

Declines Chance To Swim Against Hawaii Mermaid

Miss Garratti Refuses To Appear In Meet Against Mariechen

Eleanor Garratti, California mermaid, was apparently one of the reasons why Mariechen Wehselau, Hawaii's champion girl swimmer, did not take part in a swimming meet in San Francisco.

The local swimming committee of the A. A. U., at the suggestion of Mrs. E. Fullard-Leo, wired to the San Francisco swimming officials informing them that anything they could do to help Miss Wehselau, such as stage a benefit meet, would be appreciated.

The San Francisco committee planned to stage a swimming meet, but word has been received that the meet was cancelled because Miss Wehselau decided to go to Los Angeles.

Word has also been received here, however, that Miss Garratti, who was decisively defeated here recently by Mariechen, declined to accept the opportunity to meet Mariechen in a tank again before going to Florida. It appears that Miss Garratti also had trouble over selection of a chaperon.

A San Francisco newspaper published the following story about the swimmers: *

"Eleanor Garratti has practically accepted the allotment made her by the National Swim committee for her expenses to the scene of the big title swims at St. Augustine, Fla. The San Rafael miss was holding out for expenses for her mother, who was to act as chaperon. Arrangements have been made whereby Eleanor is to travel with a delegation of mermaids from the Southern association and their chaperon.

"Miss Garratti has declined the opportunity to meet Mariechen Wehselau, the Hawaiian swim star, in a race here before leaving for Florida. Eleanor stated that Mariechen was a dear friend and that she would meet her at the dock with words of welcome and not challenges."