In an atmosphere of Medieval Spain, warmed by glowing charcoals in olden braziers and lighted by tiny oil lamps and soft candle light, the Cloister celebrated its formal opening on January 15, 1927, with one of the most attractive dinner dances of the season.

The Cloister has attracted widespread attention because of its picturesque Spanish architectural style and is considered the masterpiece of Addison Mizner, famous for his knowledge of the architecture of old Spain. The low slung building of fine proportions, rambling languidly along the shores of Lake Boca Raton, whose vivid blue waters reflect the varied tiled roof line, with towers and balconies and graceful cloistered passageway leading from the yacht landing to the loggia via the court of palms, charms every one who visits it.

Covers were laid for a hundred guests in the fifteenth century dining hall.

In true Ritz-Carlton style, under the personal direction of the resident manager, Mr. Gustave Tott, who is at Boca Raton for the winter from the Ritz-Carlton at Atlantic City, the dinner was served with all the individuality for which the Ritz-Carlton cuisine is famous throughout the world. Dancing followed in the baronial lounge, whose azure leaded windows look out over the lake and seem to bring within all the blue of the water and tropical sky. Great logs burned brightly in the huge open fireplace and thin flickering shadows played among the banners and shields that are hung along the wall. The Cloister quartette, from New York, played during the dinner and for the dancing.
Golf at Boca Raton

Major Claude C. Wilson, who will officiate as professional at the Ritz-Carlton and Cloister golf courses at Boca Raton this season, hails from the famous golfing town of Silloth, Cumberland, famous if only because it was the birthplace of Miss Cecil Leitch, many times British woman champion. It was Major Wilson who taught Miss Leitch, in her flapper days, the rudiments of golf. From that moment on his name was established as a golf instructor.

Major Wilson is a member of the Hole-In-One Club, holds several course records and was runner-up in the Canadian P. G. A. championship tourney in 1923. He will be a familiar figure in Florida tournaments this year, having played most of the courses throughout the state last season.

He has a distinguished war record, having been promoted on the field and decorated with the D. S. C., the D. S. M. and the Croix de Guerre. After the Armistice he served under General Wrangel in Siberia and was placed on the reserves in 1922.

The next three years Major Wilson spent in Canada where he laid out several courses in the neighborhood of Toronto. In 1926 he accepted the position of professional to the Geneva on the Lake Country Club, in Ohio.

Captain Ernest Carter entertained a number of friends over the New Year’s holiday. Miss Madge Miller, his sister-in-law, assisted him as hostess in the absence of Mrs. Carter.

Miss Miller is the daughter of Sir Francis and Lady Henry Miller, and her home in Aughenish Buncranna, County Donegal, Ireland. She has been visiting friends in Canada, enjoying the winter sports. However, she freely admitted that the sunny skies of Florida held a greater charm. Miss Miller gave her impressions of Florida as follows:

“The Editor of the Boca Raton Record insists that I write a few lines, giving briefly my impression of Florida, and above all, of Boca Raton. I had always pictured Florida as an arid waste and swamps, populated chiefly by snakes and alligators, and I was agreeably surprised with all I found and saw in the ‘Sunshine State.’

“You Cloister at Boca Raton is quite unbelievably beautiful; it almost seemed to me that I had been transported to old Madrid—a touch of the old world in the new.

“My visit seemed all too short, but I am writing to my people to tell them that there is something here at Boca Raton that even the Riviera cannot equal, and I hope to have them come and visit here next winter. Golf, tennis, horseback riding, deep-sea fishing, and that wonderful Cloister to come home to after the day’s pleasure, make Boca Raton the garden spot of Florida.”

The Ritz-Carlton Course was opened Saturday, the 15th, with an Invitation Amateur Tournament.

Mr. I. C. Elston, of Chicago, brought six guests up to the Ritz Course this week. All were enthusiastic in their praises and predict a wonderful future for golf at Boca Raton.

Mr. H. B. Martin, editor of the Metropolitan Golfer and the Southern Golfer, thinks Boca Raton may easily become a national sports center—its golf courses are unsurpassed in Florida.
Federal Aid Highway for Boca Raton

Contract for the grading of the Federal Aid Highway through Boca Raton was let January 4th. This splendid road will traverse Boca Raton for a distance of 11,200 feet. It is shown on the map of Boca Raton as the King's Highway. The section from El Camino Real north to Third Street has already been paved and is 57 feet in width from curb to curb. Sidewalks have already been installed. From El Camino south to our property line at Twenty-ninth Street, much work has already been finished, including 3,900 feet of grading. Rock has been placed for a distance of 3,500 feet and curbs on both sides installed for a distance of 3,400 feet south from El Camino Real.

This will give another wonderful boulevard of 80 feet through our property from north to south. The traffic on this road will mean a great deal to values of adjoining property.

Every reasonable effort is being made to complete this highway from Miami north through Ft. Lauderdale, West Palm Beach and on to Jacksonville, at the earliest possible date. Much of the road is already in service between Ft. Lauderdale and Miami. This new artery of travel will greatly relieve congestion of traffic and will open up some splendid territory.

The Town of Boca Raton is engaged in widening Palmetto Park Road from the Dixie Highway west to El Rio Canal. This street will be 40 feet curb to curb.

Street building in Boca Raton Heights is under way. This subdivision lies south of Palmetto Road, west of the Dixie Highway.

One hundred additional street lights have been contracted for by the Town of Boca Raton. They will be used to light the Dixie and King's Highway, El Camino Real from the Dixie to the Cloister Inn, Palmetto Park to the Ocean Boulevard, and the Spanish Village.
The Spanish Village

Construction of houses in the Spanish Village was begun to supply homes of attractive design at reasonable cost. The Spanish motif was followed as it has been found to be the best adapted to the climate of Southeastern Florida.

The feature of these houses is the spacious living room—it being considerably larger in floor space than the appearance of the house would indicate. The ceiling is especially high, being formed by the pitch of the roof. The interior of the room is made attractive by polychrome adobe plaster and a roof of pecky cypress. Two bedrooms, bath, kitchen and breakfast room give ample accommodations for the average size family. Built-in fixtures add to the convenience of these homes within, while a comprehensive system of landscaping the entire village adds to the attractiveness without.

The Spanish Village consists of 18 finished houses and four under construction at the present time. To those seeking an attractive home of reasonable price, with city conveniences, homes in the Village extend an especial appeal. Located about a mile from the ocean, affording bathing and deep-sea fishing, near two golf courses and the riding academy, they are ideally situated for those who wish to own a moderate priced home in which to enjoy a Florida season.

Pal-A-Mar, a subdivision lying south of Palmetto Park Road and extending to Lake Boca Raton, has completed the fill along the canal and Lake Boca Raton. They have graded and macadamized the roads, built many feet of sidewalks and are engaged in finishing up this work. An important item will be the landscaping of the property.

Mr. H. A. Moore, whose residence is shown in the accompanying cut, is one of Boca Raton's liveliest wires. A devoted huntsman, his hunting horn may be heard mornings calling his pack for a chase through the back country. As usual with men who love horses and dogs, his home in the gathering place for the young bloods who thrill nearly as much talking of the chase as in its actual participation. Mrs. Moore has endeared herself to the community by sharing his love of sport and maintaining a home where all who come with good intent are welcome.
With Our Chief Engineer

Mr. Crosby Tappan, the chief engineer of the Mizner Development Corporation, was born at Winchester, Mass. He received his primary education in the local public schools. Kimball Union Academy, of Meriden, N. H., served as his preparatory school prior to entering Dartmouth College. A post-graduate course in Thayer School of Civil Engineering rounded out his technical education.

Mr. Tappan served for more than two years with the Massachusetts Sewerage Commission on the construction of the "High Level Sewer" for the Massachusetts Metropolitan District. Other important work with which he was connected included a year's service on construction of the new shops for Pennsylvania Railroad at Trenton, N. J., and six months on construction work on the Third Rail Electric Road from Camden to Atlantic City.

Double tracking, track elevation, concrete arch bridge over the Susquehanna River at Harrisburg, Penn., and the plate-girder bridge over the Potomac River at Williamsport, Md., gave further opportunity for demonstrating his ability as an engineer. In the fifteen years he served in this connection he constructed more than 80 bridges, built a new shop and round-house at Chambersburg and a round-house at Hagerstown, Md.

His road building experience included 40 miles of concrete roads for State of Pennsylvania when he served in the capacity of Superintendent of Construction for two years.

Another year and a half was spent as Engineer for the Pennsylvania Railroad in the building of the Tipton Dam near Altoona, Penn.

Water supply experience became his as Consulting Engineer for the City of Chambersburg, Penn., when he conducted the necessary investigation and designed and constructed a dam in the South Mountains.

He was Chief Engineer for Oakland Manor and other real estate developments at White Hill, Penn.

We feel a justifiable pride in having a man of Mr. Tappan's broad experience as Chief Engineer of our development. In addition to being a good engineer he has a facile pen and each issue of the Record will carry an interesting account of the progress being made in his department of our enterprise.

The Editor

One of the most important functions of an engineer is to make plans and estimates. Of necessity, he is the connecting link between the dream and the actuality. However, as this article is for the Record, only mention will be made of those projects in course of construction and which have been finished.

One of the most useful pieces of construction work which has been finished was the widening of the Dixie Highway, in collaboration with Palm Beach County, through Plat 1. This is now a fine paved road 50 feet wide, completed and in service. Street lights have been authorized and negotiations are under way with the Florida Power & Light Company to install and maintain same. It is expected that all these lights will be in service by the first part of February, many being already in service.

The Dixie Highway through Plat V has been relocated and the contractor has already completed the clearing and grading work. This will naturally improve this section of the property, especially those blocks facing on same, which are Blocks 188, 198, 199, 200, 210, 211.

Permanent water lines have just been completed to the 29 homes in Plat XI. Electric service is being installed and these houses are now being occupied.

The club house, with showers and lockers for both ladies and men, has been constructed at the Ritz-Carlton golf course. Shelters are in place. The road to the club house from the Seaboard Railway west to the club house has been given a rock surface.

Contracts have been let for improved and enlarged bathing facilities at the Beach House for use of Cloister guests and lot owners.

Extensive landscaping and planting of tropical trees and shrubs has been done at the Cloister Inn, the Spanish Village and houses in Plat XI. Our own extensive nursery provided necessary trees and plants.

In line with the policy of making a sportsman's paradise of Boca Raton, tennis courts are under construction at the Spanish Village and at the Cloister Inn. An outdoor basketball court has been built in the Spanish Village. The first game was played between the "Mizner Five" and Boynton on the night of January 10th.

The driveway from the east end of El Camino Real to the Cloister Inn is receiving a bituminous surface treatment.

Other important work in connection with the Cloister Inn includes the completion of the bulkhead by the addition of a concrete coping and much landscaping and sodding in the grounds of the Inn.

Guests of a hotel such as is the Cloister give little thought to the mechanical equipment that gives them service and provides comfort. However, it is vital that such equipment be in perfect condition. Every device has been inspected, repaired or adjusted where necessary and was ready for the opening January 15th. This equipment ranges from a duplicate electrical set to supply light and power in case of breakdown of central power service, to a laundry, bake shop, ice and refrigerating plant, etc.

Work of grading the El Camino Real west of the Florida East Coast Railroad started January 10th.

CROSBY TAPPAN, Chief Engineer
Sports Notes

The first meeting of the Boca Raton Hunt Club was held January 5th at the Administration Restaurant, where dinner was served. The club started with a charter membership of 55 members, 35 of whom attended this meeting. Some 45 additional names were proposed and referred to the Membership Committee.

Plans for the season were discussed and especial interest was manifested in horseback riding. Mr. H. A. Moore, who owns quite a string of good riding horses, offered an extremely low rate per hour for the use of his horses to members of the club.

One of the first activities of the club was to arrange for a mounted delegation to welcome the first passenger train of the Seaboard Air Line Railroad. Rehearsals have already started for a Musical Ride and Horse Show and such sports as paper chases, moonlight hunts are being arranged.

The officers for the ensuing year are:
E. T. Halter, president; H. A. Moore, Vice-President; Benjamin F. Sundy, Treasurer; Harley D. Gates, Secretary.

Boca Raton has something to offer the sportsman, almost regardless of how far his fancy may roam. Deer hunting to sea sledding, with practically every sport that may be enjoyed on land or water, will intrigue anyone whose blood runs warm when the hounds are giving tongue or the sunshine turns the spray into rainbows. One of the interesting sea sled parties recently at Boca Raton included Captain The Honorable Charles Winn, of London; Miss Margaret Kahn, daughter of Otto Kahn; Miss Beatrice Bryne, Mrs. Carroll Carstairs and Miss Nancy Yuille, of New York, and Mr. Harvey Ladew, of Brookville, Long Island. Tea was served at the Cloister.

Five A. M. January 2nd saw the first hunt of the new year. The H. A. Moore pack, imported from Columbia and Frankfort, put up a merry chase, downing an 8-point buck at 11 A. M. the following morning.

The Worden Pack started a bob cat and, after several hours, brought to bay one of the largest cats ever seen in this vicinity, being 28 inches high, 42 inches long and weighing 32 pounds.
Editor's Page

We want to thank you for the cordial reception accorded our first effort at printing for you a service paper giving information regarding the progress of development work, and the social and sport activities at Boca Raton. The interest manifested clearly indicated that lot owners want to know just what is taking place in Florida and especially in the vicinity of the place wherein they have made investments.

Some criticism was expressed that we did not give a more elaborate set up to our first number. Some wanted more details, more actual figures. Some were so frankly pleased with the effort that it was a joy to hear from them.

We felt that the announcement that the Cloister Inn would open on January 15th, was so important that it left little to be said in that issue. This announcement means a great deal to Boca Raton. It shows that the Central Equities are actually functioning and getting results. It was essential to the progress of Boca Raton that the Cloister open this year. It required considerable work and cash to secure this result, but it was done. There is no doubt that the Inn will receive a more liberal patronage than last year. Social life will center around the Cloister, and the golf courses will attract hundreds of visitors from nearby resorts as well as afford a diversion to the guests of the Inn.

Remember that lot owners have been granted a concession of 25% on room rates at the Inn, and it is again suggested that those desiring to spend some time in this unique hostelry make their reservations at an early date. Mail should be addressed to the Ritz-Carlton, New York City, or Boca Raton, Florida.

We trust that the information extended by our chief engineer on development work in this issue will appeal to those interested in this feature.

You will note that due notice is being taken of those who visit the property from a distance. In every case permission has been secured to use their statements. Each one has also consented to answer any letters addressed to them by those owning lots near them, or who may be from the same section of the country.

We wish that every lot owner could find it possible to visit Boca Raton at this time. Typical June weather would greet you. To those arriving from a Northern clime, there would be much to induce them to build a home wherein to spend these pleasant days.

If you are contemplating building on your lot in the near future, it is suggested that you write the Company of your plans. They are making a special effort to interest lot owners in building at this time. Materials and labor are now reasonable and the supply is excellent. Now is certainly the time to build in Florida. Now is the time to take that castle from Spain and convert it into a pleasant home in Boca Raton.

Again permit us to remind you that the function of the Record is that of service to the lot owners of Boca Raton. Letters pertaining to your property, whether you wish to build now, or to landscape your lot now, so that you will have a more beautiful lot upon which to build, or letters upon any other subject of interest to you will receive prompt attention if addressed to:

Editor, Boca Raton Record
Care Mizner Development Corporation
Boca Raton, Florida

NEWS NOTES

Work on the new riding academy started January 8th. A large force of men are engaged in the work of building a stable, tack room, clearing the land and constructing a show ring. Hedge and plank jumps are being built for the schooling of hunters.

January 8th saw the first passenger train of the Seaboard All-Florida Railway pass through Boca Raton. It was welcomed by a large delegation of the citizenry, including eight ladies and a number of men on horse-back. To inform those on the train that they were within the confines of Boca Raton, a line of automobiles were driven up to the site of the station. Each car carried a placard bearing a letter and upon forming a “company front,” spelled out B-O-C-A-R-A-T-O-N. Although the train was not scheduled to stop at Boca Raton, the welcome was so elaborate that President Warfield had the train stopped. In reply to the placards carried by the ladies on horseback, asking “Shall Eager, Ambitious Boca Raton Own A Real Depot?” he brought cheers with the statement that a depot might be expected in the near future. Freight is now being handled at this station. The Mizner Development Corporation has arranged to operate a bus to meet all of the passenger trains. Sixty members of the Ritz-Carlton organization used this station when they arrived to open the Cloister Inn, January 15th.
Our Visitors

Mr. Arthur G. Derr, of Jacksonville, and Mr. W. S. Selby, of West Palm Beach, visited Boca Raton January 7th.
Mr. Derr has quite an investment in Boca Raton, and after going over the property, seemed very well pleased with the situation. When asked his attitude toward his investments in real estate, he said: "I am a firm believer in the future of Boca Raton and am reducing my belief to something helpful by arranging to complete the payments on the property I have bought in Boca Raton."

Mr. Frank E. Kay, of Meriden, Conn., was a visitor at Boca Raton January 7th. He inspected the property and was so favorably impressed that while he did not intend to build when he purchased, he is now considering the building of a home in Boca Raton.

Mr. Irving Berlin, the well-known writer of popular songs, was the guest of Mr. Addison Mizner at Boca Raton on January 7th. Mr. Berlin is a stockholder in the corporation. He anticipates spending some time at Boca Raton during the season.

An eighteen hole Invitation Tournament opened the season on January 15th on the Ritz-Carlton Course. A large and representative entry played.

There were prizes for low gross and net scores, and also for blind bogey. The "Coconuts" of Miami and the "Old Guard" of Palm Beach were invited and many attended.

"OWN A HOME IN BOCA RATON"

Poultry at Boca Raton

There is an excellent opportunity in southeast Florida for poultry production. It has been demonstrated that fowls remain healthy and vigorous and maintain normal egg production. The market is probably the best in the country.

Florida uses about twenty-four million dollars worth of poultry products a year and it is necessary to import about a half of this vast amount.

In considering poultry production in Florida, several points are vital. The type of soil upon which the birds are kept, proper feeding for this climate, good foundation stock and a knowledge of the business are the essentials. Cover these properly and success may be had in a large measure.

In the development of Boca Raton we appreciate that it is necessary to develop the "back country."

This was the first real opportunity we had of showing our wonderful golf courses to the public, and the benefit of their word of mouth advertising is bound to be of great help to us.

On March 9th we will have with us Golfers Magazine Southern Tour, consisting of 200 to 250 representative golfers from Chicago and mid-west. Mr. Brenner, representative of Golfers Magazine, visited Boca Raton on January 6th and expressed himself very enthusiastically as to the condition of the golf courses. Quite an honor for Boca Raton to be selected from many other Florida courses to entertain this distinguished and representative gathering of golfers. These men are influential business men and members of leading clubs in the middle west and it is an extremely fine opportunity of showing them what has been accomplished and is being done. Mr. Brenner, who in the past six years has visited 5,000 golf clubs throughout the United States, was amazed at the wonderful possibilities presented by Boca Raton for becoming a national sports center.

They arrive in two special trains from Miami the morning of the 9th; breakfast at the Cloister Inn 7:30 to 9; golf 9 to 12; buffet lunch, 12, at Administration Building; golf afternoon; leaving 6 P. M. for Palm Beach.

Captain Carter, ex-Irish amateur champion, set a mark of 70 on the Ritz Course last week.

Par for the course is 71, but an "eagle" and three birdies helped Captain Carter to beat this by one stroke.

The Company owns several thousand acres of splendid land, a great deal of which is suited to agricultural enterprises of various kinds, including poultry.

We desire to get into communication with those who know something of this business and who wish to cooperate with us in the development of poultry farms. If you are interested in owning a few well selected acres, plus a bungalow with electric lights, running water, together with suitable buildings for a small commercial poultry farm, you are invited to write to the Editor. Please state what experience you have had in this line of endeavor, and your thoughts on commercial poultry in Florida.

We believe that we can suggest a plan that will appeal to you as being sound and with a pleasant and profitable future to it.