## Ohio Club Finds Elaborate



This tabloid size, four-page newspaper is crammed with news and names of the club caddies. It is read and re-read by every boy.

## Caddie Welfare Program Pays

To THE credit of golf club officials, there is a continuous growth of constructive interest in caddie welfare. When all the high-flying syllables have been written and spoken about the ennobling influence of this pet sport of ours, the final verdict of golf's value will be swayed heavily by what it has done for the kids.

The Massachusetts Golf association has done by far the best job of organization work on this caddie matter in compiling its caddie manual, which, with the book A. P. Webster and another golf benefactor had printed, constitute the present standard text books on caddie instruction. Individual golf clubs have done well in supplying the youngsters with quarters that have lockers, showers, reading room and outdoor play facilities. Some of the clubs, notably Olympia Fields of Chicago, furnish the youngsters with uniforms and with raincoats when the weather is threatening. But of all the clubs that are giving caddie welfare attention, the prize, so far as this writer knows, goes to the Columbus (O.) C. C.

As previous stories in GOLFDOM have detailed, the Columbus establishment is run on a successful business basis. The executives of the club consider that an important and wholesome part of the club's business is developing its caddies into good citizens and good business men.

The club is in a good residential location so the economic factor does not figure as strongly in getting a plentiful supply of youngsters. But the other attractions make the club so popular for caddies that when the waiting list of kids seeking regular assignments gets a little low, all the caddie-master has to do is to notify principals of adjacent schools that the club is able to take on a few more boys. The names of likely youngsters are secured and an invitation is sent to the boy.

Caddie activities at the Columbus club include a caddie camp, a newspaper, and a couple of parties each year. Funds for the caddie activities are secured by popular subscription. A list is posted in the men's locker-room and each member signs for any amount he wishes, but not in excess of \$5. Between \$800 and \$1,000

is raised in this manner. There are between 200 and 250 boys on the caddie list. The caddie-master is a college student of journalism, so it was natural that he would get the kids interested in publishing their own paper. Sheets of this publication are shown with this story. It's a very good job of its kind. Each of the kids gets a copy of the paper and the monthly issues also are put in the locker of each member. The boys are organized into teams. There are baseball teams and basket ball teams equipped from the caddie subscription fund. There is also a pitch and putt course for the kids. These activities keep the kids out at the club so there never is danger of a caddie shortage.

In the evenings the youngsters rehearse a seven-piece orchestra. This has gone over so well the boys are considering forming a band. From \$300 to \$400 a year is put into a caddies' camp where the boys, in turn, may spend a week. A fall treat for the youngsters was taking them to a football game. The club got reduced rates for 150 kids who were transported in seven motor busses. As the caddie-master was on one of the teams engaged in the autumnal merry mayhem the party was a huge success. Lunch was served at the clubhouse prior to departure for the game.

Curtain falls on the season with a caddie dinner. Entertainment is hired to supplement that supplied by the boys. The members act as waiters. Captains of industry, lights of the federal and state bar, and other dignitaries get a big kick out of their jobs as hashers for the hungry horde. Prizes are awarded to the youngsters for their season performances. Those boys with perfect records get \$10 worth of pro shop merchandise.

Members of the Columbus Country club look back on the history of their work for and with the caddies and rejoice. Many of the boys have graduated into fine business positions with men whom they served as caddies. As a training school for good citizens, business-men and sportsmen, the caddie work done by the Columbus Country club and other thoughtful golf organizations makes one of the game's most valuable contributions to national progress.