

HAWAIIAN A.A.U. AWAITS AN OFFICIAL INVITATION FROM JAPAN FOR SWIMMERS

By WILLIAM PEET
Sports Editor, The Advertiser

THE Hawaiian division of the A. A. U. officially took a hand in the negotiations between Japan and the Hawaiian islands for the proposed trip of local swimmers to the land of cherry blossoms, when Judge W. T. Rawlins at a meeting last



JUDGE RAWLINS, introduced a motion that if Japan was sincere in wishing to extend an invitation to our swimmers, the matter would have to be handled through the A. A. U. because of the international flavor of the competition.

It appears now that no direct in-

itation has ever been received from Japan officially, and that until such an invitation does come, the A. A. U. cannot act. However, Judge Rawlins and others are confident the invitation will arrive and in anticipation are laying plans to select a representative swimming team.

In reply to a request for information about the proposed Japanese trip, Watson, of the Star-Bulletin, told the A. A. U. that upon the arrival of the Japanese team in Japan, a big celebration was staged and when the Japanese fans were informed that Hawaiian swimmers would welcome an opportunity to show in their country, an unofficial invitation was dispatched to the Nippu Jiji in Japanese code. The Nippu Jiji gave the story to the Star-Bulletin and it has since been played up prominently in the news columns of both papers.

Watson further stated that the Japanese message was more or less of a feeler and that the Hawaiian A. A. U. was to be consulted for an expression of opinion.

COMMITTEE TO FUNCTION

A committee has already been appointed on which are representatives of The ADVERTISER, Star-

Bulletin and Nippu Jiji to seek ways and means not only to finance a swimming team to Japan but to make up the amount needed to defray the expenses of Kealoha, Woodl and Dad Center to the Sesqui-Centennial, and attention was called to the Swim Dance on the night of July 24. Each affiliated club of the local A. A. U. will be given 100 tickets with requests to dispose of them.

Judge Rawlins stated that his club the Hui Nalu had already subscribed its full quota, and that he hoped the others would do as well.

The meeting was short and sweet. Half a dozen clubs being represented by their delegates. C. Dudley Pratt, recently appointed chairman of the swimming committee, was among those present.

A letter from Mrs. Wall, secretary of the Ulu Niu club, the newly organized women's swimming club of Waikiki, and formerly the Women's Auxiliary of the Outrigger club, was read, stating that this club wished to release Miss Mariechen Wehselau from swimming under its colors, leaving her free to compete for the Outrigger club, as formerly. This matter was referred to the registration committee.

Mrs. E. Fullard Leo was named to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Mr. Robbins, former chairman of the registration committee.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Judge Rawlins after the meeting in a statement to THE ADVERTISER, explained that before American athletes could compete in a foreign country permission would first have to be obtained from the National A. A. U., and that any Hawaiian swimmers planning to compete in Japan would have to be properly certified, that this would take time, and that negotiations would have to be carried on through the A. A. U. He then continued:

"There is no doubt in my mind but that we shall hear from the Japanese swimming authorities and that an official invitation will arrive in due time, and for that reason I hope the present committee will go right ahead with its present plans to raise the funds necessary."

Judge Rawlins through his ready response and hearty co-operation helped make possible the trip to Philadelphia of Hawaii's two crack swimmers accompanied by Dad Center. He has taken hold of A. A. U. affairs with a vigor that is refreshing.