

Indoor Country Club New Field for Pros

WITH the majority of the desirable winter jobs in the south and west practically under lock and key the foresighted northern professional begins to think seriously about his winter employment in plenty of time to get lined up right. Indoor schools provide many with a bit of profit during the winter but the cases are not many when the professional who is running a winter school on his own does much more than pay his personal living expenses out of the profit of his school.

From Los Angeles comes the latest development of an idea that was launched in New York, an indoor country club. The idea is one that a pro has a good chance to sell to an enterprising hotel man who wants to make his establishment a winter headquarters for the easy spending golf club clientele. By putting over the idea with the hotel man the pro has provided himself with a first class winter job. In New York the indoor country club was promoted as part of a hotel's plan for getting business. Indoor putting course and nets and a well appointed and convenient luncheon and dinner spot with the golf club "atmosphere" drew good attendance.

At Los Angeles the Indoor Country club has an advisory board that includes several officials of golf clubs in the district. Of the enterprise, E. L. Hutchins, its vice president, says:

"The club secured the roof of the building located one block east of the Biltmore Hotel and Pershing Square—so it is as near the center of the city of Los Angeles as it is possible to get.

"The lounge room, I believe, is the first of its kind in America, as it is typically Scotch from the tartans of the famous clans bordering the room; and the family crests on the pillows. The upholstered furniture is all in plaids, and the carpet carries the color of Scotch heather. The dining room is so arranged that we have a nine-hole carpet putting course surround-

ing dining room service. Our dining room service accommodates approximately 100 people; at the rear we have private dining rooms, card rooms and offices. The course is so laid that with the padding underneath, the heavy nap on the carpet offers quite a resistance to the ball.

"Our outdoor roof was laid out by John Duncan Dunn. We will have three nine-hole real grass putting courses, with the distance between holes laid out on a yardage basis. On the roof of the dining room and lounge room also is space for eight driving practice nets that will be used by the members of the club. We also are interesting the professionals of outdoor clubs to give lessons to members of their various clubs in the nets.

"We have been recognized by several of the outdoor clubs, and are able to get guests cards to these clubs that provide them with an outdoor course. We have sold these outdoor clubs with the idea that in getting our members to play and practice regularly, that they are good prospects for an outdoor club membership.

"We have to lay a 3-ply roof covering, then lay two inches of crushed stone and approximately ten inches of specially fertilized earth, and seed with cocoas bent seed on our roof course. Those who are experienced in growing grass on the roof of buildings, find that growing the grass from the seed gives a sturdier stand of grass than if we grew the seed on the ground and laid the sod, as we have heat conditions to contend with that grass does not have on the earth.

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