

S SWIM MARKS

Linksters Nov. 25

More Than 4000 Persons Attend Meet; Visitors Show Class In All Races

Helen Meany's Diving Thrills Crowd; Young Japanese Boy Makes Hit With Diving Exhibition

By PETE DOSTER

BEFORE a crowd of more than 4000 people who jammed the War Memorial pool to capacity last night, the world's champions swimming meet, which was held under the auspices of The Honolulu Star-Bulletin Athletic association, marked the lowering of two world's records.

Johnny Weissmuller, the "human fish," swimming as he never did before at that distance, lowered his own 150-yard sprint record by 1 and 4-5 seconds.

Clarence E. ("Buster") Crabbe, Honolulu's national champion, swimming against Walter Laufer, an internationally known swimmer, lowered the 300-meter medley record by 1 and 3-5 seconds.

Weissmuller, Crabbe and Miss Helen Meany, the Olympic champion woman diver, were the stellar attractions of the meet, and the huge crowd that filled every seat and every available standing space in the memorial pool stands, the largest crowd that has turned out for a swimming meet since the national meet held in the same pool in August, 1927, cheered these champions as they performed.

Before 6:30 p. m. the crowd had started gathering, and a long line of people awaited the arrival of the ticket seller to get seats. As soon as the ticket windows were opened the crowd started pouring into the stands, and before many minutes had passed the bleachers were filled and extra rows of chairs were placed on the mauka side of the pool to accommodate many more spectators. When these chairs were taken people stood anywhere they could find room.

Band on Hand

The Hawaiian band, spick and span in "winter" uniforms, played as the crowd poured in, and busy officials trotted about checking up on last minute details that assured a perfect swimming meet.

One of the outstanding hits of the meet, aside from the performances given by the champions, of whom perfect performances were expected, was the diving exhibition by Master Elmo Tomita, age 11, and Miss Marian Shaeffer, age 7, who assisted Miss Meany in one of the cleverest bits of diving ever seen in Honolulu. These youngsters, introduced to the crowd by Dr. Francois D'Eliscu, national A. A. U. official and the one person who has been most instrumental in giving Honolulu swimming fans an opportunity to see his world's champions in their aquatic exhibitions, were the receivers of much applause and complimentary re-



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marks from the crowd.

Young Tomita, a Japanese youth, performed like a veteran and his form and execution was so outstandingly good that his dives were occasions for outbursts of sincere applause.

Little Miss Shaeffer, a graceful kiddie, a 7-year-old handful of tow-headed attractiveness, executed some of her own peculiar brand of daring and difficult dives, and took by storm the hearts of the people who saw her perform.

Wonderful Diver

Miss Helen Meany, Olympic champion woman diver, lived up to the wonderful reputation that preceded her to Honolulu. Her diving was spectacular and graceful and she proved beyond a doubt that she justly deserves the title of "the greatest woman diver the world has ever seen."

Records Fall

The first world's record crashed when "Buster" Crabbe, swimming for the Outrigger Canoe club, defeated Walter Laufer, representing the Lakeshore Athletic club of Illinois in the 300-meter medley race, and lowered the old record of 4 minutes 14 3-5 seconds, held by Walter Spence, to 4 minutes 13 seconds.

Crabbe took the lead from the start, and at the end of the first 100 meters, which was a breast stroke swim, he was leading Laufer by five yards. He held his lead for about half the second lap, which was 100 meters backstroke, but Laufer gradually cut down this lead until at the end of the second lap he was only a small fraction of a second behind.

The last 100 meters, which was a freestyle sprint, developed into a grim battle between these two famous swimmers, with Crabbe holding a slight lead at the start of the lap, and sprinting desperately down the course to the finish. At the end of the race he was just about five yards ahead of Laufer, and when he edged over and grasped the hand of the visiting swimmer, the crowd applauded him both for the great swim he had just completed and for the gener-

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