



EDWIN N. MCCLELLAN

FORTY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY OF OCC

By EDWIN NORTH MCCLELLAN

*Historian, Editor, Lawyer, Traveller, Columnist, Radio Commentator
and former member of OCC*

May-Day is Outrigger-Canoe-Club-Day as well as Lei-Day for it was on the First of May in the year nineteen-hundred-and-eight that the Outrigger Canoe *Hui* first saw the light of day. So, Lei-Day celebration this year of 1953 should swirl around the Beach at Waikiki to the accompaniment of sleek surfboards and speeding outriggers. And the Outrigger Canoe Club will celebrate its Birthday!

A POWERFUL PILLAR OF HAWAII IS OCC

May-Day this year is the forty-fifth Birthday of the Outrigger Canoe Club. During all the long interesting Hawaiian years the sturdy Outrigger Club has supported the prosperity of Hawaii and added to the attractiveness of the Paradise-of-the-Pacific. The Club has perfected and perpetuated the art and sport of both surfboarding and outriggering as well as encouraging swimming and div-

ing. The OCC has consistently performed an important civic duty to the people of Hawaii. It is the sparkling lure to visitors on the Beach at Waikiki.

EARLY WAIKIKI

Waikiki, with its Regal Beach of coral sand, its Royal Surf Kalehuaweha and the fresh-water stream Apuakehau (now gone underground) always was there; but as long as transportation from Honolulu to Waikiki depended upon hiking, horse, mule, bicycle, and outrigger canoe, the people of Oahu enjoyed their aquatic sports in localities nearer than Waikiki, such as Honolulu Harbor and Kalihi. Until cheap and rapid transportation arrived—until electric rapid-transit and the automobile replaced primitive transportation—there were no important hotels and no Outrigger Canoe Club at Waikiki. However, the heart and soul of the OCC always was at Waikiki. The Gentlemen of Hawaii—Hawaiian and *haole*—who kept surf-sports alive in the early era are the real Founders of "The Club." We should honor them on our 45th Birthday. The first of these pioneers can be seen away back in the midst of the legendary past. Then came the Kings of Oahu and Kamehameha the Great, all of whom maintained their outrigger and surfboard Club-like facilities at Waikiki. Chester Smith Lyman describes one of these Kamehameha Outrigger and Surfboard Clubs. On June 1, 1846 Chester took a ride from Honolulu to Waikiki with the Young Chiefs on a horse they lent him. Arriving at Waikiki he observed a thatched house which was "oc-

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AFFILIATED CLUBS

Aera Club of Oregon, Portland, Oregon.
Arizona Club, Phoenix, Arizona.
Balboa Bay Club, Newport Harbor, California.
Club Del Mar, Santa Monica, California.
College Club of Seattle, Seattle, Washington.
Coral Casino Beach and Cabana Club, Santa Barbara, California.
Cork Club, Houston, Texas.
Country Club of Peoria, Peoria, Illinois.
Davenport Club, Davenport, Iowa.
El Paso Club, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
Jonathan Club, Los Angeles, California.
La Jolla Beach & Tennis Club, La Jolla, California.
Lake Shore Club of Chicago, Illinois.
Los Angeles Athletic Club, Los Angeles, California.
Mullmomah Athletic Club, Portland, Oregon.
New York Athletic Club, New York, New York.
Old Pueblo Club, Tucson, Arizona.
Pasadena Athletic Club, Pasadena, California.
Pacific Coast Club, Long Beach, California.
Riviera Country Club, Pacific Palisades, California.
San Diego Club, San Diego, California.
Santa Monica Swimming Club, Santa Monica, California.
Shadow Mountain Club, Palm Desert, California.
University-Union Club of Tacoma, Washington.
Washington Athletic Club, Seattle, Washington

Hilo Yacht Club, Hilo, Hawaii, T. H.
Kauai Yacht Club, Lihue, Kauai, T. H.

American Club of Guatemala, C. A.
American Club, Mexico City, Mexico.
Calgary Petroleum Club, Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
Carlton Club, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.
Casino De Parral, Parral, Chihuahua, Mexico.
Chihuahua Foreign Club, Chihuahua, Mexico.
Monterrey Foreign Club, Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.
Pacific Club, Victoria, B. C., Canada.
South Yarra Club, Melbourne, Australia.
Tattersall's Club, Sydney, Australia.
Terminal City Club, Vancouver, B. C., Canada.
Twenty-one Rooms Club, London, England.
Waikiki Club, Lima, Peru.



*The OCC about 1916 or 1917. Corner of pavilion to left. The Moana Hotel and the old pier.
Pic—Courtesy of Louise Cordes*

cupied by the Young Chiefs as a Dressing Apartment"—sort of a Clubhouse. "Undressing at the House, I found a bath in the Surf on the Beach very refreshing," explained the young *haole*. "On coming from the Beach to the Dressing-House, calabashes of fresh water were in readiness to wash off the sea-water." The surfboards were kept in this Dressing-House. Sounds like the OCC.

JUST BEFORE THE CLUB WAS CREATED

For several decades before the Club was born there were Hawaiians and *haoles* at Waikiki who surfboarded and outriggered. They kept the aquatic surf sports alive—these sports never were in danger of death despite propaganda tales. In the summer of 1898, Burton Holmes with his "motion-picture man, Mr. [Oscar] De Pue," made the first movies of surf-riding. Burton Holmes explained that when he was at Waikiki in 1898 "it was Mr. [Sheriff A.M.] Brown's *Lanai* that was really the home of the Outrigger Canoe Club."

The Moana Hotel opened its doors on March 11, 1901 and that, together with electric cars, was a great boost for surfing sports. "The surfing is glorious!" exclaimed Alice Roosevelt as she rushed from the Beach in 1905 to catch the *Manchuria*. Surfboarding and canoeing were viewed by a great throng on March 20, 1905, in front of the Moana Hotel and

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HAWAIIAN AQUATIC HALL OF FAME

In addition to those published in the *Forecast* beginning with April, 1952, the Editor has received the following nominations:

Swim-Dive, Comedian: George Crozier (The "Monte Cristo Act," 1907).

Yachting: Sam M. Emmes, 1936.

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small

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45TH BIRTHDAY OCC

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Royal Hawaiian Annex (later the Seaside). On December 16, 1906, Alatau Leonard Charles "Jack" Atkinson, (Charter-Member of OCC) proposed to the Promotion-Committee (present Visitors Bureau) that there be held a "New Year's Regatta at Waikiki Beach," to be limited to "Hawaiian Aquatic Sports: canoe-racing, surf-riding and surf-steering contests between canoes." J. F. Morgan and F. L. Waldron (both OCC Charter-Members) were appointed on a committee to arrange for the Regatta. After being twice postponed on account of unsatisfactory weather, this Waikiki Aquatic Regatta was beautifully staged on March 16, 1907. There were surf-boarding, outriggering, swimming and other contests on the 14-event-program.

Alice Roosevelt returned to Waikiki in 1907 to resume her "surf-riding which was summarily cut short two years ago." Jack London also appeared at Waikiki this year of 1907. Jack and Charmion lived in their "Brown Tent Cottage" which was situated just about on the present site of the OCC.

**STODDART, HOLMES, DE PUE,
BONINE, WILCOX, FORD**

Honolulu newspapers announced that Burton Holmes (famous illustrated lecturer who succeeded Charles Warren Stoddart) would arrive in Honolulu aboard the *Korea* in January of 1908; but he did not come until March 1908. R. K. Bonine of the Edison Company was in Honolulu making moving-pictures of aquatic sports at Waikiki. There was no Outrigger Canoe Club at Waikiki on New Year's Day of 1908, but adequate transportation was now available and the *kamaainas* started to think about creating such a Club.

While R. K. Bonine was popularizing Waikiki-Surfing with his movie-camera, Burton Holmes arrived at Honolulu aboard the *Siberia* on March 2, 1908. A. H. Ford arrived back in Hawaii on March 3, 1908 after being absent since June of 1907. Ella Wheeler-Wilcox had arrived on the *Mongolia* on February 5, 1908. All four of these *malihinis*—Bonine, Wheeler-Wilcox, Holmes and Ford—together with De Pue who was in Hawaii in 1898 and was back with the most mod-

ern camera on March 16, 1908, all publicized aquatic sports at Waikiki and were important factors in the creation of the OCC. Burton Holmes became the "hero" of Waikiki lads who arranged a Surfboard Carnival at Waikiki for him.

BURTON HOLMES SUGGESTS A CLUB

"Honolulu is to have a Clubhouse at Waikiki Beach for Surfboarders and those interested in Canoe-Surfing," announced the *Evening Bulletin*, March 14, 1908. The Seaside Hotel granted a site and "Jack" (A.L.C.) Atkinson (Charter-Member OCC) promised to promote and organize the Club. "Burton Holmes and R. K. Bonine are registered as the first and most enthusiastic non-resident members." On March 13, 1908, Burton Holmes was bubbling over as he looked over the site of the Outrigger Canoe Club. "The only marvel to me," he said, "is that it has never been done before . . . I believe that the building of a *Lanai* for those who wish to own canoes but have no place to keep them, is a splendid idea." He predicted that there would be conducted "annual Outrigger Canoe Races and Carnivals" and "annual Surfboard Series of Races" that will "keep alive this King-of-Sports, as Jack London named it." On this same day Burton Holmes and A. H. Ford (in Honolulu "on their vacations" reported the *Advertiser*) studied the land for the proposed Club. Oscar De Pue (Holmes' assistant) arrived at Honolulu aboard the *Siberia* and on the same date Holmes and De Pue left on the same ship for the Orient (*Forecast*, Apr. 1952).

FIRST MEETING TO ORGANIZE OCC

An old Circular Letter, dated April 7, 1908, now in the Club Archives, was sent to local organizations requesting their support in organizing the OCC. It also appeared in the newspapers and was signed by James F. Morgan, James A. Wilder, W. R. Castle, A. H. Ford, Richard H. Trent, J. Waterhouse, J. A. McCandless, H. P. Wood (Secretary, Promotion Committee), A. M. Brown, A. L. C. Atkinson and J. A. Gilman. Those interested were requested to contact Charles R. Frazier. The first meeting preliminary to organizing the Outrigger Canoe Club was on April 24, 1908. Its presiding officer was Acting-Governor of the Territory

(over)

Ernest A. Mott-Smith. It was held in the Promotion-Committee Rooms. Active at this meeting were Ernest A. Mott-Smith, R. H. Trent, H. P. Wood, A. H. Ford, A. L. C. Atkinson, H. R. Macfarlane (Jr.), Lucius Eugene Pinkham, E. H. Hand and H. L. S. Herbert.

On May 1, 1908 "the Outrigger Canoe Club was formally organized . . . at the Promotion Committee Rooms and elected the following officers," reported the *Advertiser*. The officers were A. H. Ford, president; H. L. S. Herbert, vice-president; Henry P. O'Sullivan, secretary; Richard H. Trent, treasurer; Kenneth Winters, captain; Charles R. Frazier, auditor; J. P. Cooke, Harry Macfarlane (Jr.), and J. R. Galt, trustees.

"And so started the Outrigger Canoe Club that has contributed so much to Hawaii," I wrote in the *Advertiser* of June 10, 1939 (*Forecast*, May, 1952).