Little, Picard, Farrell in PGA Hall of Fame

Lawson Little and Henry Picard, who were at their peaks as tournament professionals about 20 years ago, are the newest members of the PGA Hall of Fame. Selected in a nationwide poll of PGA members, they, along with a third new member to be picked by those already in the Hall of Fame, will be inducted into the professional organization's golf shrine at the 45th annual meeting of the PGA in November.

Election to the Hall of Fame is based on lifetime playing ability. Only those who are 50 years of age or older and are retired from active national competition are eligible to be selected.

Great Amateur and Pro Record

Little, 51, dominated the amateur ranks around 1934 and 1935, winning an unequaled string of 32 victories in national and international tournaments and matches in those years. He won the USGA Amateur and British Amateur championships in both 1934 and 1935, one of the great repeat performances in golf history. Lawson turned pro in 1936, winning the Canadian Open shortly after doing so. He won or came close in numerous tournaments thereafter, climaxing his career by capturing the USGA Open in 1940 in Cleveland with a playoff victory over Gene Sarazen.

A Lt. Commander in the Navy during World War II, Little is now retired and lives in Pebble Beach, Calif. He is the father of four children. For several years he was associated with A. G. Spalding & Bros. in an advisory capacity and in 1951 he was a national PGA vp.

Won Masters, PGA Titles

Henry Picard, 55, now serves as a professional at Canterbury GC in Cleveland, the place, incidentally, where Little won his Open championship. His greatest years came between 1935 and 1940, but as late as 1950 he was a semi-finalist in the PGA Championship. Picard won that title in 1939 after having been a semi-finalist the year before. Other notable milestones in his career include the winning of the 1938 Masters and the distinction of being the pro tour's leading money winner in 1939. Picard was second in earnings in both 1935 and 1937.

Quiet and reserved and rated as one of the game's great swingers, Picard was a conservative player who rarely gambled on a shot. He is credited with having given Ben Hogan the moral and financial support that kept the famed Texan from quitting the circuit nearly 25 years ago.

Picard, also wintertime pro at Seminole GC in Palm Beach, is the father of three sons and a daughter and has six grandchildren. Another son was killed in an automobile accident in 1959.

The election of Little and Picard brings to 28 the number of men who have been chosen for the PGA Hall of Fame since it was established in 1940.

Members Select Farrell

Johnny Farrell became the third man elected to the PGA Hall of Fame for 1961 when members of the shrine selected him for the honor. The 60-year old native of White Plains, N. Y. came into prominence during 1923 and 1924 when he finished in the money in every tournament he entered in those two years. He reached his peak in 1927 when he won eight tournaments, but he had to wait another year before achieving his greatest triumph, the winning of the USGA Open. After finishing in a tie with Bob Jones for the regulation distance in that event, Farrell won the playoff, 143 to 144. A year later, Johnny came close to winning the PGA (Continued on page 120)