

Retiring President Responsible For Bringing Athletic Events Here

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With the retirement this week of Joseph R. Farrington as president of the Hawaiian Association of the AAU other officials recalled at the annual meeting last Monday evening the many achievements of the association during the eight years he has been connected with the organization.

Starting with the first Japan-Hawaii swimming meet back in 1926 Farrington was largely responsible for bringing to the islands a series of national and international championship swimming meets. It was also largely through his leadership on committees and as an official of the AAU that amateur boxing, track and other sports sponsored by the organization were developed to a point where they were not only self supporting but productive of talent that has attracted attention on the mainland.

Strong Supporter

A strong supporter of all forms of amateur athletics, Farrington gave his time liberally to work of developing them, and the sound footing on which the Hawaiian Association now stands testifies to his success.

He first became closely identified with amateur sports through his connection with the Outrigger club in 1924, and he served for three years as president of that organization. Along about that time the Royal Hawaiian hotel was constructed, necessitating changes in the grounds of the Outrigger club and in location of the club pavilion and other buildings.

Farrington was a leader in the drive to raise funds which enabled the club to make improvements essential to its continuation.

First Big Meet

It was in 1926 that an opportunity came to bring to the islands a team of Japanese swimmers, the first time swimmers from that country ever visited the United States. Despite the fact that some of the aquatic leaders felt it involved too much of a financial risk, Farrington and George D. (Dad) Center, well known swimming coach, undertook to raise enough money by pledges to underwrite the meet. This involved something in the neighborhood of \$6,000.

Those who have been identified with swimming here for a number of years will recall that the meet was a tremendous success, resulting in a fair sized profit, which money was turned over to the AAU swimming fund for the further development of the aquatic sport in the islands.

Was Forerunner

That meet was a forerunner to the development of swimming to a point where swimmers from the islands not only carried off national championships but contributed much to the success of the United States in the 1928 Olympic games.

In 1927 Farrington was instrumental in the raising of \$14,000 to underwrite the men's national outdoor swimming championships which were held here that year, another meet which turned out to be successful in every respect. His work to make this meet a success resulted in the completion of the war memorial natatorium at Waikiki, officials of the American Legion cooperating in every respect to obtain completion of this memorial, which the legion had sponsored from the start.

At Convention

In the fall of 1928 Farrington attended the national A. A. U. as Hawaii's delegate and obtained for Hawaii the women's national outdoor swimming championships for 1928. Returning from the convention he led a drive that resulted in the raising of \$12,000 to underwrite the meet. In addition \$1,500 was guaranteed to cover the expense of bringing two girl swimmers from Japan to take part in the meet.

Japan sent four girls and a coach, the first time girl swimmers had ever left that country to participate in a meet. The meet resulted in a profit of \$1,900.

The Meiji university of Japan and Yale university of the United States sent swimming teams to Honolulu in 1930, and international intercollegiate meet being staged in February of that year. Later that year the Kalili brothers were sent to Japan to compete. The Meiji-Yale meet was underwritten to the extent of \$8,000, Farrington again leading the drive to raise this money. The meet resulted in a profit of \$630.

Swim Campaign

In addition to these achievements in connection with the development of swimming here Farrington was a leader last year in starting a learn to swim campaign in Honolulu, school authorities and others cooperating to make it a success.

While he gave a great deal of at-

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