

# Building Lots Sales Finance Antelope Hills

By **AL MAY**

Supt. Antelope Hills CC, Prescott, Ariz.

Something new has been added at Prescott, Ariz., the beautiful and unique Antelope Hills GC, designed and built by Frank and Lawrence Hughes.

For some time it had been the city's dream to have just such a course. Financing, as always, was the major bug-a-boo. The property, 700 acres of it, surrounded the municipal airport and was city owned; city equipment could be used in the building — that was a starter. Then the plan for 160 lots laid between the fairways and sold for housing was conceived and the dream began to be a reality. Lot sales on the first 9 would pay for the construction of that 9, maintenance equipment, pro shop and shelter houses. The sale of lots on the second 9 would pay for its construction, the clubhouse, and recreational facilities.

February, 1956, equipment was moved in, land was cleared, and construction on the first of the 18 holes was started. Native soil was used in the building. All greens and tees were elevated and sand traps were built on top of the ground. The greens, 5,500 to 8,500 sq. ft. in size are contoured.

About 3,000 ft. of 6-in. and 7,000 ft. of 4-in. transite were laid along with 10,000 ft. of 2-in. galvanized pipe for water lines. This pipe was laid 18 to 24 ins. deep and all lines were connected — leaving no dead ends, except the one at the driving range. All risers are 1 1/2 ins. and No. 16 Buckner valves were used. There are four or more valves around each green and two rows down each fairway, giving adequate water coverage. These valves are housed in 6-in. square boxes made of 1x6 lumber. The water comes from a 14-in. city main into a 6-in. line and has a pressure of 125 lbs.

Late in April planting began. Fifteen



Sixth green at Antelope. Famed Mt. Mingus is in background at right.



Pro shop is opposite ninth green.



Metal antelope astride yardage marker.

yds. of steer manure and 15 yds. of sand were rotovated into the greens. Eighty lbs. of ammonia nitrate and 80 lbs. of milorganite were added and raked in. Then seaside bent was put on at 5-lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. and 1/2 in. layer of steer manure was placed on top. This was kept damp at all times, and grass began to show in 12 days. The tees had 5 yds. of sand and 5 yds. of steer manure rotovated into them and were then seeded with fairway mixture at about 20 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. This included banks and approaches. Greens and tees were fertilized regularly with ammonia sulphate and milorganite following the first mowing on June 4th.

Blue grass, rye, rainier, and chewings fescues were mixed for the fairways and used at about 300 lbs. per acre. It began showing in 10 days. Complete germination was quite slow as the nights were very cool. Humidity was low — three to 20 per cent and the wind blew almost continually out of the southwest at 10 to 45 mph. This weather continued until July 1st. In late June fairways were fertilized with ammonia nitrate at the rate of 135 lbs. per acre. Growth and color rapidly improved after this application due to the fact that all western soils seem low in nitrogen. The first fairway mowing was on July 16th.

Clubhouse, swimming pool, tennis courts and playgrounds are still in the planning stages, but the pro-shop and three shelter houses, made of native logs, are very much in tune with surrounding country architecture. A lagoon that holds 400,000 gallons of water, the 300 evergreen and hardwood trees that were set out, the native scrub oak, redwood benches, and metal tee markers in the shape of antelope all add their bit. The first nine opened Aug. 12.

### Second Nine Built

Construction of the second 9 began Oct. 1st. All water lines, tees, and greens were surveyed and staked out, scrub oak and brush were cleared away. The first earth removed was at the place where the lagoon was to be. This lagoon holds 750,000 gallons of water. After the lagoon was dug, clay was hauled in and water was applied as it was packed by a sheep-foot roller. Bentonite was used on the banks.

Dirt taken from the lagoon was used as a base for the tees and greens. The building of these were similar to those of the first 9 with the exception that the tees were made larger, running between 4,000 and 5,000 sq. ft. and slightly elevated at the front.

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Water was piped from the first 9 through a 6-in. main into the lagoon. Fairways were laid out in a triangular water system with pressure furnished by a 40 hp., 550 gpm pump at 80 lbs. pressure. All greens and tees were surrounded by valves. Six, 4- and 3- inch ringite transite pipe was used as it was on the first 9. One and 1/2 in. galvanized pipe was used for laterals and risers with No. 16 Buckner valves. Valves are located so any portion of the course may be isolated in case of a break. All risers on hillsides and other necessary places were swing-jointed to help facilitate raising and lowering of valves after the ground settled.

Planting was started Nov. 1 and was completed about the middle of the month. This delay was due to a late shipment of cast iron fitting for the water system. Seeded areas were up and in good shape before the first cold weather. When conditions permitted, grass was watered.

In the near future water from the sewage disposal plant may be piped into the lagoons and will be used for irrigation. About 2,000,000-gals. of this water is now being wasted each day. Of this, Antelope will receive approximately half and the rest will be used to irrigate city gardens.