



HOO MALI MALI

(Kid 'em along)

RED McQUEEN

J. ASHMAN BEAVEN — MAY HE REST IN PEACE

All Hawaii mourns the passing of one of the most beloved sports figures in the death of J. Ashman Beaven, the "father of the Honolulu stadium." "Bev" as he was affectionately called, went to his reward Wednesday after being in ill health for some time. The grand old man leaves behind living memorials that are testimony of his great achievements during an active and colorful lifetime in the Islands.

Often called the "Tex Rickard" of Hawaii, Bev stands out as the most successful promoter in local history. It was he who built the Stadium and it is unfortunate that Beaven will not be here for the celebration commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Moiliili plant next Monday. On Armistic Day, back in 1926, Bev threw open the Stadium gates, fulfilling a long-cherished dream that will always be a monument to a true sportsman.

Beaven virtually made sports his lifework. He bowed out of the promotional scene only a few years ago. Realizing that advancing age would not permit him to actively continue in the administration of the Stadium affairs, he turned over his controlling interests to the University of Hawaii.

It was his dream and ambition that made possible the Stadium. Arriving here in 1910, he was so captivated with the charm of the Islands and the promise of realizing a full career in the mid-Pacific paradise that he remained to become one of the Territory's strongest boosters of sports.

He launched his project to build the Stadium in January, 1926. Prior to that he had leased the Moiliili park after buying out Billy Miles' share and promoted baseball, football and other activities there for several years. Then he secured 14 acres of land at the present Stadium site at a cost of about \$100,000 and the project has since been the mecca of Hawaii's outdoor sports.

Although Beaven lent his promotional and organizational genius to every sport, he was especially interested in baseball. Generally recognized as the founder of the present Hawaii League, he was also remembered for inaugurating the Territorial baseball series in 1921, and for organizing the Wanderers baseball team, a franchise member of the Hawaii league. However, one of his fondest memories in baseball was his founding of the "Knothole Club," an organization for youngsters who were admitted free to baseball games at the Stadium.

Beaven also is credited with starting the Catholic Youth Organization in the Territory in 1937 and the fact that the CYO is probably the outstanding sports organization in the Islands, is another tribute to Beaven's foresight.

In 1933, Beaven promoted one of his most successful ventures. That was bringing down the Green Bay Packers here. After paying off all expenses, including a guarantee of 10 grand to the Packers, Bev pocketed 10 G's for himself.

Beaven was an official of the Outrigger Canoe club in 1912 and also assisted the AAU with its swimming program at a time when Hawaii was the aquatic mecca of the world. Born Oct. 31, 1869, he had an interesting career. He travelled to England, Europe, Africa, India and the Orient before the turn of the 19th century. He was also a newspaperman. Strangely enough, he did not come to Hawaii with the intention of promoting baseball. He was called here to join the law staff of the late Lorrin Andrews and actually practised here for several years.

With his contribution to the sports, especially in building the Stadium, officials of the plant are expected to revere the memory of the founder in a fitting manner. Suggestion has been made that a plaque be placed somewhere prominently in the Stadium.