

SWIMMING CHAMPS BID HILO ADIEU; OFF FOR HONOLULU

Visitors Sing Praises of City's Initiative, Hospitality and Promising Athletes as They Depart for Home.

GREAT FUTURE FOR SPORT IS PREDICTED

Dad Center and Two of Oahu Experts Remain Over* for Week-End; Meet on Whole Proves Big Success.

Singing praises for Hilo, its hospitality, initiative and its promising winners, the champion mermaids and mermen from Honolulu and the mainland bade adieu to the Big Island yesterday and returned to the capital on the Mauna Kea.

Hilo's initial swimming meet was a success, and the visitors were not only making the homefolk realize the fact. There was a fairly large gathering at the wharf to bid the visitors farewell and most of the winners were decorated with leis.

Handshakes were accompanied with the fervent hope to meet again under similar circumstances, if not later, as the highly-pleased visitors sat at the dock. "Dad" Center did not leave, preferring to remain in Hilo until Monday's boat. Miss Josephine Hopkins and Miss Gerd Hjorth, both of the Outrigger Club, Honolulu, also remained for the week-end.

When the swimmers boarded the boat they lined along the rail, giving two hearty cheers for Hilo and her winners and three more for the Hilo Yacht Club.

Among those who departed were Wa. Bachrach, trainer; Norman Ross, George Schroth, Mrs. Schroth (Frances Cowells), Miss Rose Brown, Miss Elsie Auld, Miss J. Murray, Miss Beatrice Dowsett, W. W. Harris Jr., Albert Minville, Mrs. Geo. Wright, D. L. Conkling, V. Genoves, Ed Clark, P. Nottage, W. A. Cornell, Miss Ruth Scudder, Miss Agnes Auld, Miss Edith Kenn, Albert MacEsey, James O'Dowda, "Stubby" Kruger, Miss Mollie Akana, George C. Kane, Ah Kim Yee, James Hakulani, Warren Kealoha, Pua Kealoha, Betty Chilton, Sam Kahanamoku, Ah Kong Pang, Earle Vida and James Hall.

The advertising which Hilo has gained from the swimming meet is a point which was much emphasized at the dinner given to the visiting winners at the Volcano House, not only by the visitors but by the local Mr. Ted. Guard, President of the local Board of Trade; George H. Angus, Chairman of the Tourist Bureau, Honolulu; D. McH. Forbes, manager of Waialakea Mill, all realized the benefit gained by Hilo.

"I consider this meet has been one of the best bits of advertising we have had for years," said Mr. Forbes. "The records broken have placed Hilo on the map, and those who want to break these new records will have to come to Hilo to do so."

Proves Great Asset

"The swimming meets held in the islands were the greatest assets the Territory of Hawaii ever had," said Mr. Angus. "We had that demonstrated when Duke's name appeared in the mainland papers. That was one of the greatest advertising features we ever had."

"I think Duke Kahanamoku did more to bring swimmers to Honolulu than any other single agency," said Norman Ross. "He did more to put Hawaii on the map than all the Promotion Bureaus combined. In all the cities on the mainland where Duke's name is mentioned, the Hawaiian Islands are thought of and whenever the Hawaiian Islands are mentioned, Duke is thought of. You can have an idea how he is idolized in all the big cities."

The advantage gained in other respects was also referred to. Mel A. Scott declared that the experience gained by the local boys and girls was immense and would mean a lot to the development of more swimmers on this island. "With proper care and attention we can bring out some of them and send them to Honolulu next February perhaps, or

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