Mac Hunter, professional at Riviera CC, Pacific Palisades, Calif., bills his outlet as the “Golf Shop Exceptional.”

In view of a sale that Hunter made last fall, he or the shop should have some kind of an exceptional rating.

Pierre Cossette, Riviera member and a theatrical agent who has Ann Margaret, Dick Shawn and John Raitt, among others, in his stable, had long bemoaned his inability to hit decent fairway irons. Even Hunter’s teaching wizardry didn’t help him very much. Cossette worked hard, but was incapable of lifting the ball much beyond the reach of the nematodes when he hit iron shots.

Then Mac got the lucid idea of outfitting Cossette with woods from the driver through the putter — 15 clubs in all, in spite of the USGA. Pierre agreed and Ken Smith, the Kansas City custom-club maker, was asked to turn out the unusual set of weapons. For the record, it includes a driver, 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14 woods and a putter. The No. 6 through the No. 13 Pierres are lofted about the same as the 2- through the 9-iron. The No. 14 wood is equivalent to a wedge. The set cost $600.

Improved His Score

The first time Cossette used the clubs he shot an 89, which was quite an improvement over his usual scores. Playing from the sand, he laid nine out of ten shots close to the pin during this round.

Since he has started using the clubs, Cossette has been charged on numerous occasions with slow play. Curious golfers stop him, often when he is wound up in his backswing, and ask to look over every club in his bag. Pierre is so happy with the results he has been getting with his all-wood collection, he doesn’t allow these interruptions to nettle him.

Waring Uses Ten

Fred Waring, the proprietor of the Shawnee-on-Delaware resort club, near Stroudsburg, Pa., has long owned a set of nearly all-wood clubs. His stop, however, with the equivalent of a 7-iron, numbering ten in all. Waring uses 8- and 9-irons, a wedge and putter, made in the conventional way, for his short game.

Waring gives these reasons for emphasis on the wood tools: “I enjoy hitting the ball off the fairway and out of the rough with woods. I am too busy to practice out the shanks with iron clubs.”