PGA To Educate Caddies

Professional Golfers' Association of America distributed in April to all U. S. golf courses where PGA members are employed, a series of five wall charts which explain in word and diagram every duty a caddie is expected to perform from the time he is assigned to a golfer until he is paid off at the end of the round. The charts are designed to be posted in caddie-shelters; caddies will then be asked to study the material and be prepared to take an examination on it at the end of the week.

Charts are not meant to be posted all at once, however. Instead, according to Tom Walsh, PGA president, clubs are requested to post the charts one at a time a week apart. Thus, at the end of five weeks every caddie in every PGA club in the U. S., an estimated 250,000 lads, will have been given a complete course in caddying duties. An immediate improvement in caddie standards throughout the country is a certain result of this PGA move.

Golfers will also be given a chance to see the charts, so they'll know what to expect of a caddie. For this, the wall-charts will be duplicated in much smaller size, for posting on club bulletin boards.

“In the past,” President Walsh explains, “there has been no uniform system of caddie training. A golfer's caddie might be good or bad depending on the training he had received from the club caddie committee, the caddie-master, and the professional. Most leading clubs have developed excellent systems of training, and we have taken the best features of all of them in preparing the charts. Material on the charts was compiled from outstanding systems of training as developed by members of our Association throughout the country. Everything a good caddie should know is on them, yet no unreasonable demand on the lads is included.”