

Would Put Skirts On Mermaids Of Waikiki Beach

Women's Auxiliary of Outrigger Club Objects To Extreme Styles Affected By Some and Will Ask Supervisors To Tabu Them

If the desires of a large number of Honolulu women are crystallized into legislation, as they expect, Waikiki will see less of the women bathers in future than can now be noted by observant beach loungers. A campaign is being launched for an ordinance tabuing the styles of costumes affected by some of this season's mermaids and requiring an extension on the suits both fore and aft.

According to the plans of a committee of the Women's Auxiliary of the Outrigger Club, a petition carrying the names of two to three thousand Honolulu women is to be presented to the board of supervisors asking for an ordinance prescribing the limits on female bathing suits. The proposal has taken practical form and members of the women's committee presented the matter last night before the Outrigger Club for its official endorsement.

No Street Parades

The hope is to prohibit the wearing by women bathers of men's one-piece bathing suits and of costumes that are décollete by five or six extra inches and coy as to skirts to the point of disappearance. It is also expected that the ordinance will prohibit the promenade of nymphs in the semi-nude along the public thoroughfares leading to the beach. Hereafter, when the ordinance becomes a law, fair bathers must provide themselves with full length overgarments when tripping over the asphalt on the way to the beaches.

"We do not want to be put down as pruders, nor do we want to cumber swimmers with so much clothing that their free movements in the water will be inconvenienced, but we do want to stop such exhibitions as are now making Waikiki notorious," said a spokeswoman for the Women's Auxiliary yesterday. "We propose to secure, if we can, an ordinance prohibiting such costumes as are positively indecent, such, I regret to say it, as some woman bathers are now using.

Just Above the Knee

"We propose the prohibition of the use of men's suits by women, requiring women bathers to wear a costume with a skirt reaching to just above the knee, and not cut more than four inches deep at the neck. We do not care what material is used in these, nor are we going to suggest the use of stockings or anything as extreme our way as the costumes now worn by some are extreme in their way. All we want is to stop the displays that are today making it necessary for some mothers to keep their children away from the swimming benches.

"We expect to get the signatures of at least two thousand decent women to our petition to the board of supervisors and Mr. Cristy has agreed to draft an ordinance for us."

Life Guard Censors

It is suggested that the life guards along the beach be given special police powers to enforce the expected ordinance, while special police will be used at the beginning to warn offenders of the ordinance.

"We do not expect women to 'scrap' their costumes all at once, but we do expect to get rid of the most glaring forms of immodesty at once and gradually clear the beach of all of them before the end of the summer," says this spokeswoman. "I am sure most people will agree with us in this. There are suits being worn today by some women that no man would be seen in.

"Such costumes as some wear are creating a condition that is hurting Waikiki. We have heard all the way from San Francisco of the shameless exhibitions made publicly and Waikiki is becoming known as an unmoral place. This is not the kind of advertising the promotion committee and others who love Honolulu want, we are sure."