

BEHIND THE SCENES . . .

AN INTERVIEW WITH AL FRANK

By HARRY McCARTHA

As this writer has been involved with the construction industry for more than 30 years I have been intrigued with the work at P.G.A. National.

The big job at hand is to construct a complex for man to enjoy and not spoil the natural tropical setting nature offered. Every effort is being made to protect the natural environment and add to the botanical beauty.

For some of the facts we talked to Al Frank . . . a man that has been involved with engineering projects the world over. He has been here since the beginning and seems to love every square inch of the beautiful property. Al is continually on the move in his four-wheel drive vehicle, quietly and efficiently overseeing all the contractors and their work.

The earth moving and site development is under contract to Rubin Construction Co. of West Palm Beach. One-half million yards of fill will be moved building the first course alone. 145 men using 60 pieces of major equipment are hard at it . . . Large pans (24 yard capacity) scurry constantly to meet the construction schedule.

Our readers would marvel at the scope of the work. Imagine building a 26 acre lake in "wetlands" and satisfying all the concerned agencies. Building lakes requires "rim-ditching" on the outer perimeters with drag-lines. These, of course, are deeper than the lakes and are kept dry with giant pumps. Dewatering in this manner allows the giant pans to move the fill needed to create the elevated fill areas.

One lake now being created will require the removal of 248,000 cubic yards of earth.

In one 10 acre area near the club house the elevation is being raised 18 feet. This area will afford comfortable viewing for thousands of spectators during golf events. Several golf holes are being built with elevations more than 28 feet above sea level, quite an engineering accomplishment and costly indeed.

Final contouring and shaping is being done by forces and equipment of the Golf Course Architect, George Fazio. The work is under the direction of his nephew, Jim Fazio.

Al Frank has sincere words of praise for the workman-like manner the Fazio people are doing to complete the course.

Potable water supply, sanitary and storm drain work is being done by Belvedere Construction of West Palm Beach.

Al is proud of the cooperative spirit that prevails by all workers on the job. Lost motion is at a minimum and that's rare these days.

Design of the project (excluding golf courses) has been professionally monitored by Mock-Roos and Searcy, Consulting engineers.

This is a tremendous project being executed by "pros" in the finest fashion. Congratulations Mr. Ecclestone — We wish you the very best in the days and years ahead.

Scott, Palmer, Anderson, Inc.

CLEWISTON, FLA.

DR. ANDERSON'S TOPDRESSING

DON'T PUT IT OFF — PUT IT ON

Phone: 1 - 813 - 983-7255

Call before 8:00 A.M.