then the Jinjitas have chosen other scenes for their moonlight
sonatas. And it must be discouraging for a greenkeeper to have his
carefully nurtured turf devoured in one gulp by a pensive hippo-
matamus."

Resignation of Mr. O. B. Fitts

It is with regret that we are again called upon to report the loss
through resignation of another member of the Research Committee
of the United States Golf Association Green Section. Mr. O. B. Fitts,
who has been with the Green Section since March 1, 1923, resigned,
effective February 1, 1928, to assume charge of a golf course at
Washington, D. C. For some time Mr. Fitts, as a part of his duties,
has had direct supervision of the turf garden at Arlington Farm.
He has also upon request visited many golf courses for the purpose
of consulting with and advising greenkeepers and green committee-
men regarding their problems. While his services will be greatly
missed, the Green Section wishes to take this opportunity to extend
its best wishes for success in his new field of endeavor.

Hints on Making Compost

By Kenneth Welton

At this time of the year every greenkeeper will find himself with
one of three situations facing him as regards the compost pile. He
may have insufficient compost or, worse still, none at all, and will look
forward with dread to the day when he will need it, and need it badly;
he may have a pile recently made and which will, therefore, need
watching during mild spells and thaws to avoid loss of nitrogen, or
humus, through neglect; he may have an abundant supply of well-
rotted compost as a result of following a regular procedure year after
year. The greenkeeper with sufficient compost is to be congratu-
lated. It is likely that he will have his pile under cover, where he
can put his men to work now and then during the winter months.
Compost already screened will lighten the work in the spring when
there are so many other things to do.

In building a compost pile the thickness and number of layers
should be governed by the material that is available and the char-
acter of compost desired. Ordinarily, with partially rotted manure
that is not too strawy, equal layers of loam and manure will do; but
if the soil to be used is a stiff clay, the pile should be built in three
layers, as follows. Six inches of clay, six inches of manure, and four
inches of sand. If the humus is furnished by peat, muck, or leaves,
it may be advisable to add 25 pounds of lime to each ton of such mate-
rial to assist in decomposition and guard against any toxicity that
may be present, otherwise lime should not be used. If the manure
is fresh and very strawy, the thickness of the manure layer should
be doubled. If the available soil is of a light, sandy type, enough
manure or vegetable matter and clay should be used in the pile to
make the resulting mixture that crumbly garden loam so desirable
for use on the green. When the pile has been made up, do not let
it overheat. The rain usually takes care of the cooling, but otherwise
the hose should be used.