

WHY? Walter James Macfarlane Memorial Canoe Races

In 1943 Walter J. Macfarlane was president of the Outrigger Canoe Club. Walter was in the midst of sparking a movement to erect club buildings which occupy their present location. The Club had gone through bad days, was in debt, the old buildings were in poor condition, the lease on the property had run out, and the outlook for the Club's future looked bad.

Walter, however, with a small band of indomitable believers, felt that Wai-kiki and the Club should have a house and grounds which could and would be a pride and joy to members and guests. Plans were made to raise funds, negotiate a long lease, erect adequate buildings and make these seeming dreams come true.

IT CAN'T BE DONE

Many disappointments were met, the doubters said "it can't be done," many members dropped out feeling that they might be held liable for debts—but in spite of all discouragement "Walter Mac," as he was affectionately called, with his courageous group fought on. Walter dedicated practically his entire time to the task. He lived to see the Club rise and all obstacles surmounted.

On June 4, 1943, while on a visit to Oakland, Calif., Walter was stricken and passed away there. The many friends of Walter were stunned at the news. Services were held at the Club, presided over by the Reverend Henry P. Judd.

"WALTER MAC" RACES

At the time of his passing plans were being made for holding the Fourth of July Outrigger Canoe Races and Henry De Gorog, then Club manager, suggested the dedication of the races to Walter, naming them the Walter James Macfarlane Memorial Canoe Races.

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Walter James Macfarlane, past president of the Outrigger Canoe Club, surfer, canoe paddler, football player, sportsman, Legislator, advertising man, who passed on during the height of his successful career mourned by his countless friends and fellow members.



WHY? WALTER MACFARLANE

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Honolulu firms, including the handsome Matson Navigation Co. silver bowl for the Men's Six Seniors, the Blue Ribbon event. Mrs. Kamokila Campbell, Walter's mother, donated a \$100.00 award for the same event and five bottles of Chanel No. 5 and a case of champagne for the girls' senior event.

DUKE DOMINATES

Duke, steering the six men seniors, won the event as he did for several succeeding years. Bob Fischer, steering his first race, captained the girls' senior six and won first place with a record which still stands for the Walter Mac races.

JOHN D. KAUPIKO KOKUAS

John D., leader of Hui Nalu and OCC member, the grand old man perennially young, responded to the efforts of the OCC to renew racing. He whipped his Hui Nalu crews into shape and thus the only two Clubs competing were the Hui Nalu and OCC. To these Clubs must go the credit of the great interest in canoeing today. At present there are about twelve Clubs throughout the islands competing. John D., ever a fine competitor and sportsman, is still leading the Hui Nalu boys and will, we hope, for many, many years.

RACING FIRMLY ESTABLISHED

From this re-birth, canoe racing is firmly established. After several years of competition, other Clubs entered and it was felt necessary to have an association to make rules, sponsor races, re-establish championships, and otherwise the ball. The Hawaiian Canoe Racing and Surfing Association was formed through the efforts of OCC member Bill Capp and OCC member Sam Fuller was elected its first president. Its present president, formerly a member of OCC but now a member of the Waikiki Surf Club, is a dynamo of action and spirit. Under his direction 1953 will be the big year in racing.

MAHALO TO OCC MEMBERS

Too much credit cannot be given to the many OCC members who have supported racing's revival. To the crews, the officials and the many workers unseen and unknown, the Club says "Mahalo nui loa" for your efforts in keeping Hawaii's "Sport of Kings" alive.

Columbus Started Something

From the *Wall Street Journal*

Columbus discovered America in 1492. He was mistaken in thinking he had reached India when actually he had not got even as far as Indiana. He was followed or preceded by a character named Leaf Ericson, who was ferrying a ship-load of people, all of whom were called Yon Yonson, Ole Olson or Big Swede, and went straight to Wisconsin where he unloaded and went back for more. Soon other explorers followed, including Bilbo, Cabbage de Vaca and Pansy de Lion, a thirsty old man who was looking for a drinking fountain. He never found it, but he founded Florida, to which a great many thirsty old men have gone ever since.

These assorted (and distorted) facts are not likely to be found in history books, but are the substance of a hilarious journey through American history from Columbus to Truman by Richard Armour, a frequent contributor to these columns in a volume titled, *It All Started With Columbus* (McGraw Hill).

Mr. Armour also furnishes us with other "historical" facts:

To provide recreational facilities for students at Harvard, the city of Boston was established. Boston became famous for its two famous hills, Beacon and Bunker, its two famous churches, North and South, and its two famous bays, Back and Front.

The homes of the Puritans were simple and austere, but their furniture was antique, and therefore frightfully expensive. The chairs were as straight and stiff as the Puritans themselves, and had hard bottoms.

Thanks to La Salle, the Mississippi basin remained in French hands until they grew tired of holding it and sold it for \$15 million, which many thought was a high price for a second-hand basin.

Californians who were unsuccessful in finding gold went into other enterprises. Some went into business. Some went into professions. Almost everyone went into saloons.

The income tax came into being with the passage of the Underwood Act (sometimes referred to as the Underhand Act). People were put into tax brackets where they were held securely until they gave up. Most of them gave up plenty.

F.D.R. surrounded himself with a group of intimates known as Fireside Chaps with such picturesque names as Harry the Hop, Tommy the Cork, Old Curmudgeon and Ironpants Johnson, a chap who must have had trouble sitting down.

The U.N. is made up of slightly deaf delegates, who wear earphones and always have the name of their country on a sign in front of them so they can remember where they are from.

In the book you run across such famous Americans as Bigamy Young, Wild Bill Hiccup (a man of few words, such as "Reach" and "Now git"), Unbuttoned Gwinnett, and the James Brothers—William and Henry.

**TRY AN O.C.C.
PLANTERS PUNCH**