

CLUB COMMEMORATES MEMORY OF WALTER JAMES MACFARLANE

with Annual Canoe Races

On Friday, June the fourth, nineteen forty-three, the members and directors of the Outrigger Canoe Club were stunned by the news that the beloved President of the Club, Walter James Macfarlane, had passed away in Oakland, California.

Walter, "Mac" as he was known by his many friends, had devoted the most of his time in the task of raising funds and financing the erection of a new club on its present site. Met with many disappointments and seemingly unsurmountable obstacles, he had dedicated his time to the successful accomplishment of this project. He fortunately lived to see its fruition and to him in great part and to a small band of enthusiastic members we owe our present commodious quarters.

At the time of his death the Club was planning the regular Fourth of July Outrigger Canoe races, the big event in canoeing each year and the suggestion was made that these races be dedicated to the memory of Walter "Mac" and be known in the future as the Walter J. Macfarlane Memorial Canoe Races. The idea was adopted and races have been held each year since and including 1943.

In commemoration of the life and activities of Walter, the Matson Navigation Company and the Hawaiian Hotels donated a magnificent trophy, a great silver bowl as a Perpetual Trophy to be competed for by the Senior Men's Six Paddle canoers. Thus far no other clubs than the Outrigger Canoe Club has won the honor of having their names inscribed on this bowl as winners. It is the hope of our paddlers and membership that this year our men will again win this Blue Ribbon event. Our boys are training hard under the expert coaching of David



—Photo by Lucy

"Dad" Center and if knowledge and effort are required to win, then our crew will be first.

Of all things in Hawaii that Walter "Mac" loved, and he truly loved Hawaii, the Outrigger Canoe Club and what it stands for came first. It was his ambition that the Club should be one to be proud of, proud of its structure, proud of its history and traditions and proud of its achievements in keeping alive the sports of old Hawaii, canoeing, surfboard riding and swimming. That he erected well is evidenced by the buildings and grounds, the personnel and the membership of the Club.

Conceived at a time of depression when many said "It can't be done," Walter and a few others did the seemingly impossible. The Club was erected and shortly after, all bonds and indebtedness were cleared off. Today the Club has a fine standing both financially, as to membership and as a fine community influence. The sports of the Hawaiians of old have been perpetuated and we hope that as long as the memory of Walter James Macfarlane lives they will continue to be perpetuated.