AMERICAS CUP REMAINS IN THE UNITED STATES North American Neighbors Meet in Mexico

There is such great disparity in the size d of golf in Canada, Mexico and the United States that a meaningful competition among them might seem impossible. Mexico has about 35 courses, of which some six are 18 holes: Canada has 600-odd courses; the United States has more than 6,000.

But the differences are narrowed when the three North American neighbors come together in the Americas Golf Cup Match. Their meetings are always expressive of the remarkable international friendship existing on our continent. This is what the Americas Cup is all about; golf scores take second place, and the game becomes a medium for a more significant interchange.

The sixth Match for the Americas Cup was held in October in Monterrey, Mexico; it was excellently presented over the fine course of the Monterrey Country Club, which nestles among beautiful jagged-peak mountains. The course is 7,063 yards long and is a good test.

The clubhouse, miraculously built in less than a year, is an architect's delight. It sits atop an eminence in the center of the course, an almost circular structure of tasteful modern design which cleverly has six greens at its feet. It was a magnificent location for the thrilling flag-raising and flag-lowering ceremonies which our Mexican friends introduced to golf.

Some Close Squeaks

As expected, the United States with its wealth of amateur golfing talent has won all six meetings for the Americas Cup. There have been some close squeaksonce our margin was one point, another time two points, and last year 1½ points.

Monterrey, Mexico's, brilliant youngsters led after the first morning's three-ball "sixsomes," with 4½ points to 4 for the United States and ½ for Canada. But that afternoon the Americans pulled away in three-ball individual play and kept going throughout the second

The final tally was: United States, 29; Canada, 14; Mexico, 11. All matches were at 18 holes; there were three three-ball "sixsomes" each morning and six threeball individual matches in the afternoon.

The rivalry between Canada and Mexico for second place was keen. After the first day Mexico had 8 points and Canada $4\frac{1}{2}$, and hopes of the hosts ran high, only to be dashed by a strong Canadian rally the second day.

Even so, it should be recorded that there has been marked development in the quality of play of Mexico's representatives in the nine years since the series was started. They are almost all young players, and their style of play appears to improve steadily. The Americas Cup series has doubtless provided a helpful incentive.

For the United States, Deane Beman, Robert Gardner and William Hyndman, III, each won all four possible points in individual play; Charles B. Smith won 31/2. Jack Nicklaus and Dudley Wysong, Jr., swept their four points as an alternate-stroke "sixsome" pair. Nicklaus, our National Champion, halved three of his four individual matches and won the other. Charles R. Coe served as playing Captain, just as he did for the inaugural match in 1952.

The Canadian team comprised R. Keith Alexander, Gary Cowan, Ted Homenuik. John Johnston, Bert Ticehurst, Nick Weslock, Robert Wylie, with Albert Rolland as non-playing Captain.

Mexico's representatives were Hector Alvarez, Juan Antonio Estrada, Enrique Farias, Roberto Halpern, Tomas Lehman, Rafael Quiroz, Mauricio Urdaneta and Rodrigo Medellin, non-playing Captain.

The Americas Cup, presented by the late Jerome P. Bowes, Jr., of Chicago, is normally played for every other year. The date was advanced this year from 1962 to avoid conflict with the World Amateur Team Championship to be played in Japan next October.