

Milk for the Caddies

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Members of the Louisville Country Club are distributing 6,500 bottles of milk among their 100 caddies this season in an unusual welfare program which rewards both parties.

Each caddie is treated to a half-pint bottle of milk as he walks off the ninth green. The cost of the program is defrayed by a charge on each member of 5 cents a round.

The members are so enthusiastic about the program that they rarely, any more, walk impatiently toward the 10th tee. They insist that their caddies take advantage of the free milk and wait until the boys have finished before teeing off.

Balanced Diets

John Collis is one of our many members who find it gratifying from the players' standpoint. "The boys are more courteous and more workmanlike," he said. "I don't believe any boys can fail to appreciate the good will behind such a practice."

New caddies are initiated into the system without ado by veterans of the milk plan. "I don't give a dern what they did there," one was overheard to say, "at this Club you drink it and like it."

It is now three years since the plan was inaugurated and it has won the approval of doctors, dentists and dietitians. The Louisville Country Club hopes the plan will be copied by clubs from coast to coast.

Some of the boys who caddie in Louisville, like some boys who caddie elsewhere, do not receive a regular, balanced diet. Realization of this fact was the first step in formulating the free-milk plan, which already has resulted in the distribution of 13,500 bottles. The club does not believe that its plan will completely correct deficient diets, but it does believe it helps the situation to some extent.

There seemed a possibility at the outset that any plan to distribute free milk to caddies might work to the disadvantage of the club professional, Eddie Williams, because it would operate in competition with the tonic stand. Williams brushed this aside and volunteered to administer the plan himself. "Our caddies are assets to the club," Williams said. "We want healthy boys. We want boys who know the members think of them as people, not just ball-hawks."

The only remaining obstacle to fruition of the plan was to wean the boys away from a steady diet of carbonated beverages. The members took care of that by insisting that the boys try it for a while, at least. Milk made the grade.

"We have established a relationship that will stick in later years," one member told me. "It's going to be hard to convert these boys to any of the current 'isms' after they have seen the leading doctors, lawyers and merchants of their town take time out to see that they get their milk."

The free-milk plan has created a warm spot in our club life that we all share. And we're going to keep it that way.

ON THE GREEN

The greens at your club will putt better if, in lifting a ball, you do not scratch the green to mark its position. Use a coin or similar marker.

Under normal conditions, it is contrary to the rules to change balls on a green or anywhere else during the play of a hole. USGA Rules of Golf 10 (3) provide that: "A player must hole out with the ball driven from the tee unless it be lost or unplayable or played out of bounds or into a water hazard or casual water or become unfit for play. In any such case a player may substitute another ball as provided in the Rules."