

BROKEN BUTTON LOST FOR HARRIS

HAD CHANCE TO NOSE OUT "MOOSE"

W. W. "Wild Bill" Harris of the Outrigger Canoe club might have defeated Norman Ross in the 100 yard final race in Chicago on July 10 had not a button on his bathing suit broken and put him out. Duke won the event with Pua second and Ross third. J. K. Gilman, a Hawaiian boy in the navy, was fourth.

"Just think, in the final they were all Hawaiians, Duke, Pua, Gilman and Harris, and only Ross and Topp outsiders. At the 75-yard mark Duke took the lead from Ross and held it to the finish. And Pua came through with his 25-yard sprint, and sure enough he noses out Ross for second. Bill Harris had his suit lose a button and it fills up with water and puts him out," writes George "Dad" Center, manager of the Hawaiian swimming

team, regarding the final. Here is what Bill Harris says of the race:

"Duke led up to about 60 yards and then Duke started forward. I was watching Duke and as soon as he started I broke into a sprint, too, when bang, and the button on my shoulder strap broke.

"I am not offering this as an alibi for not beating Ross because the 100 is not my distance. But I do want to say that I feel sure that I could have done better than I did if it hadn't broken."

Harris also sent a post card showing the interior of the Illinois Athletic club bath. It was written after the announcement that all the Hawaiians had made the American team.

"We all feel like princes now that we know we've made the team," wrote Harris.