

Shuffleboard Courts Newest Fee-Game Bonanza

AROUND the miniature golf course as a center, amusement establishments are springing up to the extent that the popular and profitable layout in a lively neighborhood is beginning to resemble a permanent street-fair.

Into this miniature golf business the driving nets are coming good and strong with a great field awaiting the smart hombre who will invent a medium priced scoring net in which the customers can sock and gamble. Other ideas not at all allied with golf are getting a good play, and among these probably the most profitable is the shuffleboard court, according to available figures.

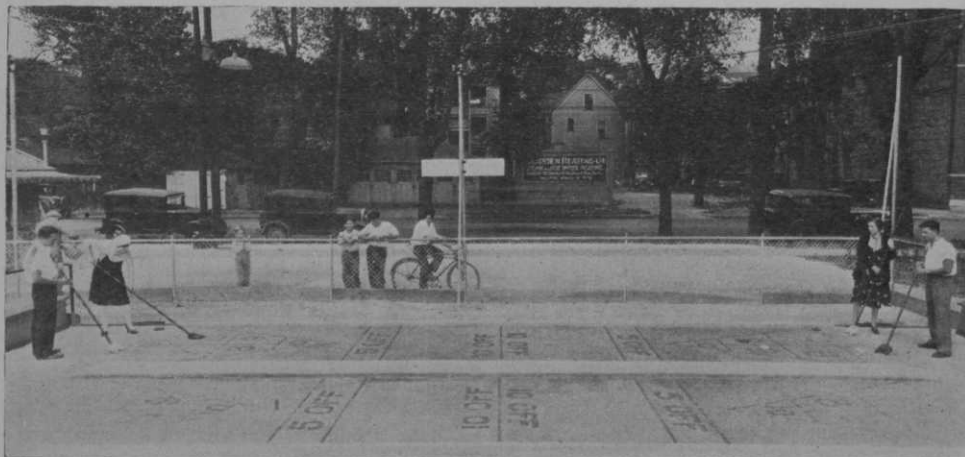
The average shuffleboard installation at

uninitiated, the game requires real skill and affords healthful exercise.

"It is not a new game; on the contrary, as early as the fifteenth century it was played in England, principally among the aristocracy, under various names. In late years it has been a feature of ocean travel.

"The game as introduced on land is played on a court 45 feet long and six feet wide of smoothly surfaced concrete, wood or linoleum, marked with scoring diagrams. Two or four players take their positions at the end of the court. The object of the game is to place wooden discs one inch thick and five inches in diameter in the scoring diagram by means of a shovel and at the same time to prevent the opponents from scoring. Eight discs, four red and four black, are used.

"Roberts' Shuffleboard as recently stand-



Shuffleboard court installation at Novelty Miniature Golf Course, Forest Park, Ill. It averages \$32 daily income.

a miniature golf course recreation plant will pay 16% daily on the investment, according to Ed. Roberts, a veteran in the golf equipment and supply business, who now is the arch-promoter of shuffleboarding. A complete shuffleboard court and equipment costs around \$250 installed and will take in from \$16 to \$38 a day.

Roberts, in giving the low-down on the commercial possibilities of shuffleboard courts, says:

"From shipboard, where shuffleboard has long ruled as a popular sport, the game anchored itself in the south, then broke mooring and drifted to all parts of America. Surprising as it may seem to the

ardized has been perfected by the addition of curbings, six inches high, on each side of the court, making the game require added skill and permitting bank or carom shots, a feature heretofore not obtainable due to the flat surface of the ordinary deck shuffleboard. The curbing has the added feature of keeping the discs in a confined area of the courts, affording more skillful scoring and passing the discs by means of banking the shot without disturbing any previous scoring discs on the board. A shuffleboard court differs but little from a well constructed concrete sidewalk.

"The game constitutes 50 points, the charge being by the hour per person."