



HOO MALI MALI

(Kid 'em along)

RED McQUEEN

WILD BILL HARRIS, ONE MAN SWIMMING TEAM

This week is a memorable one in the life of W. W. (Wild Bill) Harris, former Outrigger Canoe Club aquatic star, for it was just about this time 30 years ago that Wild Bill, just out of his teens, performed the Herculean feat of winning six events to single handedly capture the Far Eastern Olympic Games.

Performing at the Hongkew park pool in Shanghai, young Harris, coached and trained by Hawaii's premier aquatic mentor, George (Dad) Center, turned in the amazing accomplishment of capturing the 50, 100, 220, 440, 880 and mile freestyle events and breaking Far Eastern Olympic records in the first three named events. His victories easily gave him the meet honors.

Far Eastern newspapers heralded Wild Bill's iron-man act as the greatest athletic performance ever witnessed in that section.

Young Harris might have gleaned additional honors. He offered to swim all laps of several relays but was not permitted to do so.

This all occurred in May of 1915. In 1920, Wild Bill was a member of the Hawaiian Olympic team that competed at Antwerp. Headed by Dad Center, the team included in addition to Harris, that peerless performer of them all Duke Kahanamoku, Pua and Warren Kealoha, Rudy Langer, Stubby Kruger, and Helen Moses (Mrs. Charles Cassidy).

Wild Bill Harris is still an ardent swimming enthusiast. He is sales engineer of W. A. Ramsay, Ltd.

The 30th anniversary of Wild Bill's Shanghai Sweep should cause much reminiscing at the Outrigger Canoe Club this week.