

Yates Predicts Kona Races Will Provide Close Contests

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be improved over those of the past two annual races. And Kai-lua is also training crews which appear more powerful threats than before.

Comparatively little is known in Kona about the Milolii bunch. Those handling those crews are saying little, going through their practice sessions daily without outward show, but apparently putting forth great effort. There is a chance they may finish up to become as great as some of their crews in the 1933 regatta, when they made the best showing of any club entered.

"When you go out after young huskies to fill your boats, you can get real crews that will make the others step to keep up," Julian asserted.

"Victories are not won by reputations or big names."

SOME CRITICISM

There was some criticism about his action in permitting Queen's Surf to get one of their boats, but the feeling seems to be that despite that Kona will not be at a disadvantage, in view of the determination the boys are showing, training conscientiously each day and spending long hours both traveling to and from the beach and in practice.

Of the report from Honolulu that Queen's Surf was finding the Kona boat hard to handle, being clumsy on the turns, Yates stated that this is bound to happen when there is a heavy crew aboard. The boat rests deep in the water and is harder to maneuver.

When a boat rides high on the waves, it can be turned and twisted about with the same ease as a car of small size. Julian's crews also have a trick boat which can

be turned around in four strokes.

Usually it takes between eight and nine strokes for a boat to turn and start on the homeward stretch. Sometimes, depending on the conditions of the water, skill of the paddlers and the type of boat, it takes as much as 10 to 12 strokes to turn.

The Kona rowing enthusiasts since start of the races, first staged through the efforts of Lor-rin A. Thurston during the opening of the Mamalahoa belt road in 1933, have been experimenting with boats and those unfamiliar with the vessels being used would find much trouble.

FAMILIARITY REQUIRED

Familiar with a boat, a crew will be able to handle it with greater skill and speed. That was apparently one of the reasons Queen's Surf had trouble on August 4, in some of their races.

Regarding the technique of turning a boat around, experimenting by the paddlers have shown that those with sufficient power can change direction and start on the homeward stretch without losing momentum.

The usual practice has been to put too much effort into turning the boat, but it has been proved possible for only one paddler, at the bow, to devote all his efforts to turning while those at the rear reach out with their paddles, turning but without breaking the forward momentum of the vessel.

The time saved at turning is expected to be one of the features worth watching, by those keenly interested in the sport, at the races two weeks hence, when people from all parts of the island as well as from Honolulu and elsewhere will converge in Kona for the annual big time for the westside people.