

# In Its Idle Moments the A. A. U. Still Picks On Him

## When There Is Nothing Else On Hand National Body Razzes Duke

By "DOC" ADAMS

**W**HENEVER there is nothing else to do, the A. A. U. can always pick on Duke Kahanamoku for a few fast rounds. In the intervals between squabbling over records and official timing, and wrangling over skirts or bathing suits for women, the National body of this august institution can find a moment or two to spare in order that a wallop may be taken at Duke's amateur status.

The A. A. U. has lost much popularity on the mainland in the last two years, particularly since the last Olympic games, and is evidently prepared to lose a lot more. This will eventually come about as a result of widely different interpretations of the rules of the association in different cases.

We see no reason why Duke Kahanamoku is any more professional than Charlie Paddock or Norman Ross. Duke's crime was apparently that of endorsing a certain brand of varnish. The endorsement took its value from the use of Duke's name.

Charlie Paddock has been flooding the mails with "syndicate" sports articles for some time, but we hear of no move toward making a professional of him. Charlie's articles would not be worth any more than a general story written by any high school boy were they not gilded and glossed by the name of the great Charles. As a literary effort Duke's letter to the varnish maker was better reading than a lot of the articles written by Paddock for the press; and that criticism applies with equal force to those turned out by Norman Ross, another simon pure amateur.

And to still any lingering doubt that might be in the minds of our readers, we'll state that Charlie's articles are not donated to the press, not by a whole row of nickels and dimes. Paddock writes criticisms and dope stories on every line of sports, although he is primarily supposed to be a sprint expert. Where is the difference between Paddock's writing of football or baseball, and Duke's discoursing upon the surface qualities of varnish.

The national A. A. U. asks the local association to take action in the matter. They should indeed. They should proceed to tell the national association to sweep out their own basement before looking for wet goods in ours. They might add that it was high time that amateur athletes confine their "expenses" to sums spent for meals, transportation, and hotel bills, and not for tips, telephone calls, flowers and other such items.

The Hawaiian A. A. U. should certainly take action in this case, action to protect Duke Kahanamoku as much as possible. If Duke is a professional, that is all well and good. If he is not it is just as well and good; but the National A. A. U. should be given to understand once and for all that a technicality should not interfere with the proper enforcement of the rulings of the association. If Duke Kahanamoku is classed as a professional for writing that varnish letter, then the Hawaiian A. A. U., if it has the interests of Hawaii at heart, should agitate to see that some of the "Newspaper" amateurs are given a little dose of the same.

First thing we know they'll claim that Duke was given the job of "greeter" because he was a swimming champ and could swim out to the Matson boats when the official launch was laid up with a sprained propeller.