

Mayor Roasts Outrigger Women

Fern Puts His Foot Down On Effort To Regulate Bathing Apparel; Tells Them To Knit More and Criticize Less

Can't Dictate To Beach Bathers

There is no need for any civic ordinance prescribing the length or style of bathing suits to be worn by women who bathe at Waikiki beach, according to Mayor Joseph J. Fern. The chief executive of the city declared this morning that the ladies of a certain club at Waikiki can enforce all the rules they want upon the other members of the club as to bathing uniforms but that any attempt to step out of those bounds and dictate as to what the rest of the bathers on the public beach must wear will meet with opposition from him.

"If the ladies who are apparently so anxious to secure this ordinance spent time at knitting socks and sweaters for soldiers and less time criticizing the dress and bathing of others they would do more good," declared Mayor Fern.

"These are war times and the city and county government has enough on its hands in the way of urgent business without taking up trivial and childish things such as regulating the length and breadth of ladies' bathing suits.

"The only reason that I have come forward to make this statement is because I have been told that efforts will be made to secure a hearing before the board of supervisors and a request made of the board to consider drafting an ordinance in regard to ladies' bathing costumes at Waikiki. I hope this will put the quietus on any such effort.

"Without going into argument as to whether the suits worn are too sylph-like or not I will only say 'Evil to him or her who evil thinks.'

"My advice to the ladies contemplating asking for a city ordinance on this subject is that they pay more attention to patriotic work and less attention to the dress of others."

Every hotel proprietor and practically every private dweller in the Waikiki beach district has gone on record as favoring the plan of the women's auxiliary of the Outrigger Club to prevent, by city ordinance, to regulate the apparel of feminine surf devotees, according to Mrs. Arthur G. Smith of that club's women's auxiliary.

Mrs. Smith conferred today with Manager Harry Stinson, of the Territorial Hotel Company, and received his assurances that both the Moana and the Seaside hotels would give hearty indorsement to the movement to abolish the one-piece bathing costume for women.

The women have learned that such legislation as they will ask from the board of supervisors next week has already been enacted at several of the leading beach resorts on the mainland, notably those at Atlantic City, Long Branch, Cape May and Asbury Park on the Atlantic and Ocean Park, Long Beach, Santa Monica and Redondo on the Pacific.

Now is the hour of our testing.

Do not help the Hun at meal time.