



THE BEST OF GOLFDOM

What to plant for course landscaping

*Besides the clubhouse area,
tees and greens can also
be successfully beautified.*

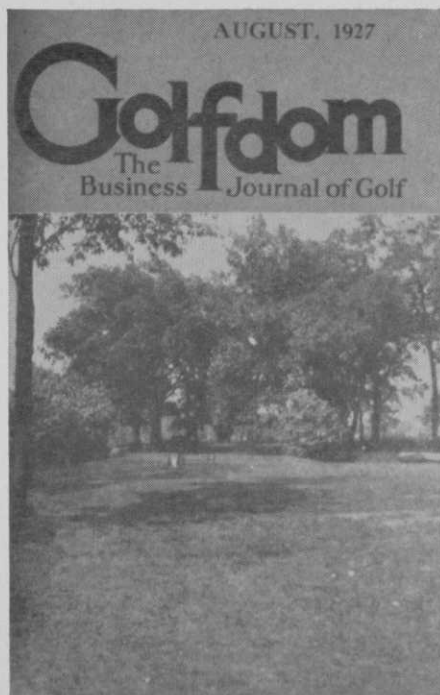
By M. A. POTTENGER

It has been the common practice of most golf clubs to develop beautiful landscape in and around the clubhouse proper and to beautify a few of the outlying borders with shrubs and trees.

Plantings around tees and the sides of greens may be bordered or enveloped with trees, shrubs, evergreens, hardy perennials such as Peonies, Iris, Phlox. Spring flowering bulbs also may be used to their greatest advantage.

We will take for an example an imaginary border surrounding any of your tees. In most cases these borders may be laid out with a combined planting of trees, shrubs and flowers from twenty to thirty feet deep, surrounding three-fourths of the tee, giving a planting area equal to a strip of ground twenty to thirty feet wide and one hundred to two hundred feet long.

This planting may consist of those flowers which are most beautiful at close observation, such as Pansies, Violas, Primroses, Hardy Pinks, Linum, Gailardia, Aquilegias (Columbine), Shasta Daisies, Foxglove, Canterbury Bells, Bleeding Hearts, Sweet Williams, Lupins, Forget-me-nots, Platycodon, Scabiosa, Sedum, etc.



Mr. Pottenger, at the time this story was published (GOLFDOM, August issue, 1927), was the head of one of the country's big nurseries. He had highly successful experience in working with greenkeepers who were landscaping their courses. His approach to the golf course as a thing of beauty—and not just a test of golf—is certainly something we should not overlook in this jet-and-hurry age.

Evergreens of the dwarf grafted types, which are very beautiful as single specimens, may be planted in clumps in and about the tees. A bird-house erected near the end of the clump, a few rock plants and very small rock garden effects may also be added about the tees. Nothing is more soothing and interesting than a small pool with goldfish close to the benches where you sit while your opponents are driving off from the tee. All these little points of interest add to the pleasure of golfing. They help the loser as well as the winner to enjoy the rounds.

Honey Locust is without question the most valuable tree to be used in and about landscape, as this is the only family of trees that the writer knows of which gathers its nitrogen from the air,

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COURSE LANDSCAPING

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the same as clovers and other leguminous plants.

The shrubs to be used in these borders about the tees may consist of all the standard varieties that do well in the community where the golf grounds are developed, as little attention needs to be paid to their height of growth or the season of bloom.

Where the course from the tee to the green is a distance of three hundred yards or more, it is quite reasonable to assume that there would be very little slicing of balls that would interfere with a planting setback 30 yards on either side of the green, and about even with the front edge and extending back even or a little past the back of the green. Where these borders are subject to having a ball dropped in occasionally, large plants such as Peonies, clump planting of Hollyhocks, Anchusas, Delphinium, Aconitum (Monkshood), Rudbeckia Purpurea, Phlox should be used, with liberal

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COURSE LANDSCAPING

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ground space in and around the plants.

This selection of plants is beautiful at long distances, and is readily admired while traveling the course in routine of playing. Shrubs such as Tamarix Altheas, Standard Lilacs, Auralia, Hardy Hydrangeas planted at liberal distances apart will be found most effective and desirable for these plantings. Umbrella trees, Weeping Mulberry, Cutleaf Weeping Birch, Bechtel's Double, Flowering Crab, Mountain Ash are the best trees to use in and about these borders.

There is nothing so effective as a spring flower, as Tulips. They are in a class by themselves. The cottage Tulips are much more effective and last better in the perennial border. Owing to the fact that tulip bulbs should stand until the foliage dies away naturally in order that the bulbs develop properly for the next year's bloom, they should be placed in small plantings of about two and one-half feet square, twenty-five bulbs in a place, fairly deep in the border, where

the foliage will be hidden by other perennials growing up in and around them for a second blooming season. Late blooming Perennials, such as Phlox, Platycodon, Monkshead Hollyhocks, Lilies, Chinese Delphinium, Belladonna and Bellamosumare, are some of the best perennials to fill in these spaces with. However, any annual may be used.

In order that your landscape may have the best chance for development, the ground should be spaded up and allowed to have two or three rains, and be thoroughly pulverized before planting. As to the best time to plant, we have noted very little difference provided the late planting is planted deep enough that it does not heave out during the winter from freezing and thawing.

A light covering of mulch to prevent thawing will help to prevent plants from heaving. Such plants as Phlox, Delphinium, Peonies, Aquilegia, Platycodon Anchusa, Hibiscus, Salvia Azurea, Monkshead, all the bulbs, including Lilies and Tulips, may be completely covered, and one should not lose a single plant. •

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