

of sparrows are habitual seed-eaters; among them we may name the gold-finch or wild canary, the chippy, the field sparrow, indigo bunting, and cardinal or redbird. In winter snowbirds or juncos and tree-sparrows of the same family, and horned larks are abundant visitors, and are among the most efficient seed consumers.

Winter birds may be attracted by providing feeding stations and by planting evergreens for roosting shelters; in summer, nest-boxes, bathing and drinking fountains, and fruit-bearing shrubs are the most potent attractions. Shrubbery should be more of a feature of golf courses than at present, in all areas out-of-bounds, and to re-enforce tree, ravine, and water hazards. Kinds having fruits for bird food are superior, as they are ornamental through a longer season and give very desirable touches of color to the landscape.

Further information on all methods of attracting birds can be obtained by applying to the Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

### On Traps

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A style of trap one often sees, even on very good courses, seems to the writer to be objectionable. Isn't it good construction to make traps in such a way that one can get a free back swing for his club, wherever in the trap his ball may lie? Isn't it poor construction to let the trap, on the side away from the hole, drop vertically or almost vertically for six or eight or even twelve or fifteen inches below the general surface of the ground, making thus a wall at the back of the trap? A ball that just trickles into the trap and lies at the foot of such a wall can hardly be played toward the hole, no back swing of the club being possible. A vertical stroke with a niblick upon a ball lying in sand is a very difficulty and often an almost impossible stroke. Most good golfers would probably decide, in such a lie, that discretion is the better part of valor and would play the ball out sideways or backward, but it is hardly the purpose of traps to necessitate such loss of a full stroke. The purpose is rather to make a stroke in which distance and accuracy are very difficult, but not impossible. Good recovery from a trap is one of the exhilarating things in golf. A ball unplayable toward the hole is a depressing thing, a thing one has to give up to rather than a thing to challenge the player to extra effort.

To avoid the point criticised, of course, all that is necessary is to make the side of the trap distal from the hole grade up gradually to the ground level, giving no vertical wall for the ball to hide below.

During the last month the writer has visited and studied some of the best courses in the Boston district and some in the vicinity of Washington and in most of these there are some traps with vertical walls at their distal edges. It is probably true that in most heavily trapped courses some traps of this sort will be found. Is it the best type of construction so to build them?