

# Billy the Golf Caddy

When Dad was a boy, the summer he was ten (1927), he got a job as a caddy at the Ojai Valley Golf Club. It was a first job, and there was no salary, only tips, and he didn't really know what a caddy should know (caddies were expected to be able to advise golfers on what club to use, etc.) But he had, over the summer, managed to put away five dollars in tips.

Then one day, rather late, he was the only caddy available when a great golfer of the day, Walter Hagen, came to the course wanting to play a round. The caddy master, an alcoholic former RCAF ace named Mac, indicated that Mr. Hagen was of course

welcome but that the only caddy he had was Billy and may have indicated that the boy was pretty green. But Hagen wanted his round of golf, and said that Billy would be okay. So out they went, and I guess it went okay, because when the round was over he placed in Dad's hand a tip big enough to double what he already had.



Illustration 1: Ojai Valley Golf Club  
abt 1924



Illustration 2: Ojai Valley  
Golf Club, 1924