LANDSCAPING should be the frame to a finished golf course picture of both beauty and charm. To bring additional beauty to satisfactory country club property by artificial means, although the result will seem natural, is the purpose of landscaping.

The attractiveness of a golf course always increases its charm. Hours spent in congenial surroundings are likely to be more pleasant. Satisfactory links test the skill of the golfer under harmonious surroundings where the cares and worries of every-day life can be forgotten.

Beauty should be the keynote of the landscape design. Generally this may best be obtained by simplicity and a careful avoidance of an appearance of artificiality. The golf course is a haven of refuge where the golfer may forget regular cares and enjoy fresh air and sunshine in congenial environment. Although the property may be located in a city, the surroundings should make the golfer forget the worries of city life. Shielded by vine-clad fences or rows of hazel or hawthorne trees, the premises may be isolated completely and a new world may be created upon the golf course, a world which will provide the golfer with inspiration.

Permanent development is just as desirable in landscaping as in any other feature of the property. Cheap, rapid growing and short-lived trees and shrubs are neither economical nor satisfactory. They seldom reach perfection and soon must be replaced at additional expense. It is better to make fewer but more satisfactory plantings each year according to the funds available. Results are likely to be much more gratifying.

LANDSCAPING SHOULD BE PLANNED EARLY

GENERAL landscaping plans should be formulated by the club even before the course is constructed if possible. Usually the golf course architect will be able to explain from the approved design which features of the landscape are to be retained and developed and to visualize the appearance of the completed course.

Desirable nursery stock in sufficient quantities to landscape a golf course is not always obtainable at every nursery. Haste should be avoided and a little shopping is recommended. Frequently it may be necessary to visit several nurseries and sometimes to make arrangements to have nursery stock delivered from considerable distance.

After purchases have been made, they should be left at the nursery until time for actual transplanting. This should be done by the nursery man whenever possible as he is familiar with the care which his stock requires and will be interested in supplying the club with the best of his products for advertising reasons.

Sometimes it is possible to purchase fair-sized trees which are not wanted because they are on building sites. The job of moving a mature tree is hard but it is not at all impossible. The experienced tree mover usually digs a square trench about the trunk and boxes the soil about the roots. For medium-sized trees it is easier to dig a trench about three feet deep around the tree about five feet from the trunk. After the soil has been loosened, planks are placed under the roots and the tree is pulled over on to a wheeled drag.

The roots should be thoroughly saturated before
the tree is moved and the soil should be kept from falling off the roots. Burlap should be wrapped around the portions of the trunk likely to become injured in moving. After a tree has been replanted, its roots should be thoroughly watered and its trunk should be steadied by guy ropes to prevent it from being blown over before it has become established again.

To make the most of every attractive vista should be the endeavor of both the clubhouse architect and the golf-course architect. They should co-operate so that both the view from the clubhouse upon the course and from the course to the clubhouse will be as perfect as possible. The clubhouse should be built upon a site which will set it off to the best advantage. The surrounding landscaping will add to the perfection of the picture.

BEAUTIFUL APPROACH IS GREAT ASSET

A beautiful approach to the clubhouse is a tremendous asset. Driveways lined with well-kept shade trees may be further beautified by plantings of dogwood, redbud, wild or rambler roses or Japanese honesuckle. Pivet hedges are usually satisfactory for bordering walks. The approach should not be neglected because the impression of it is the first received and usually the last forgotten.

Around the clubhouse the chief aim should be to create an atmosphere of natural charm, free from any appearance of artificiality. Attention should be paid not only to the selection of trees and shrubs but also to their placing so that they will be set off to the best advantage. Mass plantings of mock orange, opulifolia, common lilac, red and yellow dogwood, snowberry and honesuckle are always in good taste. Plants, which are indigenous to the locality, are preferable to exotics which may not bloom in the environment with full beauty.

Wild flowers are often lovers of shade and many of them will grow with little encouragement. Seeds of wild flowers are somewhat difficult to obtain and usually need special treatment before being sown. Holly and dogwood have such a hard seed coat that it is usually two winters before they germinate. Wild rice and gentian seed will not grow if allowed to bake out. The best method is to transplant the growing plants from nearby sections where the climatic and soil conditions are similar to those on the course.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS

For areas not too densely shaded there are a great many wild herbaceous annuals and perennials. Among them may be mentioned violets, blue-eyed Mary, Virginia creeper, golden ragwort, hapatica, bloodroot, anemone, phlox, trillium, bluebell, wild geranium, phacelia, May apple, twin-leaf, spiderwort, stonecrop, toothwort and larkspur.

If leaf mould or acid soil is available, maidenhair fern, wild ginger, trailing arbutus, violet woodaxalis, partridge berry, bunch-berry and lady's slipper will grow luxuriantly. Moss pink, saxifrage, rockcress and red columbine are especially adapted to rocky areas.

The type of wild flowers to plant in open meadows depends upon the moisture and condition of the soil. If the ground is naturally inclined to be damp, dog-toothed violet, cardinal flower, gentian and rose pink are suggested. If the subsurface is peat or the soil is acid, it is possible to grow wild orchids. Dry soil will grow a great many varieties of wild flowers such as fox-glove, California poppies, asters, evening primrose, Mariposa lily and lupine. In addition, plant pokeberry, bayberry, hackleberry, buffaloberry, crowberry, huckleberry, blueberry, juniper, madrona, mazanita and such bushes to attract birds.

The parking space, utility buildings and any undeveloped areas should be never be visible from the course or the clubhouse. Vines, such as honeysuckle, morning glory and wild rose, should be encouraged to cover fences. Tall shrubs or trees may be used most effectively for screening purposes and will do their share to add beauty to the property as a whole.

GOLF COURSE NOT A PICNIC GROUND

A golf course is not a picnic ground and there is seldom any occasion for planting a small forest. A few trees well placed usually are more effective than many trees too close together. There are a number of very desirable trees for golf courses. Among them may be mentioned the maple, oak, elm, hickory, ash, tulip, poplar, walnut, beech, birch, wild crab, hawthorn, black cherry, yellow wood, buckeye, gum and cedar.

The most desirable trees are those which have straight trunks and branches from seven to nine feet above the ground at maturity. In the Middle West, Norway maples, American elms, sweet gums,
horse chestnuts, and American linden trees are very satisfactory.

Common sense should rule the selection of trees. Choosing the right varieties is the starting point of shade tree success. The most painstaking care may be given to planting and cultivation but, if unsuitable species have been selected, results will be disappointing. While pines and Carolina poplars are beautiful trees, they do not belong on golf courses. Any species having brittle twigs and easily detached leaves is not desirable either.

The rough is no place for an orchard as it is likely to become too attractive. Whenever possible, perfectly-shaped trees should be planted as misshapen trees seldom improve with age. Deformed trees may be attractive in rugged surroundings but generally they look out of place on golf courses.

The choice of proper varieties of trees should not be difficult. Factors to be considered are adaptability to the climate and soil, desirable size at maturity, density of shade and ability to withstand local plant diseases and storms. Advice on the best species can be obtained from state and national departments of forestry. Local nurserymen should be well informed and their advice should not be ignored as it is to their advantage to make suitable recommendations.

Climatic conditions should be given first consideration in the selection of trees. Mountain trees usually do not grow well elsewhere. It is foolish to send long distances for special varieties of trees for in most cases they will not thrive out of their native environment. Cases are known where pines, firs and spruces have been shipped long distances at great expense only to die in the lower altitudes.
avoided not only because of the additional expense but because the appearance of the property is likely to be mutilated temporarily. The actual cost of a tree is only a small part of its expense. Cheap trees, which require an excessive amount of attention or fail to develop properly, are really expensive.

Many desirable uses may be found for trees removed from areas occupied by the fairways, greens and tees. Sometimes quite a number of trees must be cut down when the property is cleared. Large trees may often be used in the construction of a rustic clubhouse. Smaller trees are very useful in the making of rustic benches and in the building of rustic bridges and fences which will add to the general attractiveness of the course.

**DOUBLE FAIRWAYS DIVIDED BY TREES**

**DOUBLE** fairways may be divided very attractively by trees and plantings of shrubs which will reach a height of about five feet when mature. The beds should be about 100 feet long and 10 feet wide. Dogwood, bridal wreath, barberry, lilac and white thorn are always popular. These bushes often add color to monotonously green fairways and set them off to fine advantage. Such plantings require a certain amount of attention but it may be given to them when work cannot be done on the rest of the course without interfering with play. Labor spent upon such landscape features always pays fine dividends.

Border plantings of shrubs in some cases may be more desirable than trees. Spring and autumn beauty may be provided by mannyberry, white thorn, and dogwood bushes. Sumach, cranberry and hawthorne bushes also are desirable.

Water features of the course present many opportunities for landscape artistry. Winding lagoons and sparkling lakelets, beautiful in themselves may be made still more beautiful through pond lilies and fringes of graceful willows, blue flag, marsh marigold and lotus. If rocks are available, they may be used to create artificial cascades and stepping stones.

_Next Month—Bringing the New Course Along_