

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 hippopotamus."

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### 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 committeemen 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.

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### 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 congratulated. 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 character 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 material 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.