

step must be to establish a uniform course rating system. A preliminary proposal for such a system is now being tested in a limited way and the committee hopes to be able to make a final report at the next USGA meeting.

**Finance:** Income for the year was made up of \$19,615.60 from dues, \$761.00 from sale of literature, excluding sales by the Green Section, and \$858.58 from interest on investments and savings accounts, for a total of \$21,235.18. Expenses for the year amounted to \$39,051.50, breaking down into \$22,859.06 for administration and general expenses, \$14,099.83 for net Green Section expenses, \$603.09 for committee expenses and \$1,489.52 for research on balls and clubs. The excess of expenses over income reduced the USGA's surplus account from \$89,833.31 on Dec. 1, 1941, to \$72,016.99 on Dec. 1, 1942. Nearly all of this loss could be attributed to the USGA's war activities

*Report of the Green Section committee of the USGA will be found elsewhere in this issue.*

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## Camps May Aid in Caddie Problem

This year the training and supervision of caddies undoubtedly will take on many aspects of pre-military training and application of Boy Scout work to wartime duties, such as British Boy Scouts have admirably performed.

Consequently the caddie camp idea promises to be adopted where facilities are suitable. One of the most successful pre-war caddie training establishments was that at Poland Springs, Maine, described in the following article.—Editor's note.

EVERY morning during the pre-war summers, 75 tanned youngsters wearing yellow and green uniforms which are numbered on the back, emerged from a spacious yellow barn at Poland Spring, Maine, to take up their caddie duties at the Poland Spring 18-hole course. They were all boys from Boston's South End House, earning a vacation and possibly starting a career.

Of the twenty-odd caddie camps throughout America, perhaps the Poland Spring camp is the one best known, for many famous golfers of today were broken in here as caddies. Notable among these are Elmer Ward, amateur New England champion of 1930, Walter Phipps of Scarborough, Mass., George Corcoran of the famous Corcoran brothers, Art Wedgeworth of Merrimac Valley, Jimmy Dolan of Hillcrest in Worcester, the long-driving Carl Nettelblatt of Framingham, and Bill and Walter Cosgrove of Green Hill in Worcester and Wachusett, respectively.

Thomas J. Turley has directed the Poland Spring caddies ever since 1927, and is regarded as a cross between a Santa Claus and a Dutch Uncle. "We do not feel that we are doing our job here," he said, "unless we give the highest grade of caddie service. A strict oral examination is required after the eight-weeks' training course in Boston under leading pros and members of the state clubs. There's also a rating system on the golf course. The golfer gives the boy an A, B or C, and adds any pertinent remarks. In this way, we hear about any negligence.

"The boys are chosen as much for their physique as for their conduct rating in school. They submit to a rigid physical examination before going to camp. Last year we had 300 dentistry cases and 11 tonsillectomies, all performed without charge. The evening before they leave for camp the boys are given a superficial examination, which protects the golfer as much as the boys themselves. Each boy takes a shower every morning, there is daily inspection of both his person and room, and every lad has a change of uniform. They each pay \$6 a week room and board, and usually bring back a little pin-money in October."

The first caddie camp was pitched in Bretton Woods in the White Mountains. It was the late Robert A. Woods, pioneer of settlement house workers, and John P. Whitman of the South End House in Boston, who in 1907 concocted the idea of turning underprivileged street gamins out to pasture. The police station in the South End makes more adult arrests than any other station in the country, and yet delinquency has been cut down 50% since these camps have been organized. That 21 of the caddies at Poland Spring have entered the priesthood suggests its wholesome effects.