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Howard F. Whitney

In the death of Howard F. Whitney at his country home at Glen Cove, Long Island, on June 30, the game of golf in the United States has lost one of its best friends.

Mr. Whitney became secretary of the United States Golf Association in 1915 and continued in that office until 1920. He was elected to the office of vice-president in 1920 and served a term as president in 1921. Even after his retirement as an officer of the Association he kept up more than an active interest in golf matters and as Chairman of the Rules Committee performed an invaluable service. He was engaged in revising the proofs of the Association's Book of Decisions under the Rules at the time of his last illness.

Mr. Whitney's career generally was a significant one and this is not the time or place to attempt to outline it, but his contribution to the administration of the game was a lasting one. Indeed, it may be fairly said that the present close relations between the United States Golf Association and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews came into existence on account of Mr. Whitney's individual efforts. In 1926 he was elected a member of the Rules Committee of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club.

To know Mr. Whitney or to be associated with him in any way meant instant admiration for his many qualities. He gave his time and thought unselfishly at all times to the Association. Indeed, during the last few years of his life, when his health was not of the best, he was always ready and willing not only to carry on his work in the Rules Committee but to assist the officers and Executive Committee in any way possible.

He had all of the qualities men admire in the way of character, courage and personality. Out of the many tributes paid to his memory, we quote an editorial from the *New York Evening Post* as being the best summation of his career.

"Howard Whitney's life was that of a fine sportsman. He carried this spirit into his successful business career. He lived it in the arena of American golf, where his greatest athletic service lay. To the national association as secretary, president and member of the rules committee he brought his own high ideals of sport. No one in the last decade did more than he to bring American and British golf together; no one did more to prevent the constantly threatened splits over rules and clubs. Howard Whitney could do these things because of the utter confidence men had in his sportsmanship. He will be mourned today on both sides of the Atlantic."





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