

# RAWLINS DENIES TRYING TO HINDER DUKE'S COAST TRIP

## Says He Only Attempted To Prevent Swimmer From Violating Rules of A. A. U. and Losing His Amateur Standing

Editor Advertiser—In an article in the issue of the Star-Bulletin of April 10, relative to the contemplated trip of Duke P. Kahannamoku to Neptune Beach, reference is made to me in the following terms, "It was said yesterday that W. T. Rawlins, who, by the way, will not make the trip with Duke, notified Joe Stickney not to issue a statement from the A. A. U. for the trip until Duke has secured permission to go from the secretary of his club."

It is apparent from the foregoing quotation that Owen Merriek, the writer of the article, is not familiar with the rules of the A. A. U. and desires further to create the impression with the public, that I am "peeved" because I am not making the trip and am trying to prevent Duke from going. This I brand as false, as also the statement that I gave certain orders to Joe Stickney about issuing a statement to Duke for the trip. Mr. Stickney under the A. A. U. rules is not called upon or authorized to issue a statement to Duke or any one else to make a trip. I gave no orders to Joe Stickney, and am in no way attempting to prevent Mr. Kahannamoku from making the trip as the following facts will show.

Under date of March 5, 1918, I received a letter from Mr. Herbert Hauser of Neptune Beach, asking me to arrange for the appearance of Duke in the 100 yard National Championship to be held at Neptune Beach on April 28th, and to cable him if Duke would make the trip.

On March 13 I met Duke and informed him of the contents of the letter from Mr. Hauser, and was informed by him that Mr. Halton of the Hawaii Promotion Committee was making all arrangements with Duke and Hauser for the trip.

### Letter to Hauser

On the same day I wrote Mr. Hauser relating the conversation had with Duke and also the following:

"I want to suggest to you that any further dealings that you may have in this matter had better be with Mr. Harold K. Castle, the president of the Hui Nalu, of which club Duke is a member, and whatever Mr. Castle does, I can assure you will be satisfactory to you. I called Duke's attention to the fact that only an officer of his club could arrange for his appearance at a swimming meet on the mainland, and that the A. A. U. rules were strict on that point, and our association would not recognize arrangements made by others than an officer of his club. Hence my suggestion that you deal with Mr. Castle."

Tuesday afternoon April 9, Mr. Lorin Andrews notified me that Mr. Joe Stickney had spoken to him about a letter received by Mr. Halton from Mr. Hauser, requesting that Mr. Andrews certify that Duke was an amateur, and I later called up Mr. Stickney by telephone relative to the letter, and he informed me that Mr. J. F. Soper had it. I called on Mr. Soper and he informed me that he did not have the letter, but that Mr. Halton did.

Mr. Soper and I called on Mr. Halton and were shown the letter in question, also several other letters and cablegrams that had passed between Mr. Halton and Mr. Hauser. After seeing these letters and having a statement from Mr. Halton (who is not an officer of the Hui Nalu) that he had made all arrangements for the trip, and knowing that this was in violation of the A. A. U. rules, I informed Mr. Soper that he could not as chairman of the registration committee certify as to Duke's amateur standing because the rules had been violated, and suggested that the proper officials of the Hui Nalu be requested to straighten the matter out.

After careful explanation by Mr. Soper and myself of the rules of the A. A. U., Mr. Halton stated that he would go no further in the matter, and would have Duke write a letter and attend to the matter himself.

### More Correspondence

I immediately returned to my office and wrote the following letter to Mr. Harold Castle, president of the Hui Nalu:

"Mr. Halton, secretary of the Hawaii Promotion Committee, this afternoon informed Mr. J. F. Soper and myself that he had made all arrangements for Duke P. Kahannamoku to swim at Neptune Beach, Alameda, California, on the 28th of this month. This is in contravention of the following rule of the A. A. U. which I quote for your guidance:

"General Rules, Rule IV, Section II, Page 39.

"II. An athlete who permits anyone other than an officer of the club which he is entitled to represent in competition, to make arrangements for his appearance at an athletic meeting, shall thereby render himself ineligible for further competition as an amateur."

"This rule is very plain in its terms, and as we are informed that Mr. Kahannamoku is leaving on Saturday, I take the liberty of requesting that you take immediate steps to correct this violation of the rules of the Amateur Athletic Union.

"Rule 12 of the General Rules

also provides that an athlete who desires to compete at a place more than twenty-five miles from his residence, must receive a permit to do so from the chairman of the registration committee of the association in which the athlete is registered. This matter has not been attended to by Mr. Kahannamoku, and your attention is called to that fact.

"Trusting that you will give these matters your attention, I am."

From the foregoing statement of facts, I submit that it is apparent to any fair-minded person, that instead of attempting to prevent Duke from making the trip, I have been endeavoring to have him started right, and without any possibility of his amateur standing being questioned.

As to the statement that I am not making the trip, let me state that I have made several trips in charge of swimmers to the mainland, that all of my expenses have been paid for out of my own funds, that I have never had to resort to the charity of others, but that others who have accompanied me have made frequent calls on my private funds for their own private benefit.

### Charges Spite Work

Several attacks have been recently made upon myself and other officers of the A. A. U. through the public press, all of which are prompted by petty spite, jealousy and false statements, and it is time that the public was informed of that fact. The officers of the A. A. U. are doing all in their power to encourage good clean sport, and at all times will oppose any attempt to violate the plain intent of the rules under which we are working.

In conclusion, let me state, that the statement made through the public press, that Lane, Kruger and Keli would not be able to make the trip with Duke, by reason of the fact that there was a fight on between the several swimming clubs, is absolutely without foundation. There is no fight going on between the several swimming clubs, and all the swimmers named above would have toured the mainland with all expenses paid, if Duke had agreed to accompany them, instead of turning the offer down on the grounds "that he had accepted an offer to go on the stage with Barnes and West", which said offer is and was apparently a myth.

Thanking you for publishing this letter, I am

Respectfully,

WILLIAM T. RAWLINS,  
President Hawaiian Association  
A. A. U.

April 10, 1918.

## NORMAN ROSS BREAKS FOUR WORLD RECORDS

CHICAGO, April 11—(Associated Press)—Norman Ross, champion long-distance swimmer of the world, and member of the Olympic Club of San Francisco, swam the 500 yard distance in 5:53 2-5, in the national A. A. U. championships here last night, establishing a new record for the distance. He also broke the world's record for the 440, 400 and 330 yards in his trial for the longer distance record, thus establishing four new records in the one event.

W. S. S.

## INDOOR BASEBALL TO START TONIGHT

Tonight will be the official opening of the indoor baseball season of the boys department at the central Y. M. C. A. The present schedule drawn up between the four teams will extend over a period of the next six weeks and will be one of the spring term attractions for the boys. The teams in this league are made up of the high school, grammar school and employed boys. These teams represent four clubs which meet every Thursday night following a supper together. Last Thursday night fifty-eight boys sat down to supper together and after the program which followed, organized the four teams and elected their captains. The opening games tonight will be played as follows: Harvard vs. Yale and Princeton vs. Cornell.

W. S. S.

## M'CREIDIE AX FALLS ON BEE BACKSTOPS

PORTERVILLE, California, March 26—McCredie's ax fell this morning and three aspirants for the catching staff of the Bees heard the sad words, the first of the season. Those to go are Hinkle, Salt Lake Squires, Brigham City, Utah, and Gomez, Los Angeles. This means that Duen and Konnick will be the first string men behind the rubber for the Bees at least for the opening of the season.