

fitted for better scoring that is the pro's fault rather than the member's, the salesman said.

Comment was made about the fine job of club selling done by Claude Harmon and Johnny Revolta, two outstanding teachers.

#### Don't Force Sales

One of the group said, "I never have seen or heard of Claude or Johnny forcing the sale of clubs. Yet, nobody beats them in very wisely showing the value of the perfectly fitted club in making good shots with pretty good consistency."

This salesman added:

"One thing that the golfing public and people in pro golf business don't generally recognize about the great work Harmon has done in developing assistants into fine players and teachers is the way in which he acquaints these youngsters with the correct selection of clubs for themselves and their pupils."

#### Improper Tree Planting Runs Up Maintenance Costs

Taking the view that more emphasis may be put on course maintenance cost cutting in 1958 than in any year since the end of World War II, Taylor Boyd, supt. at the Camargo Club, Cincinnati, O., writing in *The Green Breeze*, published by the Cincinnati GCSA, points out that a great saving in man hours can be made if trees and shrubs are properly planted.

Golf maintenance, Boyd says, involves a great deal of high speed mowing with wide sets of mowers. If trees are planted in such a way that large areas have to be mowed by hand rather than by tractor and gang mowers, then it is conceivable that a supt. may have to spend ten or more times as much as should be necessary to get these areas mowed.

Speaking of his own club, Boyd says there is one area on the course that at one time could be cut in six or seven minutes with a gang mower setup. It was improperly planted with shrubs and now it takes two hours to hand mow the same area. Since the area is cut on an average of 32 times a year, Boyd continues, he has figured out that it now costs the club \$84 more a year to cut this area than formerly. The shrubs, it is conceded, are necessary but they could have been planted in such a manner so as not to interfere with gang mowing.

Boyd also cites how the planting of trees close to greens is not conducive to

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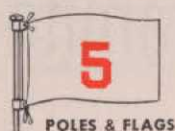
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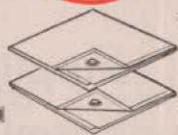
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low maintenance costs. This is especially true if the tree roots have to be pruned, the area around the roots occasionally sodded and the green regularly swept or raked free of seeds and leaves. One tree planted only 18 ft. from a Camargo green cost more than \$100 in extra maintenance expense in 1957, according to Boyd.

Tree and shrub lovers probably won't take kindly to the idea that these plants can eat into the supt's budget. Boyd, like all supts., feels that they are indispensable to a course, but he contends that landscaping architects or club tree committees shouldn't be turned loose to plant them without giving a lot of thought to air drainage, the possibilities of root damage to both trees and grass, wind direction, and above all, ease of mowing.

Boyd also suggests wide use of upright growing trees, keeping them 20 or more ft. apart and removal for the purpose of re-planting if it is found that they are running up maintenance costs.

Henry J. Meiers has been reelected pres. of the Cleveland Metropolitan Golf Assn. Other officers who were reelected at a recent meeting were Don LaPorta, vp, and John A. Young, Treas. John Weagley is secy.

## Think You've Got Troubles? How About These Mudhens

Although beleaguered by mudhens that overrun part of the course, La Cumbre G & CC near Santa Barbara, Calif., has been instructed by state and federal wildlife commissions not to capture and gas the birds. Attempts have been made to decimate the invaders with shotguns, but Supt. John Garcia says that because the birds are so heavily feathered, the pellets bounce off them without doing much damage. The La Cumbre mudhen population is estimated at 3,000 to 4,000. It is centered around a lagoon near which there are four holes. When the mudhens start parading they take over large sections of fairways bordering on the lagoon and play is considerably delayed until they decide to move on.

## Western Seniors Tourney

The Western Seniors Golf Assn. will hold its annual tournament at Tulsa CC, June 17-19. It will start three days after the Open is concluded at Southern Hills. Les Hoss is general chairman of the tournament committee.