

## Death of Mr. Ransom H. Thomas

Golfers throughout the country will be grieved to learn of the recent death of Mr. Ransom H. Thomas, a former president of the United States Golf Association. Mr. Thomas officiated as such in 1905 and 1906. He was a member of the Morris County Golf Club, Convent, N. J. A resolution of sympathy was passed by the Executive Committee of the United States Golf Association at its last meeting.

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### Professionals and Prize Money

*To Members of the United States Golf Association:*

The Executive Committee has noticed with some misgivings the practice of offering unusually large purses indulged in by member clubs and sectional associations for the purpose of inducing golf professionals to compete in open tournaments and exhibitions. While the United States Golf Association has no desire to hinder or hamper any professional from competing in prize money tournaments or from earning money to the limit of his ability, nevertheless the present officials feel that if the practice now in vogue is not checked, great harm will be done in creating a class of professional players who will devote their entire time and attention to attending tournaments. The Executive Committee is aware of the great development of the game of golf within the past few years, both by professionals and amateurs. It is also aware of the keen desire of the ordinary golfer, throughout the country, to witness the performance of the leading professionals, and we assume that the growing interest in the game is partly responsible for the money inducements offered in open competitions.

The Committee feels that in their efforts to promote and keep alive the best interests of the game, they can not allow this practice to continue or increase without a protest. It is, therefore, earnestly requested that member clubs and sectional associations give this matter their earnest consideration and, in the future, when contemplating the staging of such tournaments, that the question of moderate prize money awards be carefully considered, bearing in mind that if this pastime is allowed to be commercialized by the professionals, as in other sports, the phenomenal interest now taken by the ordinary golfer in the game will be nullified to a great extent.—*By Order of the Executive Committee, U. S. Golf Association, Cornelius S. Lee, Secretary.*

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### A Concrete Manure Pit

W. H. THORNE, *Broadmoor Golf Club, Colorado Springs, Colo.*

On account of the dry atmospheric conditions in Colorado, a condition which moreover affects to a greater or less extent the entire section of the country west of a line running through central Kansas, except the Pacific coast, it has been found necessary at the Broadmoor Golf Club to have recourse to the artificial moistening of manure when the straw content of the manure is considerable, in order to effect decomposition. To this end the Green Committee of the club has constructed a concrete manure pit. A general idea of the plan of construction of the pit may be obtained from the accompanying photographic view of the completed structure.

The barn manure is dumped into the pit, the contents then watered, and seepage collected in a sump at the bottom across one end of the pit. The seepage is then pumped from the sump as needed. The floor of the pit has a fall of one foot toward the sump end, and the floor of the sump has a fall of six inches to the pump end of the sump. The pit is 150 feet long, 50 feet wide, and 8½ feet deep. The concrete wall is 4 feet high