

SWIMMING COURSE NEEDED IN HILO SAYS DAD CENTER

President of Outrigger Club
and Dean of Boosters Has
Much Praise for Showing of
Local Talent.

ENCOURAGE THEM, HE PLEADS IN INTERVIEW

Build 100-Yard Water Speed-
way Where All Ambitious
Waterdogs Can Train; Sees
Big Future Here.

While "Dad" Center, of Honolulu, president of the Outrigger Swimming Club and A. A. U. representative, has much of praise to say regarding Hilo's showing in the recent swimming meet, he lays great emphasis upon the fact that Hilo needs a permanent swimming course, with all essential facilities. In this respect "Dad" Center is an authority, for he has done a great deal for Honolulu to boost swimming, which he declared to be "the foundation of all athletics." In every way the Hilo swimming meet just closed proved a success, he asserts, but particularly in relation to the development of local talent.

"I think Hilo should go right ahead now and encourage the local talent," he stated yesterday. "This should be taken up especially in the schools. Let them get teams together and compete against each other. It is the only solution I can see at present that will work out satisfactorily.

"You have a Girls Scout team and a High School team and there is no doubt but that there are others simply awaiting the opportunity. Mrs. Hendry and Miss Evans both seem to be highly interested in swimming and the performances of your girls in this meet have been splendid.

Swimming Course Necessary.

"The main thing, however, is for the people of Hilo and the Board of Supervisors to get together and build a 100-yards straight away course where all who wish can train and race. I think there is an ideal place which seems to be unused at present. That is, on the opposite side of Kauhio Wharf from where the races were held. This course should be built so that bleachers can be erected on both sides of the course and left there permanently. This would save the expense of having to haul the bleachers back and forth. Poles might also be erected permanently on which lights may be placed, in case there is any desire to hold races at night, or in case there may be a wish on the part of boys, girls, men and women to swim at night for pleasure. It is absolutely still water. The course could be under the control of the County and whatever conditions regarding the use of the bath are considered necessary could be put into force by the Board of Supervisors.

"Now is the time to have this matter taken in hand before the site becomes too valuable for other purposes. If this is done, Hilo will be far ahead of Honolulu, for the trouble we now experience is that we have no permanent place for the swimming events. Such a course built in Hilo would mean more for swimming than anything else; it will be for the benefit of all.

Youngsters Are Promising.

"It would be ridiculous not to realize that Hilo has some very promising swimmers. Take Noah Kalama, for instance. Just to show you the excellence of this boy's performance in the 50-yards for boys under 15 years. In Honolulu, on the second night of our meet there, James Hakouie, Jr., won a race over the same distance in 29 4-5 seconds. Yet Hakouie was beaten by Kalama in one second faster time and the third lad, Wm. Bell, was close up. The number of starters in the race here best proves the interest your boys take, and from now on you should have races between school boys, and have age limits set, for that will bring the boys along quicker than anything else.

"I am not in favor of handicap events, for the reason that the better swimmers generally get the worst of it and are inclined to lose interest. They don't seem to swim as