

# OUTRIGGER CLUB IS SPLIT OVER SKIRTS

## Opponents of Bathing Suit Regulation Rush To Defense of One-Piece Sort

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lished statement that he denied was to the effect that the best women swimmers had asserted that skirts did not hamper them in swimming.

"Our girl swimmers say that they swim much better and more easily in skirtless suits," he said.

The women who are seeking to have bathing garb regulated are sharply rapped by Mayor Fern who said they should talk less and knit more. He said that if they would spend more time knitting socks and sweaters for soldiers and less time criticizing the dress and bathing of others they would do more good.

In the mayor's view the question is trivial and childish and he said it should not be brought up to take up the time of city officials now burdened with grave problems of government.

Yesterday those opposed to the proposed regulation of bathing suits appeared to be having their innings, nearly all the communications received on the subject by The Advertiser being from persons strongly against any such action. It is noteworthy that almost every one of them quoted the phrase "honi soit qui mal y pense." Even Mayor Fern used it.

### Views of Writers

Views on the subject are given in detail in the following communications sent to The Advertiser.

Editor Advertiser—What is the real motive back of this sudden agitation of the bathing suit question by the "good ladies" of the Woman's Auxiliary Club, and why does the Board of Agitators claim the unanimous support of the membership of the Woman's Auxiliary and the Men's Outrigger Club when, as a matter of fact, no comprehensive effort has been made to get either the opinion or support of all the members of either organization. I have been a member of the Outrigger Club continuously for over seven years and my wife has belonged to the Woman's Auxiliary almost six years, yet the first either of us knew of the matter was when we read our morning "Advertiser". Quite a number of members of both clubs have spoken to one or the other of us about the matter since its publication, but we have yet to hear of one whose opinion was sought prior to the published "unanimous" camouflage, or one who approves the stand taken by the agitators.

### Revival of Old Row

On the contrary, there seems to be a general feeling that this latest move of the Woman's Auxiliary is a revival of the old feeling of antagonism against the guest department of the men's club, and a deliberate attempt publicly to hurt the feelings of the many fine women whose only opportunity to enjoy the bathing at Waikiki is by courtesy of the men's club. Everyone knows that for years the Woman's Auxiliary held a monopoly of the feminine enjoyment of our wonderful ocean off Waikiki, and it will be remembered that during these years they fought and opposed every effort made by the good fellows of the Outrigger Club who felt that the grounds of the Outrigger Club (which are practically donated to the club by the trustees of the Queen Emma Estate for the purpose of encouraging ocean bathing) could be easily made to accommodate five or even ten times the number of ladies hitherto permitted to enjoy that privilege.

And when one analyzes the conditions, there appears to be considerable ground for this feeling. In the first place, practically all the women and girls bathing at Waikiki are members of the auxiliary or guests of the Outrigger Club. If there is anything wrong with the bathing suit worn by a member of the auxiliary, surely it would be much easier for any member of the board of directors privately to approach the offender and bring about a remedy than it is to petition our law-making bodies to order the addi-

tion of a few inches to the offending suit. It might also be possible for the board of agitators to frame and enforce rules for the guidance for the members of their own club without the aid of publicity, or legislative authority.

Lately the supervision of the women's dressing room of the men's club annex has been placed under the control of the women's auxiliary, and if any of the women using the annex should offend the aesthetic tastes of the agitators, is it absolutely necessary to seek legislative action and slurring publicity as a corrective? Would not a softly worded and privately uttered suggestion answer the purpose just as well?

### Foolish Question!

And the hotels! Are they issuing bathing suits to their patrons which deserve condemnation? Foolish question! How about the bathers residing in the vicinity of Waikiki beach? Are the women of Beach Walk, Royal Grove, and Aunahau any less gentle and modest than the good ladies of the auxiliary or the women of the Annex? God help the agitator who dares give audible expression to such a thought. Tourists are now as scarce as hen's teeth and it surely cannot be that the occasional one of our all too few mainland visitors who desires to introduce something new to the "natives" is the target aimed at.

No! No! No! It is nothing but an unkind thrust at the large number of splendid women, the wives, mothers, sisters, daughters and guests of the Outrigger Club members, by the coterie of beskirted lanai lizards of the auxiliary who have never missed an opportunity of making things unpleasant for the friends of those who deprive them of their monopoly of the Beach at Waikiki. The ones who fence in their little bit of beach space as soon as the women friends of the men's club were given accommodations at the beach; the ones who sit and audibly pass sentences and give comment on the Annex women as they pass; the ones who inhaled when the mother of an Outrigger Club member tripped and fell over the low wire entanglement placed unnecessarily near the door of the women's dressing room; the ones who openly threatened to have this dressing room done away with as soon as the "mischief makers" (meaning thereby those members of the Outrigger Club who had made it possible for others than auxiliary members to bathe at Waikiki) could be defeated and removed from the board of directors of the men's club; the same ones who have consistently and persistently urged for years past that the membership in both clubs should be strictly limited, and sad to say by some whose membership in the auxiliary was obtained only through the efforts of the very men they have since opposed.

### Resent Innuendo

We men of the Outrigger Canoe Club believe that our wives, mothers, sisters, daughters, and lady friends are just as deserving, just as worthy, just as modest, just as good, and just as careful of their good name and reputation as are any other women in Hawaii, although we are not quite so selfish as to wish to deprive any good woman of the full enjoyment of God's great and glorious Pacific Ocean. We also believe that our wives, mothers, sisters, daughters and lady friends are just as capable of determining what is desirable to wear when bathing as any other women, and we resent any suggestion that they cannot be depended upon to maintain a good moral standard without the aid of idle agitators whose superfluous energy could be used to much greater advantage if exerted for the benefit of the Red Cross or some other worthy cause.

It would be far better for the auxiliary agitators to let well enough alone and leave it to the residents of Waikiki, the hotels, and the annex women to protect the good name of the beach. They have the confidence of the community, and the full support of the men of the Outrigger Club who have made Waikiki Beach safe for feminine democracy.

As to bathing suits: "Honi soit qui mal y pense."

Sincerely yours,

J. ASHMAN BEAVER.

Honolulu, June 21.

### Another View

Editor Advertiser—Arent the discussion of proper bathing suits for the feminine habitues of Waikiki Beach it is interesting to note the insight it