continued from page 13

collection of oddities. A few native varieties, placed in groups, create a more natural look.

• Trees used as background behind greens or as direction indicators should be large, dense, heavy and dark-colored.

• For view screens or windbreaks, the choice should be among types that are dense, low-branching, fast-growing and strong. Evergreens fit all these requirements well.

• Shrubs are practical only around tee areas, and sometimes along boundary lines. They should never be used along fairway play areas or near greens.

• Along an open fairway, one large tree will do more to guide the line of play and set off the corner of a dogleg than a clump of small ones.

• Although many courses have them, special "marker" trees along each fairway — usually 150 yards to the green — should be avoided. They seldom fit into the landscape naturally. Also, such placement eliminates the challenge of judging distance. Because many golfers want such help, if you use them, choose species that look as natural to your setting as possible.

• Plant fairway line trees in clumps or natural groupings. First priority should be in tee shot landing areas of 175 to 225-yard zones. This will frame the hole, provide beauty and minimize the effect of stray shots. • Although machine maintenance is a major consideration, don't feel you must always plant groups in wide, even spacings. Plant some in uneven groupings and others in tight clumps — onethird foot apart — to create the look of nature's work.

• Don't overlook the club entrance, driveway and clubhouse area. These areas also make a big beginning impression on golfers, members and visitors.

Landscaping a golf course properly is an are apart from all other landscaping. The thoughtful selection and skilful placement of tree species are the final brilliant brush strokes in creating an attractive, challenging and fair course. This end can be achieved masterfully if the superintendent keeps three considerations in the front of his mind: consider the golfer, consider beauty, consider maintenance. First, last and always, though, plan a permanent, long-range landscaping program and never stop working from it.

Richard Phelps, president of Phelps-Brauer & Associates, Lakewood, Colo., has designed some 40 golf courses throughout the country. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Iowa State University in landscape architecture, specializing in his postgraduate work in golf course planning. His thesis on landscaping golf courses has been used by the U.S.G.A. Green Section as a basic reference. Phelps is a member of the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

(With grateful acknowledgement to the "Golf Superintendent".)

FOR HIRE

SISIS AUTOTURFMAN AERATOR, £25 per week — do it yourself. For contract prices telephone Burnell, Eaglescliffe 3647.

USED GOLF BALLS BOUGHT

Any quantity. Price 20p per dozen. Solid and perished balls no value.

Sparkbrook Golf Ball Co. Ltd., 291 Highgate Road, Birmingham, 12.

