

SEASON OF 1922 WAS MOST SUCCESSFUL

ISLAND BASEBALL ANNUALS

National Game Nearly Went to the Dogs Several Years Ago in the Islands But Foresight of One Man Saved It; Has Traveled All Over World; Knows How to Play Many Games

By DON WATSON

When organized baseball in Honolulu, which is the burial ground of the organizer of baseball, went to pieces a few years ago and interest in the game became so small that the backers of the local leagues gave up in despair, there was one man who clung to the hope that Hawaii wanted good baseball.

A few days ago the local 1922 baseball season closed and was proclaimed the most successful in the history of the islands. The man who stood behind the game when help was needed, who obtained finances to keep the national pastime above boards in Hawaii and who has piloted local organized baseball out of the rough weather and into clear sailing, is still working day and night to accomplish bigger things by placing baseball on a higher plane is none other than J. Ashman Beaven.

"Bev," as he is familiarly known to every athlete and sport follower in Honolulu, can rightly be called the man who put baseball on the map in Hawaii. When others became discouraged and dropped from the game, "Bev" remained at the helm and increased his efforts to rejuvenate the game.

Dreams Come True With the Inter-Island Championship Series, which was staged at Moiliili field September 15-17, J. Ashman Beaven was one of his fondest dreams come true and it was then that he knew he had won his battle—baseball had been adopted by Hawaii as its national pastime the same as it was adopted by the mainland of the United States years ago. Even up to the last moment, Beaven fought alone, willing to take all responsibility if the venture was a failure, but just as willing to share the honors which might come with success.

But the affair was a success and now Honolulu fans are practically assured of an inter-island series. The series which included the games during the past season were larger than ever before, the brand new ball used by the teams was much improved and competition was especially hot. It would seem that baseball has reached its height in Hawaii—but when this was suggested to Beaven a few days ago he said that on the other hand baseball has just gotten a foothold here and that the big things are yet to come. An inter-island baseball series is the goal toward which "Bev" is striving and he stated emphatically that the dream of some such a league will be realized with the opening of airpassenger service between the islands.

Other Sports Beaven has not confined his efforts to boosting baseball alone, but has been connected with the promotion of football, basketball, bicycle racing and practically all forms of sports. Last season he aided his other work and gave all of his time to the promotion of sports resulting in an increased number of sport events staged here during the past year. "Bev's" athletic activities commenced early on the morning of October 31, 1893, when he made his debut as yell leader of the Beaven family team of 11 years. This young New York City kid kicked and ran his way through early boyhood into the college ranks of the University of Connecticut and J. Ashman punched his way through the public and high schools of Milford and Meriden and then registered at the Sheffield Scientific School in New Haven, Conn., where he held down a desk for two years. After leaving the Sheffield school, Beaven went to Columbia University, where he studied law and study law. This is one job that he never completed, as a wealthy relative dropped from this world, leaving young Beaven with enough ready cash to pull his attention away from the study of law.

Starts Out With a roll of bills in his pocket and a spread on the table, the kid had reached the summit of educational opportunities. Beaven decided to start out and conquer the world. Just about that time the biggest thing being talked of was the celebration of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1903. Beaven pointed the procession which was heading toward the great celebration.

He remained in England long enough to learn that cricket did not appeal to him, but to fall in love with soccer football. The next two years were spent in traveling through Europe, India, Africa, Egypt and back to New York where, in 1896 he joined the staff of the New York Evening Telegram and spent the following six years in the newspaper game, doing special staff and sports for the New York Recorder, New York World and the New York American, finally drifting back to Milford, Conn., where he became a citizen of the Milford Citizen, the only paper in that section of the country.

Beaven's size and weight never permitted him to enter football or compete with the best in that form of sports, but he did develop little better than the average in

tennis, running and boxing. The five mile was his favorite distance and when running at his best made the five mile cross country in 29 minutes. He played his first baseball in 1879 on a kid team using a soft rubber ball and bats fashioned from broom sticks. He took a keen interest in the game as well as in almost every other form of outdoor sports, usually making a close study of rules and regulations.

Here in 1910 Beaven came to Honolulu in 1910 at the invitation of Lorrie Andrews, an old friend whom he had known while in China from 1904-7. His first connection with local athletics was in helping Andrews straighten out the affairs of the local branch of the A. A. U. "Bev's" next interest in sports centered in the Outrigger Canoe Club, of which he was secretary from 1912 to 1917.

Good Facts As a baseball fan he seldom missed any of the games played at the old Athletic Park until the unfortunate mishap which came during the visit of the All-National team here which ended in the closing of Athletic Park and the removal of organized baseball. Many local athletes left to join the stars at that time and baseball became practically a "dead" issue in Honolulu. Under these conditions Beaven, who had been in the islands organized a civilian-service athletic league, getting Admiral Boyle, Governor McCarthy and General Blockson to lend their support to the league. Once started, the league took the lead in baseball, football and basketball and operated successfully for two years. It was during the first year of its operation the Outrigger Canoe Club was organized by the Braves Athletic club, the Asahi Baseball club and the Waikiki Athletic club. Beaven was secretary of the Junior to the senior ranks in organized baseball.

Back to Peace By the onset of 1920 military and naval affairs in Hawaii were back to a pre-war status and the service people were unable to take care of their own athletic activities. In 1921 there was a general reorganization of athletic affairs which resulted in the closing of the Honolulu Baseball league. Under the new system athletics have been organized in leagues and bounds and the games have become very attractive. Interest has been revived which has resulted in several teams being brought here from the mainland and the orient.

During the past two years, Waalea University baseball team was here for a stay of four weeks; two teams of mixed major and coast league players showed here on two visits of the University of California team; the Stanford University team visited the islands for a series of games and this year teams from Hawaii, Maui and Kauai were brought here in an inter-island championship series. All of these events were promoted by J. Ashman Beaven.

Aids Youngsters One feature of his administration of sports has been the encouragement he has always held out to the youngsters to get into the games, realizing at all times that the boys of today will be the big leaders of tomorrow and that they cannot learn too young to become accustomed to playing under certain conditions. The gates of Moiliili field have always been thrown open to the youngsters and their equipment and has been provided so that the boys can play games freely.

Beaven has almost without exception freely given the use of the field and its equipment for charitable and patriotic purposes, particularly during the war for Red Cross and Liberty Bond drives. This has been done at considerable expense to "Bev" but he has never faltered in doing his share of donating for worthy causes.

With such a task on his hands as managing a baseball field, "Bev" has been the target for much criticism. When he has been wrong, "Bev" gets roasted, but those who know him best are aware of the fact that he has been a team with a smile and comes back for more—and in this way he has succeeded in making a few troubles.

J. ASHMAN BEAVEN



MIKE JAY'S JABS

THE PEN IS MIGHTIER THAN ANYTHING ELSE PAULINE HOEFT wears a heavy frown. The New Zealand girl swimmer who is here to take part in the Outrigger Canoe Club swimming meet next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday night at Punahou tank always seems worried about something. No apparent reason for it, but just the same frown stays on her brow. Now a certain scribe-photographer, not mentioning any names, had occasion to photograph Pauline. She kept right on frowning. "Come on now, please, can't you smile?" coaxed the photographer. "No," snapped Pauline.

The camera clicked and the photographer went away just a little bit put out over the frown and frowning answer. "Don't worry," counseled George (Dad) Center, "you'll get a chance to get her picture with a smile after the meet, for that girl looks like a real swimmer to me, and after she wins her races she will smile. If she loses, you can give her right name away and that will make her smile." And then Dad came out with the secret. Pauline Hoef's name is not Pauline at all. It's Hoef at all right, but Pauline is only her nickname. Her name is — Emily Laura Hoef. But the point is that she prefers being called Pauline, and so Dad suggests that every time she frowns she be called Emily Laura and every time she smiles she be called Pauline!

WON IN SOUTH

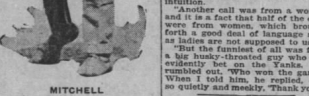


WHY HE GOT IT "SONNY" CUNHA came bustling into the Union Barber Shop last Monday to get a haircut, and, of course, everybody in the place reached forth a paw to congratulate him on his victory at the polls. "But what I can't see," said one of the voters present, "is why you got such a large vote." "You don't see?" snorted Cunha. "Well, I'll tell you. I got a large vote because I'm a large man, get me?" A big vote for a big man, that's what!

You have to know that Sonny is built on majestic proportions to appreciate the point!

IT WAS FUNNY, YES!

DON WATSON, baseball writer, dropped into The Star-Bulletin office last Sunday morning after going to church, and spent about half an hour answering telephone calls about the world's series. "It was funny," remarked Don, "telling of it, to hear the comments that people made when they learned that the Giants had won the series. "One woman, after hearing the Giants had won, did not wait for the score, but turned around and spoke to somebody else, evidently her husband. 'Now, see, George, I told you the Giants would win!' And she said it in the voice that wives reserve for husbands when they pity said husbands for their lack of imagination, mentality and intuition. "Another call was from a woman and it is a fact that half of the calls were from women, which brought forth a good deal of language such as ladies are not supposed to use. "But the funniest of all was from a big hunky-throated guy who had evidently bet on the Yanks. He rumbled out, 'Who won the game?' When I told him, he replied, 'I've got so quietly and meekly, Thank you!'"



HA! CROOKED WORK AT THE CROSSROADS

NEW YORK—Stewards at the Aqueduct track are investigating a reported attempt to disable a horse entered in the feature race of a recent card by artificial means.