

# Evergreens on the Golf Course

By A. H. HILL

**T**HE successful greenkeeper today must possess a vast supply of scientific and technical knowledge. The scope of his duties usually includes, in addition to producing a good turf, a constant improvement of the grounds generally, particularly its landscape features.

Golf is an attraction to many people partly for the exercise, but mostly for the enjoyment of the open air and contact with the beauties of nature. The more attractive the grounds of the course may be, the more pleasure the golfer is bound to experience. Almost any golf course has a number of natural attractive landscape features. The embellishment of these existing features gives first opportunity for the use of evergreens. Then comes planting around the club house, attractive groups around trees, a cheerful planting at the entrance, and screens for out-buildings and adjoining property.

If you wait for the day when you will have abundant funds to enable you to purchase matured specimens for immediate landscape effects, the chances are your landscaping will never be done. Buying evergreens of nursery stock in large sizes is a big expense.

The greatest opportunity for golf clubs to improve their grounds with the smallest initial expense, is to develop a club nursery by purchasing once and twice transplanted evergreens which are available in quantities at very small cost, and by developing these in your own nursery, you will always have a supply of evergreens to draw on for various needs.

For instance, if you can set aside a small space the size of an ordinary suburban building lot, sixty by one hundred and fifty feet, you can plant one thousand trees three by three feet in such a space. In three to five years these trees will be large enough so that they can be set out in their permanent location. Of course they can remain in the nursery for even ten years or more constantly growing in beauty, in size and in value.

There are two planting seasons for everygreens in the locality around Chicago. The spring season begins late in March or early in April and continues until early May. The fall season begins about the middle of September and continues for several weeks. Usually small evergreens give better results when planted in the spring.

Evergreens are no different than any other form of

plant life in their soil requirements. They will respond with increased growth in a proper location with well drained, loose soil kept frequently cultivated during the summer. If the ground is of a loose nature and a dust mulch is constantly kept around the trees, they will not require watering except in a most severe dry season. If water is available, this gives a little extra insurance against loss.

There are several good commercial fertilizers which can be used to stimulate growth, while natural fertilizer is also very beneficial to them when applied on top of the ground and not directly in contact with the roots of the trees.

We have a great many varieties of evergreens and no one but an expert can ever hope to become thoroughly acquainted with their various characteristics. An assortment of ten or twelve different kinds which would include trees of practically all shapes and forms, ought to be sufficient. A well-balanced assortment for planting here in the middle west, ought to include such varieties as Savin Juniper, Pfitzer Juniper, Douglas Fir, White Spruce, Colorado Spruce, Austrian Pine, American Arborvitae, Pyramidal Arborvitae, Mugho Pine and Hemlock.

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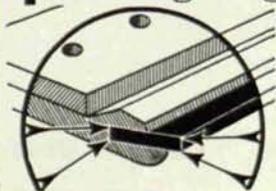
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