

IT'S YOUR HONOR

Re the Public Links

TO THE USGA:

The Miami Country Club was host at your 27th Amateur Public Links Championship.

I am writing you this letter in behalf of our club to express our pleasure in entertaining this tournament. It is my understanding that this was the first time that it has been held at a private club.

As you know, Miami Country Club is a private club and is one of the oldest private clubs in the United States. The selection of our club for this tournament was a departure from your custom of having the tournament on a public links. It was a departure upon our part to accept such a tournament, and I am happy to report that not only do we not have any regrets in entertaining this tournament but that the tournament was an inspiration to the Board of Governors and to the membership as a whole, as we have never entertained a more appreciative group of gentlemen and sportsmen.

At this time our club would like to go on record as expressing our appreciation for the honor of entertaining this representative group of golfers and to recommend to any private course in the United States the Amateur Public Links Championship.

EDWARD P. WHITE, PRESIDENT
MIAMI COUNTRY CLUB
MIAMI, FLA.

A Caddie Strike

TO THE NASSAU DAILY REVIEW STAR
ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N. Y.

You had a story about the golf caddies at Woodmere going on strike for more money.

In the first place the labor laws govern the age and the rate of pay of a caddie. "Someone" is striving to organize caddies. On the surface this seems a trifling matter, but here we have healthy boys coming under the

influence of "someone" who is going to try and teach them that they can strike for more money than some of them deserve. These boys are too young to learn uneconomic tactics.

Let's get down to cases.

I play golf, about 125 rounds a year, and at \$3 per-round caddie fees, I pay \$375. A caddie earns double for carrying two bags, and he gets \$6 in the morning and \$6 in the afternoon, or \$12 per day on Saturday and Sunday. Counting holidays and weekday caddying he earns about \$2,500 a year.

At our club, Seawane Harbor, 16,000 rounds of golf are played each year. At \$3 per round this is a \$48,000 income to the boys of the neighborhood. In addition, caddies are allowed to play golf free on Mondays the year 'round. Also, the golf teams of the nearby high schools are allowed to play on Mondays, and they are not caddies. This is done as a courtesy to high school boys.

Here is another aspect of the caddie situation. The members (and their wives) are usually successful in business, or as owners of their own businesses are in positions where new help can be hired. Members observe attentive boys and help them. Some smart and polite boys are given employment in members' firms. Caddies therefore get a start in business that could not be otherwise obtained.

So, you see, there is more than just news to a caddie strike. I think your paper should view it as a bad influence and as an important community disaster.

GILBERT C. TOMPKINS
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Editor's Note: The USGA Journal invites comments on matters relating to the welfare of the game and will publish them as space permits.

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