

CADDIE CAMP ATTRACTS YOUNGSTERS FROM STREET

For Fishers
Island and Hay
Harbor Courses

On June 28, 1926 a group of fifty-four boys departed from Avenue A on a new Boys' Club summer adventure. They were to be caddies on the Fishers Island and Hay Harbor golf courses."

Thus began Camp Tabor, as set down in the Boys' Club newspaper of that year, and it still is an exciting adventure for lads from New York City.

Each year that Camp Tabor has been open it has afforded anywhere from 60 to 120 boys the opportunity of combining work with pleasure in the fresh air countryside during the summer months. These are older Boys' Club members from 14 to 21 years of age from East Harlem and the Lower East Side, youngsters who might otherwise spend their leisure time "hanging around" the street corners.

In the early spring Boys' Club members file applications for Camp Tabor. The Boys' Club Staff screen the applications on the basis of the ability to perform, and choose the boys best suited.

At Camp Tabor the boys live and work together under the guidance and leadership of a trained Boys' Club Staff. The boys are divided into four squads of caddies. Two squads go out on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, the other two on Tuesday and Thursday. The squads alternate the two and three day schedule with all four squads caddying on week-ends.

On their off days an organized recreation program provides the boys softball, basketball, volleyball, swimming and of course golf. The boys are so enthused with golf that they maintain a three hole practice course of their own at Camp Tabor. The caddies also have the privilege of playing on the big course every morning.

Towards the end of each season a caddie tournament is held. While the boys do not have clubs and equipment of their own, the Camp has several sets of clubs and the members of the Fishers Island Golf Club are very generous in donating clubs, golf caps, etc. Balls are no problem. Many lost balls are founds on the



A Camp Tabor caddie

course during the season.

Each year at the Fishers Island Golf Club a pro amateur tournament is held. Among some of the top professionals who participated in the event were Claude Harmon, Shelley Mayfield and Jay Riviere. Caddying for such events as this afford the boys an opportunity to learn a great deal about the game. Andy Beljan, the pro for the Fishers Island Course, is very helpful in giving tips to the boys on the finer points of the game.

Each boy who goes to Camp Tabor pays \$1.00 per day for his room and board, one-third the cost of his uniform and one-third the cost of his transportation. The balance of the cost of maintaining the boys is absorbed by The Boys' Club of New York and The Fishers Island Estates, Inc. The average take-home pay for the 1959 summer season was \$139. Hundreds of former caddies are avid golfers.