

# Hawaiian Knowledge Of Sea Won Canoe Race

By CARL MACHADO

Hawaiian legendary instinct for navigation was forcefully brought out in the recent 32-mile Catalina-Newport Beach outrigger canoe race won by an Hawaiian crew.

For Louis Kahanamoku's knowledge of the currents and the swells around Catalina was responsible for the victory.

This was reported today by Lawson (Bill) Butt the clerk of course for the special race between a team from California and one from Hawaii.

Butt said the Hawaiian crew was able to win the special California race because Kahanamoku, a member of one of Hawaii's best known families, ordered the crew to divert from a straight-a-way course.

"The Hawaiians and the Californians had rowed neck and neck for five hours when Kahanamoku, following the crews in a motor launch, yelled to stroke Blue Makua to 'take the pre-arranged course,'" he said.

## STUDIED COURSE

Butt revealed that Kahanamoku and Makua studied the waters and knew that despite the apparent extra four miles the Hawaiians chose to row, the deficit would be more than made up by assistance from the currents.

This strategy, according to Butt, paid off as the Hawaiians won by nearly three miles and were fresh as

daisies at the finish.

"As the Hawaiian crew entered Newport Harbor they were met by a vanguard of whistling cruisers and pleasure boats. It was a big thrill watching the boats lead the Hawaiians across the finish line," Butt said.

"And coach Kahanamoku put on quite a show, substituting oarsmen in response to requests by race committee officials.

"The oarsmen, all expert swimmers, pleased the thousands who lined the hillside by diving in and out of the racing craft without interfering with the speed of the boat.

## KNOWLEDGE OF CURRENTS

"What may have surprised the Californians was the knowledge the Hawaiians had of the currents and swells along the course.

"Where the West Coast rowers, who had only three months of training under Hawaiian Noah Kalama Sr., were more or less fighting the water, the local crew easily rode the swells."

Butt said the Californians are enthusiastic about outrigger canoe racing and will make every effort to have a crew in the 37-mile Molokai-Oahu race next month.

## Fights Last Night

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Danny Kid, 117½, Manila, outpointed Jose Medel, 117, Mexico City, 12.

PHILADELPHIA — Cal Hubbard, 145, Philadelphia, outpointed Eddie Perkins, 142½, Chicago, 10.