

# FRANCES COWELS BOOSTS AQUATIC GAME IN HAWAII

Says That Visit of Mermaids  
Did Much to Increase In-  
terest in Swimming

(By Frances L. Cowells in San Francisco Bulletin)

Unless present plans undergo change within the next few weeks it is unlikely that any mainland swimmers will cross the Pacific for the February carnival at Honolulu. The success of the September events was such that it was confidently expected this year's carnival races would set a new mark in the history of island meets. Apparently the war conditions have interfered with the hopes of the promoters or, and this is quite plausible, there is a feeling that sufficient home talent is at hand for all aquatic purposes.

## Honolulu Boom

The boom in swimming in Honolulu which Miss Dorothy Burns and others predicted last season has already come to pass. Several meets have been held in which increased numbers of men and women swimmers have competed. But it has been the youngsters who have supplied the sensations. Miss Marion Dowsett, pupil of Duke Kahanamoku, and Miss Eleanor Lyser, a slim little mermaid, are talked of now as future greats of the island colony. In indoor and outdoor swimming events they have led the field over the shorter distances. Miss Lyser recently caused a stir at the Y. M. C. A. meet by breaking the Hawaiian record in the sprints.

Honolulu will not suffer for first-class talent for Carnival week, because it has in Ludy Langer, Duke Kahanamoku, Clarence Lane, Harold Kruger and John Kelli a string of title holders of which any district might well be proud. Among the girl swimmers there are Josephine Hopkins, Edith Kenn, Dorothy Martin, Helen Martin, Thelma Kenn, Elsie and Agnes Auld, Madeline Chapin, Louise Drew, Gerd Hjorth and Irma Tarleton. All of them have given good accounts in Honolulu events and their followers feel that with sufficient experience they will challenge comparison with the best.

With Ludy Langer seeking a commission at the Schofield barracks, the prospects are not very bright for his participation in swimming races. Still, Langer is the type of sportsman who recognizes the healthful side of swimming apart from the competitive spirit. He may be persuaded to meet Kruger in another 500 meter race, which was the one in which he recently lowered the European record.

## Chicago Team Coming?

Information came to me from Chicago the other day that a team of swimmers will be brought to the coast and Honolulu in the late summer or the fall of this year. Many of the prominent members of the Chicago team have entered the army and navy, but the new men are expected to do every bit as well under the proper coaching. If this trip is undertaken Honolulu can be assured of at least one party of men swimmers from the mainland. Otherwise girls' races will have to command attention.

The outlook here favors the greatest season for girls that has ever come to pass. Interior cities made their first bid for attention last year, but the spread of swimming interest has been such that large numbers will seek competition in the summer races.

A decision on the carnival program will probably be made in Honolulu within a few days. But just now there does not seem much of a possibility of the local swimmers journeying in that direction next month.