A TRIBUTE TO WILLIE BRADFORD

It was with deep regret that he heard the sad news of the passing of Willie Bradford on Friday, 18th June, after a serious illness.

Willie had been Head Greenkeeper at Buchanan Castle Golf Club since the course was opened before the last war. At 67 years of age he was one of the oldest and most respected members of our Association, with a wide knowledge of all aspects — both practical and scientific — of the profession of greenkeeping. All who knew him and worked with him will pay tribute to his sincerity, kindness, quiet determination, and above all his extensive experience in the art of turf culture, which is the hallmark of a dedicated man of the turf.

He became General Secretary of our Association in 1954 and served in this capacity until 1957. In 1959 he was elected Scottish chairman, and held this office until 1962. It was during this period that he concentrated all his efforts on the details of a draft to form the basis of a scheme to encourage young apprentices to take up greenkeeping as a career, and it was on this foundation that the present scheme administered by the Joint Council is based. For a number of years Willie served on this council as our own S.G.G.A. representative.

During the past few years we did not see much of him at our meetings but he never lost interest in all our activities, and when asked was always willing to offer his sound practical advice. His passing leaves a huge gap in our ranks, for he will be missed by us all. We extend our sincerest sympathy to his widow and family in their sad loss.

R. B. MOFFAT, General Secretary.



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