

# NOTTAGE HAS PLANS TO TAKE TEAM FROM HERE FOR TOUR OF COAST NEXT YEAR

Only Two Teams, More Like Classes, When Nottage Came and Now Basketball Is One of Leading Sports in Local Calendar; Brought Los Angeles Here in 1921

By MIKE JAY

Basketball in Hawaii before the advent of Piercy H. Nottage was a dodo game, that is, almost as extinct as the dodo. Then along came Nottage, imbued with the idea that basketball is the best game in the world, and once more the sport came forward in the territory so that today it ranks as one of the major pastimes, not only in the schools, but in the general island sport calendar as well. Football may be Hawaii's leading sport, and baseball and swimming may be close seconds, but not if one asks Piercy H. Nottage. Deep down in his heart he may admit that basketball is not the biggest sport in Hawaii, but on the surface he will admit only that it hasn't the largest following as yet, but that it is the biggest sport he will declaim. Further, he will emphasize that it will be the biggest drawing card some of these days when he can get time to get more folks interested. Right now he is busy preparing for the first mainland tour of a Hawaiian basketball team.



Nottage was born in Westport, Mass., 31 years ago and started playing basketball in 1906 as a forward for the Northampton Commercial college five. A few years later find his in Oakland, Calif., where in 1908 he played forward on the Oakland Polytechnic High school team which won the championship of the Bay County league. In the following year he played on the Plymouth club, which was a runner-up in its circuit. Later he played on the Century club of Oakland in the Pacific A. A. U. tourney, losing out to the Columbia Park boys for the title.

He came to Hawaii in 1910 and for the past 12 years has been busy making basketball a leading sport.

#### Little Play

There was very little basketball when he came. Some very poor stuff labeled basketball was played in the old Y. M. C. A. The schools did not play the game. It was a game for girls in the viewpoint of the old-time huskies, who watched the weird affair from the sidelines before shrugging their shoulders, to go off swimming or to football.

But Nottage is a single track sort of person. When he dies the idea will still be firmly implanted that basketball, for thrills, science, and all around features, has it over every other form of sport. They laughed at Nottage when he told them that there sure would be a time when 5000 fans would pay to see the local teams play. Last year that dream came true in the finals of the inter-island tourney.

#### It Helped

Some years after Nottage arrived here the present Y. M. C. A. building was opened, which permitted boosting basketball because it gave the accommodation necessary for playing the game properly. Nottage played with the All-Stars, who won every game in 1912. Some years after he played for the National guard team. There was no basketball in 1917, due to the war, but the following year there was a service league, with some success, the marines winning the title.

The 1919-20 season was a victory for the National Guard team, which defeated the Outrigger in the final game. Nottage was a member of the runner-up team.

In the 1920-21 season the Outriggers won the title with Nottage then a member of the team and also president of the basketball league.

#### Big Boost

Nottage took the matter in his own hands and brought the Los Angeles Blues, former national champions, here in the spring of 1921. That had more to do with boosting basketball in Honolulu than any other move in the past. The showing made by the local teams against the visitors was enough to give the islanders a real hope of trimming many of the mainland teams.

In the last season with Nottage as president, the scheme was put over to bring a team from each of the islands for an inter-island series. Oahu won the flag, but the

interest stimulated throughout the territory means that the next basketball season will be bigger than ever.

#### Commercial League

Last year for the first time in the history of basketball there was a commercial league prior to the regular senior league, proving that there is a real demand for more basketball among the players and fans. This year the commercial league is already under way and there will be the usual senior league series with the inter-island tourney early in 1923.

But besides all that Piercy H. Nottage is planning to take an All-Hawaiian basketball team from the islands to play the best teams along the Pacific coast in January, February and March of next year.

The team will leave here early in January and play in British Columbia, Washington, Oregon, California and possibly Nevada. During its tour it will wear the athletic emblem which The Star-Bulletin contest has brought out. It will be the first Hawaiian basketball team to go to the mainland, and further, it will be the first team to wear that emblem.

#### Big Stunt

This tour is expected to do more to advertise Hawaii than any previous athletic tour, because in this case there will be an entirely new field entered. Basketball fans are a queer race and once bitten, have few athletic interests outside of that one sport. Hence to attract their attention, the only means is through basketball. And what is more, the Hawaiian team should make a good showing against the Pacific coast teams, winning more than half of its games.

Nottage is hard at work now trying to raise the finances for the trip. The Hawaiian A. A. U. is trying to help him, believing the project to be one of the best advertising ideas for the islands.

Nottage has also proved a good coach at the game he loves so well. In 1920 he coached Punahou and the team proved runner-up in the Interscholastic league. The following year he coached Punahou again and the Buffanblu won the title.

During odd moments Nottage sells sporting goods at the Honolulu Sporting Goods Co., but outside of that and basketball, he is a man of leisure.

## FROSH AND JUNIORS WIN MILLS BATTLES

In the Mills school inter-class basketball tourney yesterday afternoon the Freshmen defeated the Sophs by a score of 13 to 9 in a tight game.

The second game of the afternoon was won by the Juniors, who took the Grammarians into camp 35 to 15.

#### COMMERCIAL CASABA

In the Commercial Basketball league last night at the armory the Hawaiian Pines lost to Mutual Telephone 35 to 23 and the Standard Oil beat Central Service 31 to 3.