

A Glimpse of the Past...

by Lee C. Dieter, CGCS

William (Bill) Glover --- A Profile

"Golf Course Superintendents throughout the Nation lost one of their most prominent members when Bill Glover died suddenly of a cerebral hemorrhage on Thursday, July 30, 1953." He was eulogized in a dedicated edition of the "Turf News Letter"; the following are Quotes from that article:

Bill was one of the most popular men in the profession; he was a born leader and one of the soundest golf course superintendents in the country. His ability was recognized nationally and he held many important positions connected with turf and golf course work. Some of these were the president of the Mid-Atlantic Association of G.C.S., other important offices in this association, member of Board of Directors of the G.C.C.S.A.A., member of the Turf Advisory Council at Pennsylvania State College, member of the Green Section Committee of the U.S.G.A., and many other important offices.

We of the Mid-Atlantic Association of G.C.S. took Bill's passing more as a great personal loss as we often relied upon him for his wise council both turf wise and as a friend.

Bill graduated from Saracuse University with a B.S. in Forestry. Before coming to Fairfax, he was associated with several prominent golf courses, including the Oak Hill Country Club in Rochester N.Y., and Shawnee-on-Delaware in Pennsylvania.

In May of 1940 John Connolly purchased the site for the Fairfax Country Club, and shortly after John and Bill mapped out and began construction of the first nine holes. In a little over two years John and Bill developed a golf course that is recognized as one of the finest public courses in the country. The fine condition of this course is credited to Bill's ability and willingness to test and help develop many of the new turf grasses and maintenance practices we advocate today. Bill was one of the first to test the C-1 Arlington and the C-19 Congressional strains of bentgrass on a large-scale basis under practical conditions and thus helped expedite the use of these improved strains to large-scale usage.

Aside from his many duties in the world of turf, Bill was also an outstanding member of his community both in civic and religious affairs. With the passing of Bill Glover we all feel we have lost a good friend and the profession has lost one of its greatest men. But Bill will never be forgotten because of the principles and methods he advocated for the development and maintenance of Better Turf will resound from the tee to the green on every course in the country. Bill Glover gave his lifetime to the development of better turf.

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