay. There was some confusion at the start and it took so much time to get the races off that the great majority of the crowd had drifted away when the last race was off. It was almost 4 o'clock when the regatta came to an end. However, this was as much the fault of the competitors as of any one else.

The monotony of waiting for the next race was broken by the appearance of Frances Cowella, David Kahanamoku and Claire Calligan on surfboards in the harbor. They spent considerable time aqua-planing. They showed much skill as they were towed rapidly over the surface of the water on surfboards by a high-powered naval launch.

With the conclusion of the annual regatta celebration, rowing will give way to football. While the boathouses continue to remain open throughout the winter months, crew work will not begin again until next summer.

## The Results

The final results of the regatta follow:

**Six-Paddle Canoe Race**—Hui Nalu, first, time 2 min., canoe, Lio Keokeo; Outrigger, second, canoe, Aa, and Outrigger, third, canoe, Hanakoiki.

**Senior Six-Oared Sliding Seat Barge**—Myrtles, first, time 14:52 3-5; Hilo, second, and Healaní, third.

**Ladies' Six-Oared Sliding Seat Barge**—Kunahu Blues, first, time 2:53 2-5; Kunahu Reds, second.

**Freshmen Six-Oared Sliding Seat Barge**—Myrtles, first, time, 12:15; Healaní, second.

**Four-Oared Steamer Boats**—Cancelled, owing to slowness of races and on account of several steamers entering crews having to leave the harbor on their respective island trips.

**Intermediate Six-Oared Sliding Seat Barge**—Myrtles, "Rookie" crew, first, time 12:43 4-5; Healaní, second, and Myrtle "Panini" crew, third.

**Senior Scull, Sliding Seat**—Myrtles (Duke P. Kahanamoku), first, time 3:00 2-5; Myrtles (Arthur Waipa Parker), second; Healaní (Harry Melim), third, did not finish.

**Surfboard Paddle Race**—Edrie Cooke, first, time 4:37 2-5; "Dad" Center, second, and Percy Nottage, third, all Outrigger Canoe Club entries. Hui Nalu did not compete.

**Junior Six-Oared Sliding Seat Barge**—Myrtles, first, time 12:25; Healaní, second.

**Senior Pair Sliding Seat**—Healaní, (William Hollinger and Robert Kana-kau) first, time 1:45; Myrtles (Duke Kahanamoku and Arthur Waipa Parker), second, and Myrtles (Anderson and Osa), third.

**Junior Scull, Sliding Seat**—Myrtles (William Ladd Rosa), first, time 2:00 2-5; Myrtles (Walter Bryant), second, and Healaní (William Rowatt) third, disqualified. Rowatt finished first, the judges disqualifying him for fouling Bryant's scull.

**Four-Paddle Canoe Race**—Hui Nalu, first, time 2:01 4-5; Outrigger, second, and Outrigger, third.

**Junior Pair-Oared Sliding Seat**—Healaní (Frank Kruger and Frank Cunha), first, time 1:44 4-5; Myrtles (Jimmie Hart and Max Rosa), second, and Myrtles (O'Brien and Herbert McIneray), third.

**Boys (Under 18 Years) Six-Oared Sliding Seat Barge**—Myrtles, first, time 12:35 2-5; Healaní, second.

**Naval Cutter Race**—U. S. S. Alert (Engine Room Force), first, time 15:09 4-5; U. S. S. Alert (Deck Force), second.

J. Vaughan, ex-attorney-general of South Australia, has enlisted for active service.