

## Golf Cars to Replace Caddies at May's Tam O' Shanter Club

**G**EORGE S. MAY, owner of Tam O'Shanter CC, Niles, Ill., announced in January that caddies will not be available at his club to carry players' bags in 1960. Until this year it always had been necessary for a member to have a caddie when playing the course. Now it will be mandatory for the member to use a golf car when playing at Tam.

Tam O'Shanter becomes the first club in the country to make such a revolutionary change. It is prompted by the fact that, in 1959, two and one-half as many members used cars as in 1958. Tam officials feel that it is only a matter of time before golf cars will replace caddies at all large clubs in the U. S. Two prominent clubs on Chicago's North Side are said to be considering replacing caddies with cars and two California clubs are expected to make a decision to do so in the near future.

In changing from caddies to cars, May mentioned that he was taking a lead from the bowling industry which has almost completely replaced pin boys with automatic setting devices.

Last year, Tam had about 65 cars. The number is expected to be increased to at least 100 this year. Garaging facilities at the club will be more than doubled this spring. Employees will be on duty day and night servicing golf cars. On Ladies' Day, women members will be permitted to use cars at a reduced fee.

Tam officials expect that use of cars by all players will speed up play.

### Make Big Caddie Education Contribution

May is a director of Western Golf Assn., whose first interest is caddies. Tam O'Shanter members and May and his wife have contributed \$130,000 to the WGA's Evans Scholarship Fund in the last 11 years — more than any other club in the U. S. or Canada. A total of 52 young men has received educations through Tam's contributions. The club has had a reputation for providing excellent facilities for its bag toters. Just a few years ago it spent \$25,000 to make its caddie quarters the best in the Chicago dist.

When the PGA was informed of May's decision to dispense with caddies, it did not look favorably upon the change. The pro association feels that action such as this and the general trend to cars, shuts off an extremely important source of future golf teachers and tournament players. If the caddie eventually disappears, the PGA apparently has doubts that the amateur field will be able to fully supply the needs of the profession in years to come.

Commenting on Tam O'Shanter's action, James M. Royer, pres. of Western Golf, said that altho May is a member of the association's board of directors, his views on the caddie-golf car situation don't reflect the thinking of the board as a whole. "That is not to say that we condemn May for the action he has taken," Royer said. "The Tam O'Shanter owner always has been an independent thinker and if he feels that 100 per cent use of cars at his club will improve operations there, then he should make the change."

Royer added that a recent poll of WGA's 396 clubs showed that their caddie programs in most cases are on an upswing.

### California, Utah Lag In Providing Golf Courses

To keep pace with the population growth in the next 10 years it is estimated that the seven Western states will have to have at least 210 more courses. Even if that many are built this area won't be overwhelmed with golf sites. Nevada and Idaho now have one course for every 19,-

000 persons; Arizona, Washington and Oregon have one course for about 25,000 but Utah and California have only one layout per 42,000 persons. Nevada and Idaho rank 11th and 12th statewide but Utah and California are near the bottom of the list.

The No. 1 state from a golf standpoint is Vermont with one course for every 9,750 inhabitants.