

Canoe Season Ends; Big Plans Made For Future

By HERBERT PRICE

KAILUA—Although the 1952 canoe paddling season is over for the Kai Opua Canoe club of Kona, activities within the club have not ceased. Emphasis is now being placed on broadening the base of the program in an effort to reach into the everyday life of numerous people, young and old, in many ways.

The ultimate goal of the club is not necessarily the winning of races but rather to provide an opportunity for young people to participate in a traditional Hawaiian sport along with its allied activities. With these broad objectives in mind a five point program has been developed as follows:

1—To develop crews in all age groups of boys and girls and to inculcate the spirit of sportsmanship, fair play and clean living among the youth of the community and surrounding areas though they may only paddle for the fun of the moment.

2—To encourage craftsmen to relate their skills to the ancient art of canoe-building, whether it be a tiny model whittled during the quiet of a Kona evening or a racing craft turned out by professionals.

3—To develop civic interest and good citizenship by opening the door to those skilled in organizational work, to help develop other water sports such as power boat racing, a fishing derby and swimming meets.

4—The eventual erection of a clubhouse with meeting and workshop facilities and a shed to house the club canoes.

5—To work with other clubs and interested groups, not only in this area, but on the Big Island, in an effort to make the Julian R. Yates Championship Regatta an annual affair for Kona, as well as an added tourist attraction for visitors to the Islands.

The Kai Opua Canoe club welcomes as members all those in sympathy with its program, and membership cards may be obtained by payment of the annual dues of \$1 to its treasurer, Henry Akona at Kailua, or Mrs. Lucy Ako, secretary, at the Mutual Telephone office at Kealahou.

At the present time materials are being assembled and help recruited for the construction of a canoe shed by Coaches Takeo Yamasaki, Herbert Ako, Red Kanuha and their boys. This is to be an all-weather unit and will house at least three canoes.

Upon completion it is planned to store the Kai Malino, the Manu Keokeo and an unfinished hull in this structure during the winter months.

The small Kakina, graciously loaned by the Outrigger Canoe club of Honolulu as a work boat prior to the completion of the Manu Keokeo, is being readied for its return to Honolulu.

Active paddling will not be resumed until after the first of the new year. Boys and girls, 10 years and over, are eligible to join the club and in the future it is hoped that boys and girls under 12 years will be showing in competition.

The Kai Opua Canoe club will work closely with the Honaunau club in the early stages of stimulating interest. Curtis Tyler Jr. of Kailua is president of Kai Opua.