## Uses for Evergreens on Golf Courses

## W. L. MCATEE

Let me seek the good graces of the reader at once by saying that I am not in favor of having an evergreen or other tree anywhere on a golf course so that it may be in the way of a reasonably well-hit ball. However, even with this reservation in favor of satisfactory golf, good uses for evergreens on the links can easily be pointed out. Evergreens have a solidity and all-the-year sameness of appearance that fit them as ideal markers for distances or boundaries. How comforting it is, when shooting for a hole, to have a clump of evergreens at the back allowing an easy estimate of the distance, which, if unmarked, puzzles one in the shimmering sunlight of summer, or if set off by deciduous trees is made nebulous by their grayish twigs and branches in the leafless seasons. How much more ornamental as well as more distinctly visible are evergreen trees than out-of-bounds posts. If the golf course has any space permitting ornamental planting, then evergreens can scarcely be omitted. I bespeak especial consideration for evergreens, because they are the best roosting places for the birds which should be attracted to every links. Among these trees the various junipers are most valuable because they provide food also for birds. Instead of the drycone characteristic of most evergreens and from which only comparatively few birds, as crossbills, pine grosbeaks, and nuthatches can extract the seeds, the junipers have a modified fleshy cone that is practically a berry. These are swallowed entire by many birds and are especially important as a bird food because they are on the trees all winter. Junipers exist in every stature from prostrate shrubs to tall trees, so there will be no trouble in getting the size desired. Most of them may be called self-pruning, as they form dense, shapely crowns. Every section of the country has its native kinds of these trees, and the species show a wide range of adaptability to soil and climate. Consequently junipers can be had for golf courses anywhere. For standards, posts, markers, screens and group planting they are excellent, but as hotels for birds, providing both food and lodging, they are even better.

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