

One Paddle, Two Paddle On Thames?

The possibility of staging races on the Thames River and the English Channel against British teams has been proposed by the International Hawaiian Canoe Association, Inc.

A. E. Minvielle, club president and longtime canoe racing promoter, said the project will be discussed at a luncheon of civic leaders at noon Feb. 2 at the Princess Kaiulani.

"The project is envisioned at this time as the commemoration of the 190th anniversary of the discovery of Hawaii in 1778 by Capt. James Cook," Minvielle explained.

"A regatta has been suggested wherein a team from Hawaii would be sent to England to compete in shell boat racing on the Thames River and an outrigger canoe race across the English Channel.

"We have been talking about it for several years. It is too big for one association to sponsor alone, and our feeling is to bring it to the attention of the general public to see what the reaction is.

"If reaction is unfavorable, the idea should be dropped. If it is favorable, then we'll need lots of help."

Minvielle said the Oxford University Boat Club has expressed interest in the project.