

# NATURAL VISTAS

## Eye Appeal Captivates Members and Brings Guest Fees

By T. L. LOMBARD

Green-Chmn., Berkshire Hills C. C.

**T**HE AXIOM "first impressions are lasting" holds particularly true when you cater to the tourist golfer. If he carries away a mental picture of an attractively designed and well maintained course, you have created incalculable goodwill.

A club member may place little importance on this favorable impression, created primarily by reaction at the first tee of any course, but if an organization relies on guest-fees to carry the budget, see to it your course has "Nature" appeal.

The approach over the highway leading to entrance drive is the prologue, while the spacious lawn and clubhouse site are the interlude, using the analogy of musical terms. The theme is the pleasant and peaceful surroundings to be viewed from starting tee. Quite often one's game is unconsciously tuned up by such harmonious surroundings.

If your architect has a sound grounding in his art with the attendant character visible in his completed design, he will favor a player getting away at No. 1 tee without mental or physical hazards. This is accomplished in a broad avenue of approach to the green and construction of green itself. This first green should be attractive as to area, color and playing condition. Make no mistake here!

Your architect can visualize the completed picture, the construction superintendent and greenkeeper put the oils on the canvas but Nature furnishes the lights and shadows as the finishing features. The frame, surrounding the canvas, consists of trees, clouds and distant vista. Consequently, it should be a constantly changing panorama heightened by light or shadows or altered cloud formations.

### Follow Nature's Specifications

If you plan and construct a home, business block or ice-house, have all the geometrical angles you crave. In constructing a golf course use Nature as your master model and work to her specifica-

tions. Remember Nature has no straight lines. Every product of her handiwork has curves or long pulled out lines, or sweeping topography. Formal gardens, gorgeous flower beds and sun-dials can come later. Give first and prime consideration to mellowed lines, inviting contours and irregular outlines for putting areas.

It is advisable to go so far as to consider maintaining long sweeping curves in mowing the outer edges of your fairways. Have your operator guide his cutting units in graceful curved lines along the fairway border rather than hold to a straight edge line. The result is pleasing to the eye, dresses up the course and blends into the whole scheme of refinements. It is but a part of the wearing apparel of the course, yet withal it adds luster to the whole physical design.

With the operation of the hand mowing of the greens concern yourself that your greensman does not leave any sharp angles where he stops his machine on apron of putting green. Even encourage the close cropping to run out into the approach area to the green. If the greens are constructed to present-day specifications, no greensmower can get away with sloppy work which is tantamount to straight lines or sharp corners on putting surface.

Apply the same theory on location and construction of tees. If you follow the old Victorian design of geometrically true rectangular tees, steep banks appear. These inclines are costly to mow by hand labor, unsightly if not trimmed weekly, are a liability when constructed with steep sides and very ugly in general appearance. The modern school of architects insists on picking a natural location which can be mowed by fairway cutting units at lower maintenance. It is still another case of keeping away from straight lines and solid architecture.

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