

BOAT RACE FAR EASTERN STYLE

The biggest regatta in the Far East was held on the Mekong River in Cambodia. That's a province of Indo-China, where there's a war on, but there was no hint of war about these festivities, and a good job too. Some canoes had an urging coach; Big Chief Big Head easily the best. As ~~every~~ ^{girl} ~~body~~ ^{body} in the River country can paddle a canoe practically from the cradle, most of the population was afloat. It was all very Oriental, bar the gentleman in the ~~man~~ cap.

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The King of Cambodia gave the regatta royal patronage. It's been held for centuries to celebrate the end of the monsoon, if the rains have been heavy enough to make the river spill over into a huge lake irrigating the fertile countryside.

(King) The giant canoes don't go at any great speed.

Oxford would beat some of them easily.

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