

The arena at Pearl Harbor witnessed its first smoker Saturday night since last June when cat-calling and hooting closed it. There was none of that Saturday night and all hands were fervent in their hope that the cats and owls continue to remain away.

Mariechen ("Squeaky") Weh-selau, Outrigger Canoe club swimmer, now making a swimming tour of Australia, is having one grand time judging by her recent letter to George ("Dad") Center, coach and trainer who discovered the star. The letter, in part, reads as follows:

"Dear Dad: You spoke the right word when you said Australia was a wonderful place for sports. It's the greatest place for sports that was ever made. Last week I won the 100 in 1:05 2-5, and last night (Feb. 4) I won the 440 yards in 6:11 2-5. I think that's fairly good, taking into consideration all the training I have done. I train good and hard every morning, but the Australians are too good on the entertainments. Dad, I go to so many functions, receptions, parties, dances, teas, picnics and what not.

"I get letters, presents, telegrams and so on from people I have never seen or heard of before. Invitations come galore, even one to Lady Groom's place. Two and three pictures in every paper, long write-ups. I'll tell the world I'm running a close second to the Prince of Wales.

"Last night I went into the tank before my race and I wish you could have heard the people. They applauded and made such a racket a person might think that the missing link had at last been found.

"The other evening I had to judge a fancy dress carnival. Great sport.

"Last week-end I went up to Orange and Wellington, two country places. I gave exhibitions there. They gave me a wonderful time in both places. In Wellington they gave me a silver powder bowl and a wonderful reception and dance. We had a tag dance and I must have danced with 25 men if I danced with one.

"Sam (Kahanamoku) is having a wonderful time, too. He left for Melbourne recently. He went into a bathing suit store the other day and was admiring a certain good looking suit and they told him that he could have it. Great sports, these Aussies!

"I hope everything is the same in dear old Hawaii. I am supposed to name an Australian's home, I must tell you. You know everyone has a name for their home over here, so I am going to call this one, Hale o Aloha. Hot dog!

"Well, Dad, I hung up now. Mrs. Leo makes a banzai chaperon. I shall be back on the new boat, I think, March 29."

The letter is signed "Squeaky," and another one contained picture postcards of "Boy" Charlton and the Australian Olympic swimming teams of last year.

It is evident that Hawaiian hospitality has a strong competitor in Australian hospitality!

One of the San Francisco baseball writers, after seeing Camacho of the Honolulu Braves in action at the Seals' training camp at Fresno declared the island boy a coming Eddie Collins. If you ask Punchbowl residents they'll tell you that "that ain't the half of it, brudder!" and that Collins ought to feel complimented.

Our Australian friend who has been sending us those Melbourne Heralds decided that we had had enough fun at his expense.

He sent the papers with the idea that we would reprint the sports articles, whereas we have managed to find the joke column more interesting and reprinted some of that.

But in the last batch he carefully clipped the joke columns out. In his hurry, however, he overlooked one joke buried as a "filler" in another column.

It runs something like this:

A boy sat on the river bank fishing. But the fish were not biting and so he tied the rod to the root of a tree and put in the time playing with his dog. A man passing by asked:

"Fishing?"

"Yes," said the boy.

"Nice dog you got there. What's his name?" was the second question from the man.

"Fish," answered the lad.

"That's a strange name for a dog. Why do you call him that?"

"Cause he won't bite."

Not so bad, what? It will make our Australian friend gnash his teeth with rage when he sees it. Hereafter we wish he wouldn't clip out the joke column because it's the most readable of all the columns in the papers he sends us.