

Veteran Rangi Leading

WINDS STILL LIGHT IN TASMAN

The Auckland gaff-rigged cutter Rangi became the leader in the Tasman yacht race yesterday afternoon. At sundown, according to a message from the Press Association correspondent in the Leda, Mr W. A. Wilson, she was about five miles ahead of Leda and the Sydney sloop Solveig, which were together and about 15 miles to the north.

The order of the yachts was as follows: Rangi, Leda, Solveig; Southern Maid back a few miles and to the south; Tara, well north and about 20 miles behind the leaders; White Squall and Sea Wolf, furthest south and 40 miles behind. The other two entrants, Ghost and Hope, are not equipped with radio and have not been seen.

Breeze Farther South

On the way from Sydney to Auckland, Captain F. Bethwaite, commander of the flying-boat Awatere, saw the yachts 470 miles from Auckland at about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon. At 9000ft he could see the positions of all the leading boats, and a few minutes later flew over the others. He said last night that there appeared to be only a few cat's-paws ruffling the water, but about 50 miles to the south there was a considerable breeze.

The flying-boat from Auckland to Sydney yesterday, the Aranui, attempted to drop copies of the Herald to the Leda and Solveig, but they fell astern. Both the boats were catching some wind at the time and were not prepared to put about for them.

Invitation to Dance

"Today has been the hottest and calmest since leaving Auckland," Mr Wilson reports. "Solveig and Leda have been practically within shouting distance of each other since breakfast. Solveig crept up when she got a puff of wind from astern, and then Leda drew away again. At teatime Solveig drew ahead, but the wind turned and Leda quickly left Solveig behind."

"Solveig's crew has been invited to swim across to Leda for a dance to-night. We have suggested that the race start again from here, as the boats are nearly level, and that handicaps be halved as we are nearly halfway across. This is not favoured by Rangi or Solveig, which are in a great position to win."

The official positions of some of the yachts last evening were: Leda, 34.24 S., 164.20 E.; Tara, 33.40 S., 165.20 E.; Southern Maid, 34.44 S., 165.05 E.

Rangi, which is owned by Mr M. Antony, of Auckland, is competing in the Tasman race for the third time. She is also the oldest boat left in the race and the only gaff-rigged one. With a length of 38ft, she is not the smallest in the race, but has a very favourable handicap and has about a 12-hour advantage of Leda, the second boat.

Sea Wolf Has Not Yet Reached Sydney

SYDNEY, Saturday. — The only boat in the fleet of nine yet to finish the Tasman race is the New Zealand ketch, Sea Wolf. The New Zealand sloop, Ghost, crossed the finishing line at 8.9 p.m. yesterday.

Unofficial returns show that the joint owner-skipper of the 36ft Sydney sloop Solveig, Magnus and Trygve Halvorsen, have won their third successive Tasman race.

The result is:—

SOLVEIG	1
WHITE SQUALL	2
HOPE	3

A Royal Prince Alfred Yacht Club official said these placings were unofficial because the club could not announce the winner on handicap until all the yachts had crossed the line. —N.Z.P.A.—

Sea Wolf Took 19 Days To Reach Sydney

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SYDNEY, Wednesday.—The ketch Sea Wolf, the last yacht to finish in the Tasman race, arrived off Watson's Bay in Sydney Harbour at 10.55 last night. She took 19 days to complete the course.

"During the last two days conditions were too bad to get sights," said the skipper, Mr Harry Pope.

"We ran into a bad squall on Monday and lost the jib and jib boom. This morning we made a landfall on Botany Bay.

"We should have been here in half the time, but we ran into headwinds at the start.

"Apart from odd incidents, we had an uneventful trip. Everyone kept well and we had plenty of food and drink."—N.Z.P.A.—Reuter.