

ENTIRE CITY SHOULD BACK SWIM EVENT

Much Interest In Championship Meet To Be Staged Here; Effort Will Be Made To Get Takaishi To Perform Against Weissmuller

By Don Watson

"MAKE the men's national outdoor swimming championships an event backed by the entire city and not merely an A. A. U. affair."

This plan was favored last night by members of the board of managers of the Hawaiian Association of the A. A. U. In discussing the big swimming event to be staged here next August. Members of the board of governors all stated that they are ready to step forward and work to help put the event across but it was decided that such organizations as the chamber of commerce and the Hawaii Tourist bureau have a right to have a hand in the affair.

This move on the part of the A. A. U. is a commendable one. The members realize that this swimming meet is the biggest thing Hawaii has ever had in the line of sports and that it will be a great boost for the islands if the project goes over big.

George ("Dad") Center, president of the A. A. U., was authorized to appoint committees to work with the swimming committee in handling the meet and Center will get in touch with the chamber of commerce and other organizations which have already lent a helping hand in getting the championships allotted to Hawaii.

LEADING STARS

The leading stars in the country are going to come here to take part in the national championships and Hawaii's best will be pitted against Weissmuller, Laufer, Borg, Wyatt and other big guns in swimming competition.

The local swimming officials also hope to get Takaishi, champion of Japan, to take part in the meet. In fact if Takaishi can come he should prove to be half the show and Weissmuller, Borg and the others will have to swim at their best to defeat the Japanese star.

"Dad" Center says that Takaishi showed wonderful improvement following his appearance here last year and that when Hawaii's swimmers went to Japan they found that Takaishi was much better than when he performed here.

With the football season out of the way and local sports life getting back to normal again, the swimming coaches are working hard getting their proteges ready for the coming meets. The next event on tap for swimmers will be the Lincoln meet at Palama tank February 11-12. Then will come the Outrigger meet, featuring relays and water polo, to be staged the latter part of February. The Interscholastic meet will follow. Then there will be The Star-Bulletin's annual one mile canal swim on May 30 and the A. A. U. will put on a meet in June.

MAINLAND STARS

The mainland swimmers are looking forward to the trip to Hawaii and advance reports indicate that some records are going to fall because such interest has been aroused by the allotment of the championships to Hawaii that most of the leading swimmers are working harder than ever getting ready for the meet.

"Get a surfboard ready for me, because I am coming over soon and plan to do lots of surfing," Johnny Weissmuller writes in a letter to "Dad" Center. Weissmuller has performed here before and while in Honolulu several years ago he learned to ride a surfboard. He was very enthusiastic over the sport. It has been suggested that a surfboard would not be a bad award to offer to the winners of some of the races.

The Olympic club of San Francisco may send a water polo team to Honolulu to compete in the junior water polo championships which have also been allotted running for the national championships.