



Caddie Camps Are Coming

GOLF has brought health, happiness and sunshine into the lives of hundreds of thousands of boys who have acted as caddies, and also enabled contacts that brought many fame and fortune. Golf is about to do more for these men of tomorrow. The summer Caddie Camp is a new idea that promises great things for both boys and players. What boy hasn't dreamed of camping during the summer? Now comes the golfer marooned on a mountaintop with a bag of clubs, to solve the camping problem for the boys held back by cost. The summer golfers in isolated communities want competent caddies, and the Caddie Camp is the outcome—a camp furnishing accommodations at cost, which is paid by the boys through a percentage of their caddie fees. The camps can be conducted in many different ways, but we advocate the control or guidance of the Boy Scout organization. We believe that greater success will attend the initial stages of this great movement if the patriotic, inspiring, and unselfish principles of the Boy Scouts form the woof of the fabric in the making. Facts and figures regarding the establishment of Caddie Camps to be found in this issue are well worth studying.

A PROMINENT British golf architect recently said: "Almost everywhere today the game of golf is being threatened by a reactionary school of golf architecture; commonly termed the 'penal school', which advocates plastering courses with bunkers to catch every bad shot. The only true school is the 'strategic school', as we see it exemplified at St. Andrews, and other great courses." Several others have made this comment. Isn't it possible that what is being done in the matter of changing the contour of courses and increasing the number of hazards has come about in response to the demand of players? More than a dozen courses in the Metropolitan District are adding bunkers by the score and in the early Spring many more courses will be tightened up. If the game of golf "is being threatened by a reactionary school of golf architecture" it is because the men who sign the checks want it so. Courses are going to become tighter. Recent reports indicate that even dear old St. Andrews is about to be bunkered a bit. Whether better playing, better balls or better implements are responsible, the tendency seems to be toward harder courses. It is the player who is making the demands to the Green Committee, who, in turn, has passed it on to the architect, who cannot pass it further.

THE *Bulletin* issued by the Green Section of the U. S. G. A. should be able to do some really helpful and constructive work. A publication receiving as much as \$30 annually for twelve copies should strive to furnish text in keeping with the dignity of its subscription price. The wholly irrelevant back page in the January issue will hardly add to its prestige. Good, wholesome, helpful thoughts made the back page noteworthy when Doctor Piper wrote the material. Matter of this type is a poor substitute:

"Heard a salesman proclaiming to a group of greenkeepers the wonders of his new mower. Oh, boy, what a machine! 'It runs like a 17-jewel watch, never scalps the turf, a child may push it, seldom if ever requires adjustment, no trouble to sharpen, it will stand up under any rough treatment,' etc. If pressed, he probably would have claimed his mower could almost think for itself. Then someone broke up the party by reminding him that when mowers such as he described were produced there would be no need for salesmen to persuade greenkeepers to buy them. The company manufacturing them would have to call in all its sales' force, arm the whole staff and post it about the factory to hold the greenkeepers back."

The page concludes with this:

"When a listener interrupted a fertilizer agent to ask about a competitive product the salesman frankly admitted 'it is good stuff and gives excellent results.' We had to take a second look at that fellow. It was a relief to find a salesman who had sufficient confidence in his wares to enable him to speak truthfully of the other man's product."

We do not see just why it is necessary to even remotely imply that sales representatives of important business houses are untruthful or unreliable, and that "we had to take another look" when a salesman gave an opinion he considered fair. It certainly does not promote good will—or grow grass.

TALK has again been revived of having the Walker Cup fully international—symbolizing in golf what the Davis Cup does in tennis. Mr. Walker, donor of the cup, would no doubt be agreeable to such a change, but a leading golf authority who has carefully studied international golf team possibilities says the time for such matches has not yet arrived. The idea is good. We are for it. If France and Japan, the two best prospects abroad, could have teams ready by 1930, it is not at all improbable that international play for the Walker Cup would assume definite form.