

Let's Slip Some Credit To the Locals Who Had The Tough End of Task

Small Group of Local Enthusiasts Are Responsible for What Life There Is in Swimming Game Here

By "DOC" ADAMS

ACCORDING to a fellow scribe any success pertaining to the swimming meet at Punahou tank tonight is due to the efforts of still another wielder of the pen—employed by the same paper, by the way.

The writer has no wish to break in on a series of exchanges of compliments between co-workers in another paper's office, nor has he any desire to belittle the sincere efforts of a newcomer here to boost the swimming game. But—what of our own little band of stalwarts?

Who but such folk as Dave Conkling, Dad Center, Victor Ligda, Harvey Chilton, L. Fullard-Leo, Bill Rawlins, Bob Horner, A. H. Tarleton, Al Ruegg, Bill Meinecke and others have carefully nursed the swimming game through its low periods and brought it back to life at regular intervals until the prospects for Olympic competition provide a natural stimulus—just as it did four years ago?

What of Ellen Fullard-Leo who has panned the writer furiously many times for various editorial faults and who has because of her sincerity become the foremost woman in the executive branch of Amateur Athletics in America? She has been a vigorous worker for swimming for years past. Her efforts have kept Hawaii in touch with swimming activities elsewhere; have secured consideration for Hawaii's swimmers that could not otherwise have been had; and have produced more publicity for Hawaiian swimmers in "peace times" than they could well expect.

How about the Women's auxiliary of the Outrigger Canoe club, the most energetic group of swimming boosters in Hawaii? Two years ago they figured on the 1924 Olympic fund and laid a dime or two away in preparation for it. When the time for active measures arrived they stepped out and arranged for the first pre-Olympic meet—the one tonight—

Molla Mallory Not for U.S.A.

(By the Associated Press)

NEW YORK, January 18. — It was announced today that Mrs. Molla Mallory has been declared ineligible to compete in the Olympic games as a representative of America. The United States lawn tennis association stated that she is, however, eligible to compete for Norway.

Kam School and Mick Squads at Early Work

Kamehameha school and King McKinley High school boys are out early practising on the track.

The Kamehameha talent who are out for the distances started their workouts about two weeks ago. Fifteen men from last year's squad

and from all indications it will be a success.

HIT A LULL

Swimming here hit a natural lull for a long time. The visit of Gertrude Ederle, who proved conclusively that our girl swimmers need to improve to compete as serious factors in world swimming, was the first stimulus the game has had since Johnny Weismuller smeared our local pride around the lot.

Then came the Olympic preparations. The chance of making the team was an ideal incentive for the local swimmers. Their interest increased and, naturally, public interest also revived. This was as sure to come as the dropping of a dollar on a sidewalk will cause everyone within hearing to turn.

Norman Ross arrived and took prominent place in local swimming promotion. Veteran of many hard campaigns in aquatics, he offered freely advice and assistance that was highly valuable. He gave of his time, and of his knowledge of the game. It was appreciated and still is. The addition of a man of his ability to the swimming ranks here is invaluable to Hawaii, but he, least of all, would be likely to make claims of having been the saviour of swimming in Hawaii, or of having become the leader in the promotion of that sport.

ABOUT CREDIT

If there is any credit to be handed out for the new life now evident in swimming here, let it be laid in part to the juicy offering of a trip to Paris for the worthy—and above all to the sincere efforts of a few local people who have taken all the dirt in the gloomy times between such big affairs; who have battled for funds in order to invite mainland swimmers here; who have stuck to the ship when there was no chance of any glory; and who now are unselfishly devoting every energy to the cause of an Hawaiian Olympic team for 1924.

There's an old adage about what can and cannot be done to the shock troops. The writer has had too many verbal and written battles with the old guard here not to know the stuff that's in their quiet but devoted campaign in behalf of swimming.

And that's no knock for what anybody else has done, or may do.