

## A Glimpse of the Past...

by Lee C. Dieter, CGCS

Our association grew little through the 30's and 40's. The 1930 calendar covered educational programs including *Soil Testing* by Dr. Fletcher from the Department of Agriculture and *Japanese Beetle Control* in the Philadelphia area. The first of many joint meetings with the Philadelphia Association began in 1930. It was held in Philadelphia and included a tour of golf courses in the area to inspect the damage caused by the Japanese beetle grubs.

The June meeting was held at Gibson Island Club. An 18-hole match play tournament was held and in the evening the use of *Arsenate of Lead* was discussed at a meeting in the clubhouse. A meeting was held in September at the Arlington Turf Gardens in conjunction with the U.S.G.A. Green Section summer meeting. The annual Greenkeepers Tournament was held at the Suburban Club in October.

Although new names appeared on the roster, the membership of the association stayed about the same throughout the depression and war years. Familiar names that did appear were John Connelly, Superintendent at the Army Navy Club (1935); George Cornell, Ernest Stanley, Quantico; Jack Athey, Kenwood Country Club; Ernest Parsley, Manor Country Club; Clarence Lindsey, Fountain Head Country Club; W. H. Glover and Fred Findley, Farmington Country Club. The number of active members increased to thirty with five associates. The membership played for a Montieth Trophy In 1940.

The finish of World War II ended the long stagnation of the golf industry and it manifested itself as early as 1949 when, our membership jumped to almost one hundred members, sixty-five active and thirty-one associate.

Next: THE 50's

## O. B Fitts -- A Brief Profile



O. B. Fitts was obviously a well educated person. He wrote over a dozen articles for the *U.S.G.A. Journal*, *Golfdom* and *American Fertilizer* and *Nature Magazines*. He gave talks at local Association, U.S.G.A. and National Meetings. He ran the Arlington Turf Gardens from 1924-28 when he then became the superintendent at Columbia Country Club replacing superintendent J.H. Links, a charter member. O. B. as mentioned in previous articles was a driving force in the founding of our association and remained active for almost thirty years working at Columbia until approximately 1955.

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