

XV. Sun Worshipers

THE FIRST inhabitants of Miami Beach were Tekesta Indians, who centuries before built their town in the mangrove jungle, lived on fish from the sea and alligators from the swamp and answered only to the sun.

Miami Beach's newest inhabitants were also sun worshippers. They came in response to Carl's nationwide selling of summer-in-wintertime vacations to America. From their zero-temperature homes they were lured to a newly built world whose inhabitants swam, fished, played games and boated under cloudless skies—in winter! So Miami Beach had been pictured to them, and so it was in actuality.

Speedway had been built as a testing field for automobiles. Miami Beach—a testing field for champions—was called "the greatest human drydock in the world."

Carl had designed Miami Beach for happy bodies. The bathing beauties, the swimming champions, the tennis stars and crack polo players and mighty fishermen who came pouring into Miami Beach made it the playtime paradise he had planned. Long before the city itself began, Carl had its facilities for play ready.

Swimming, of course, was the pioneer attraction. The Roman pools brought the champion racers and divers. Glorious sun-bronzed youth, brought to Miami Beach by Carl, played beside the sea, or swam in water warmed by the Gulf Stream. The world's greatest tennis players played on the courts under the palms and in the glass-enclosed court when it rained.

That far-seeing vision of Carl's had realized that golf was a coming attraction. His giant dredges therefore began sucking mud and sand out of the bay to build the first three of his golf