MERMAIDS OUT FOR NEW RECORDS WHEN BIG MEET IS SWUM

Dad Center Reports Big Improvement in the Way the Woner-Girls are Swimming in Preparation for Clash



WITH a little over a month to go before the Army-Civilian swimming matches, which are scheduled for the Punahou tank on February 21, 22 and 24, the Honolulu mermaids are commencing to think of serious training. One solid month of daily training should put any normal swimmer in tip-top shape for competition. "Dad" Center, well known coach of the Outrigger Canoe club, feels this, and although the Outrigger swimmers turn out once a week throughout the year for a general splash with their coach, he is just now assigning distances for the coming meet. According to Center, Meriechen Wehselau is working out better than in any of her previous races. While the 50 yards is thrown off the calendar, Meriechen will try her luck at the century mark, which at present stands at 1:03 3-5, held by Ethelda Bleibtrey. She will also swim the quarter mile.

Lillie Bowmer, Meriechen Wehselau's closest competitor, is scheduled to swim the 100-yard free style as well as the 100-yard back stroke. Dorothy Waldron will also be a contestant in the back stroke events.

But the sensation of the swimming girls, it is expected, will be Janice Lovett, who as yet, is swimming in races for girls under 15 only. Janice surprised swimming fans last year when she took all events for novices and girls under 15 and is now swimming the 50 yards around the 30 mark, which speaks well for so young a competitor. In the opinion of the enthusiasts, the new swimmer will be contesting for world marks within the next swimming season.

Waters Better

Dorothy Waters, who has returned from the mainland recently is fast improving her stroke. She lost out considerably during her visit in Los Angeles, but Center believes that she can stage a comeback for this month. Connie Davis will also compete in the 440-yard swim.

Aside from all this, Dad Center hopes to bring the world record for the 400-yard relay swim for women back into the fold. The record of 4:38 held by the Honolulu girls has been lowered by a troup of women from the New York Women's Swimming Association to 4:38. With Meriechen Wehselau, Helen Moses, Lilie Bowmer and Dorothy Waters on the team, it seems likely that the record may see another drop.

Sam Kahanamoku has not yet decided whether or not he will journey to Chicago to compete in the Illinois Athletic Club swimming meet. Bill Rawlins, who has arrangements at hand, says that he has not yet heard from Sam on the subject, that Pua Kealoha can not be found—(not that Pua has been lost or anything, but he has not responded to any messages left for him at his swimming club), and that it is impossible for Warren Kealoha to attend the meet. This, of course, is all too bad for the Illinois meet, but it does mean that there will be some fairly good competition at hand for the army meet as Sam Kahanamoku is swimming a good race—fast enough to meet Pua and Warren.

Pearl Buffum is as yet the only girl we know anything about who will swim for the Army. Pearl is attending McKinley High school, enters all races for Public School children and is fast improving in her stroke. It may be said that Pearl is game, too, for this time she is going up against girls who have been in the game a long time.

Mainland swim gossip tells us that Norman Ross, who has openly taken off his hat to Johnny Weissmuller and perforce relinquished almost all claim to any swimming records at all, will stage a comeback. Our mainland informant believes that this can be done, and that the Big Moose will be able to bust loose with a lot of new ones this year.

Athletes all over the mainland have been keenly disappointed over the barring of the Los Angeles Olympiad, by the A. A. U. Honolulu swimmers had been looking forward to competing in the event and now there is not another real meet scheduled until September, with a possibility of even that falling through. There is, however, the interscholastic affair which will be swum sometime in May.

One of the knockouts passed by the major leagues in their recent joint meeting in New York was the rule that Commissioner Landis can call a joint session when and where he chooses and that any club or clubs responding will "constitute a quorum,"

In sending Pitcher Harvey Freeman to Dallas, the Portland club is merely paying a debt. Portland had obtained Catcher Nate Shandling from Dallas for use in an emergency last season and Freeman is turned over to square accounts.

Roger Bresnahan of the Toledo club seems to have taken quite a fancy to discards from the Boston Braves. Lou Christenbury was the third ex-Brave Roger has taken on since the season closed, the others being Walter Barbare and Fresh Nicholson.

Bob Kinsella, outfielder who has been on the roster of the New York Giants for several seasons, but out with first one minor club and another, has been disposed of to the Salt Lake club of the Pacific Coast League. He finished the 1922 season in the Eastern League.

Bill Terry, who joined Toledo as a pitcher, but got a few chances to show what he could do at first base the past season, will be the regular guardian of the first sack in 1923, succeeding Ed Konetchy, according to a statement quoted to President Roger Bresnahan.