# A. A. U. CLEARS HAWAIIAN SWIMMERS OF CHARGES OF PADDING ACCOUNTS

## Investigating Committee Not Only Absolves Local Boys and Manager and Coach But Praises Them for Their Wonderful Work in Boosting Swimming

A. P. by U. S. Naval Wireless

NEW YORK, N. Y., Aug. 7. Members of the Hawaiian swimming team, now touring the country, are absolved of charges of falsifying and "padding" their expense accounts by the investigating committee of the A. A. U. which further ruled that the trips and the swimming exhibitions given have been the means of arousing great interest in that amateur sport throughout the country.

It was no surprise to the many friends in these islands of Duke Kahanamoku, Clarence Lane, Harold "Stubby" Kruger, Owen Merrick, manager, and Clair Tait, U. S. N., coach, to hear that the Hawaiian swimmers on tour had been absolved of all charges of professionalism, but undoubtedly it proved somewhat of a shock to one or two who had adjudged the swimmers guilty the moment the charges were laid.

### The Surprise

And while it was no surprise for the friends of the touring swimmers to hear of the absolution from guilt, it was in the nature of a pleasant surprise to hear that the Amateur Athletic Union investigating committee had not only cleared the boys of the charges but had lauded the swimmers for their work in reviving interest in swimming in many quarters.

There is a suspicion abroad in the city that the charges filed against the Hawaiian swimmers in Chicago were filed as a result of someone's belief here that all was not right with the tour. The swimming fraternity generally is pleased to think of the chagrin which these meddling folks must have experienced when the news came of the innocence of the Hawaiian swimmers from all charges.

The doubting ones in this city, who when the first charges were made, shook their heads sadly and drew a long face as if the end of the world had arrived, are now glad to rejoice and say "I told you so," and slide into the class of those who refused to believe that the charges were anything more than a "misunderstanding." The faithful ones are glad to hear of the clearance of the charges and are satisfied now as at first that it was a "misunderstanding."

And while the swimmers and their manager and coach had to suffer for a time under a cloud, the incident has not occurred without doing some good. At least it is to be hoped that those who jumped to the conclusion that the boys were guilty at the start will take the lesson to heart and hereafter be a little more cautious in their statements and surmises.