

NEAR THE END OF 1908

Another fine historical article by Edwin North McClellan, writer, historian, radio commentator, world traveler, retired Marine Officer and good friend. We thank him for his many contributions to the Forecast and hope for many more.

by Edwin North McClellan



As we seek a canoe-name in 1952, the *Evening Bulletin* of October 30, 1908, reminds us that it was the "custom of the Outrigger Canoe Club and its canoe-owning members to name the small canoes after the Valleys of Oahu."

ALLAN HERBERT AIDS LADIES' AUXILIARY

"Arrangements are being made to turn over the *Halepele*, which Allan Herbert has been building on the Outrigger Grounds, to the ladies as Bath-House, and to fence-off with bamboo and coconut leaves this part of the property for their exclusive use until the permanent Bath-House for the Ladies' Auxiliary is built," reported the *Evening Bulletin*, November 5, 1908.

BOARD OF DIRECTRESSES; CHAPERONS

"At a meeting of the Outrigger Club Directors" on November 20, 1908, "it was decided to open the Club to the Ladies, they being given separate quarters and a part of the Club-Grounds for their exclusive use," published the *Evening Bulletin*. "A dozen mothers will act as a Board of Directresses for the Ladies' Auxiliary and see to it that there is always a *chaperone* when the young people are at the Beach." A circular-letter was sent by the Club to the ladies explaining that "the Ladies' Auxiliary membership-cards" were ready, reported the *Advertiser*, November 21, 1908. Also that "canoes on the Lagoon and for Surfing," as "well as specially-made light boards," were "reserved for the Ladies . . . under control of the Lady Board of Directresses."

CLUB-COOK—TORCH, SPEAR, FISHING

"Mr. and Mrs. King will hereafter occupy the Middle Grass-House and take charge of the Grounds," announced the *Evening Bulletin*, November 21, 1908. "King is a good cook and a splendid boatman, having had experience from the Yukon to the South Sea Islands and Australia. He will prepare hot-meals at

any time for the members, arrange chowder-suppers, and night fishing-parties on the Reef with torch and spear, or he will take the members of either sex, out in the canoes. Mrs. King will see to it that the Grounds given over to the Ladies' Auxiliary are kept in order." The *Advertiser* of November 25, 1908, explained that "King and his wife take possession of one of the Grass-Houses today and will look after the youngsters hereafter. . . . The Grass-House given the Club by George Davies will go next to the one presented by Allan Herbert."

LAGOON, LANAI, ROADWAY, CAUSEWAY

At a meeting of the OCC Directors held in the office of R. H. Trent, it was decided to begin construction immediately upon the breakwater in the Lagoon, the Club *Lanai*, and the new Causeway direct from Waikiki Road (Kalakaua Avenue) to the property of the Club, reported the *Advertiser*, November 21, 1908. "The Club *Lanai* will, for the present, until filling-in is completed, stand over part of the Lagoon behind the breakwater," explained the *Bulletin*. "It will be connected by causeway with the Club-Road and with the Beach." All these improvements will be completed by December 5, 1908, the day of the OCC's Grand Affair on its Grounds, the third Regatta held since the OCC was created on May 1, 1908.

"The carpenter of the OCC is busy making frames for the Club canoes that are to be decorated, fitting with torches and acetylene-lamps the surfboards designed for the night events," wrote the *Evening Bulletin* man on December 2, 1908.

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"WAIKIKI BEACH WAS FAIRYLAND"

"There should be more of such sport and entertainment as glorified Waikiki Saturday afternoon and evening," December 5, 1908, reported the *Hawaiian Star*. "The spell of Hawaiian music and the witchery of Hawaiian lady eyes, the *kahunaism* of Hawaiian twinkling feet, the magic of wonderful whispering of palms, swishing of waving skirts, the seduction of subdued conversations wafted lazily from nook to nook, and the general atmosphere of pleasurable pastime were such as to make Venice fade and Coney Island gasp with envy. Over the sea at night there roved, ghostlike and weird, electric-illuminated canoes between the Seaside and Moana Hotels. Lanterns and lighted bulbs decorated the hostelry. In the evening was a chowder and dances." Berger's Band played in the afternoon and Ernest Kaai's Orchestra from sunset until midnight. The afternoon regatta for youngsters on December 5th was very successful. R. K. Bonine took movies of the races.

HUSTACE, WORLD-CHAMPION SURFBOARDER

Harold Hustace is once more the World's Champion Surfboard Rider, declared the *Evening Bulletin*. He "won two of three surfing events," reported the *Advertiser*, the "endurance and fancy contests." He lost the Illuminated Surfboard event. "He came in upon a giant wave standing on his board head down, upon his hands," exclaimed the *Bulletin*, while, according to the *Advertiser*, Harold Hustace rode his board "on the crest of a roller for at least twenty yards while he himself was balanced head-down and heels in the air." Second to Harold Hustace in the Endurance or Long-Distance Surfboard contest was Guy Rothwell. There were relay surfboard races.

OUTRIGGER CANOE RACES

There were several canoe races. Among them was the Six-Paddle for the Beginners in which some of the paddlers were J. R. Farrington, Leslie Hicks, Elbert and Malcom Tuttle, Charles Brenham, Hoopea and others. This race was won by the *Keomoku* with the *Leialoha*, second. The three-mile-canoe-race was won

by Lionel Steiner's crew. The two-mile-canoe-race (crews of brothers), was won by Columbus and George Sims. The sailing-canoe race was won by Guy Rothwell and Rex Hitchcock.

SPEARING BLADDER FROM SURFBOARD

The Outrigger Juniors invented the "game of *panapua*, or throwing arrows from an onrushing surfboard at a floating bladder," explained the *Advertiser*. A bladder was anchored in the Surf and the first to puncture it by throwing a spear while standing-upright on a surfboard, won the event. Among the entries were Harold Hustace, Marston Campbell, Zen Genoves, Sam and Tom Carter, Arthur Gilman, Guy Rothwell, Kenneth Atkinson, Curtis Hustace, Harry Steiner, W. A. "Knute" Cottrell and A. Myhre. I do not know who won the event.

OCC SWIMMING TEAM

The Oahu College Juniors (Watson Ballentyne, Guy Rothwell, Rex Hitchcock, E. Hedemann, Harry Steiner and Allan Wilcox) won the Relay Swimming Race from the OCC (Vincent "Zen" Genoves, Dave Center, Ted Center, Curtis Hustace, W. Paty, and W. A. "Knute" Cottrell). Torch-swimming was on the program. Each contestant swam, with a lighted torch held in one hand above the head, from the Outrigger Beach to the Judges' Stand. Who won? Don't know!

FISH CHOWDER, TEA, AND LADIES

Prior to the night-events there was an afternoon tea, supper and fish-chowder on the OCC Grounds. Mrs. F. E. Richardson acted as General Chairman and was assisted by many ladies. Mrs. John McCandless served lemonade; Mrs. C. L. English and Mrs. W. M. Graham presided over the Tea and Coffee Garden; Mrs. A. Fuller and Allan Herbert were in charge of the Fish-Chowder, materials being supplied by Mrs. Swanzy (Allan Herbert had presented his famous Fish-Chowder Pot from Waieale, and King, the Caretaker-and-Cook, prepared an outdoor fireplace); Mrs. J. G. Rothwell dispensed the sandwiches; Mrs. White was in charge of candy; Mrs. J. Gilman, Mrs. Gartley and Mrs. G. F. Bush cared for ice cream and cakes; Mrs. Fred Carter

and Mrs. Charles F. Chillingworth presided over the flowers, providing leis for the romantic; and Mrs. Mary Gunn chaperoned the new Dance *Lanai*.

ILLUMINATED SURFBOARDS

"The Illuminated Surfboard events were particularly spectacular," reported the *Evening Bulletin*, December 7, 1908. Ken Atkinson won this event. Harold Hustace "with an acetylene bicycle lamp strapped to the bow of his board" would have won the prize but "Kenneth Atkinson bethought himself of a bamboo torch, a supply of red fire-powder carried in a hermetically-sealed tin-box and a supply of matches within the lining of the cap he wore and he was able to give the Little Champion many points on the manner in which the form of a surfrider can be illuminated at night." Atkinson's board was fitted with a bamboo bowsprit from which burned red fire (*Advertiser*, December 6, 1908).

ILLUMINATED OUTRIGGER CANOES

"The parade of Illuminated Canoes during the evening was one of the most brilliantly picturesque affairs that has ever been witnessed here," reported the *Evening Bulletin*. "Much credit is due Kenneth Brown for the manner in which he superintended the decoration of the canoes." At seven o'clock the Illuminated Canoes started from Brown's (or Gilman's Beach) and proceeded to the Judges' Stand in front of the Outrigger Canoe Club, circled about the Stand and proceeded toward the Beach. The canoes were "gorgeous with lights, lanterns and fire-effects." There "were ships and palm-trees outlined in fire and one canoe, the *Alabama*, sailed into the Lagoon, with her masts and outriggers a mass of colored lanterns, while others went out to the Big Surf and glided in before the waves, creating an effect not soon to be forgotten by those who saw it."

DANCING ON DECEMBER 5 EVENING

Three moonlight dances with orchestras and bands playing Hawaiian music and beautifully-illuminated outrigger canoes sweeping back and forth across the sea-stretch, creating an elegant environment on the evening of December 5, 1908. The OCC and Hotels Grounds gleamed with multi-colored lanterns and

incandescents. The double-chowder, aquatic sports, dancing and music, combined with a perfect moonlit night and calm waters, created an entrancing environment. Dancing on the new Outrigger Club *lanai*, Moana and Seaside Hotels continued to early morning with sentimental old Moana Pier not overlooked.

LOST, ONE PREXY; ADDED, FOUR CANOES

"The Outrigger Canoe Club is richer by four canoes and poorer one President," reported the *Advertiser*, December 8, 1908. A. H. Ford (President) sailed on that date from Honolulu aboard the *Makura* for Vancouver, Canada. Mr. Ford arrived in Hawaii about the late Spring of 1907; left in June, 1907; returned March 3, 1908; departed December 8, 1908 and remained away for over a year; his name first appears in the Honolulu Directory of 1911.

As to the acquired outrigger canoes, the feminine members of the Club came into possession of Dr. Humphris' dainty little *Nalunui* and Henry Hustace's *Nuuanu*. The boys got P. M. Pond's racer *Palolo* and A. R. Gurrey's surfer *Kamaaina*.

ACTING-PRESIDENT ALLAN HERBERT

Allan Herbert, who took over as Acting-President of the OCC upon the departure of Mr. Ford, started at once "putting a pele grass thatch on the new *lanai* and seeing that the contractor (then at work on the Lagoon) put down a solid retaining-wall," explained the *Advertiser*, December 8, 1908. "The Club will retain its Hawaiian character and, hereafter, only Hawaiian canoes will be given space on the grounds. . . . It is the intention of the Club to create a perfect Hawaiian Village about the Lagoon—the one bit of Real Hawaii left for the visitors to enjoy and the children of the *kamaaina* to study."

MRS. SWANZY, VICE-PRESIDENT OF OCC

"Mrs. F. M. Swanzy is the new Vice-President of the Club and will appoint a Chairman of the Women's Auxiliary. Work will go on at once fitting up the Ladies' Bath-House, and the Auxiliary will soon have its Dressing-Rooms and Lockers completed," (*Advertiser*, December 8, 1908).