

## Local Curling Fans Share Opening Events on Rink

Birmingham curling fans took a leading part in the opening tea which the women of the Detroit Curling club staged last week at the clubhouse.

For the tea which welcomed members and introduced guests who had showed interest in the ancient sport, Mrs. Les Wilder of Brookside in Bloomfield was social chairman.

**AFTER THE TEA**, guests went to the wide windows that look from the lounge down onto the ice rink, and watched two teams have a demonstration match. Mrs. Amanda Issette, of Elizabeth street in Southfield township was on one of the two teams of four members each.

Mrs. Issette had worn her curling costume—the regulation flannel rubber soled boots to protect feet from the ice's chill and the colorful glengarry tam and bright jacket and the modern but comfortable slacks.

**GUESTS AT THE TEA** who wanted to try their hand at the sport changed into available sports togs in the club's locker rooms.

## NATURE NOW

# Pumpkins Have Their Day in November

By LYDIA KING FREHSE  
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Now in November the rising sun shines on the hour frost spread over roof and lawn, over meadow and woodland. But by mid-morning the magic crystals have melted and the cider and apples, the squashes and pumpkins gleam in colorful piles along every country road.

Among these fruits of the earth the golden pumpkin is early in mid-morning the magic crystals have melted and the cider and apples, the squashes and pumpkins gleam in colorful piles along every country road.

On my grandfather's Ohio farm the pumpkin seeds were planted in "hills" at the edge of the field after the corn was well through the ground. All the sturdy vines with their large rough leaves and their yellow bell-shaped flowers vied for living space.

Before the first frost arrived they had arrived they were stored in a dry bin in the cellar. Here they kept well until the Thanksgiving and Christmas pies were made and eaten, after which the late-winter's supply was canned.

Today's housewife if she stops to make a pie reaches for a can of pumpkin and a box of "mix" from the shelf of the supermarket. Grandmother's routine was more involved.

**AFTER THE** breakfast dishes were washed in the home-made wooden sink, a pumpkin of proper size was selected and brought up from the cellar. It was cut in half, the seeds discarded and the hard rind was peeled off with a sharp knife.

Then the flesh was cut into small cubes and boiled until tender in a black iron pot which for the first hour, was set down on the coals of the woodburning stove. The whole was then removed to the back of the stove where the pumpkin was mashed and allowed to "dry out" for another hour or two.

It was then cooled and ready to mix with the fresh eggs, the rich milk, the brown sugar and spices which went into the making of the pie itself. No less than eight pies, usually 8 or several varieties were made for the weekend "batch" of baking which when finished was set out on the pantry shelf to cool. At supper time the generous pieces were brown-tasted and fragrant; the custard was thick but tender—not too spicy and not too sweet.

**THE PUMPKIN** belongs to the gourd family. Some plant families are distinguished by unusual flowers or leaves or by their individual manner of growth or habit, but this family is characterized by its peculiar fruit types.

This applies especially to the ornamental gourds which are grown chiefly because of their varied shape and coloring. Squash, chumbers and all the many varieties of melons also belong to this plant family.

The gourd family originated in the tropics and includes some 700

stream banks and thickets in our northeastern states. It was a common sight in flower or fruit on every canoe trip we took on the Au Sable river.

**TWO GENERAL** groups of pumpkins are cultivated. The large orange variety (cucurbita pepo) was cultivated and eaten by the aboriginal Indians long before the arrival of the first Spanish explorers. Specimens weighing up to 150 pounds have been grown. The flesh is coarse and in many areas it is used for stock food.

Which of these two varieties interests you most will depend upon whether you are a housewife with a housewifely concern to connect the traditional dessert for Thanksgiving dinner.

**Cadet Comes Home**  
James H. Rickard, son of Edmund H. Rickard of Kentucky court, will be home for a nine-day Thanksgiving holiday from studies at Nanseth Hall Military school. The cadets at the school, operated by the Blue Line of Toledo, will have had symposiums, told at their Thanksgiving dinner and party last week.

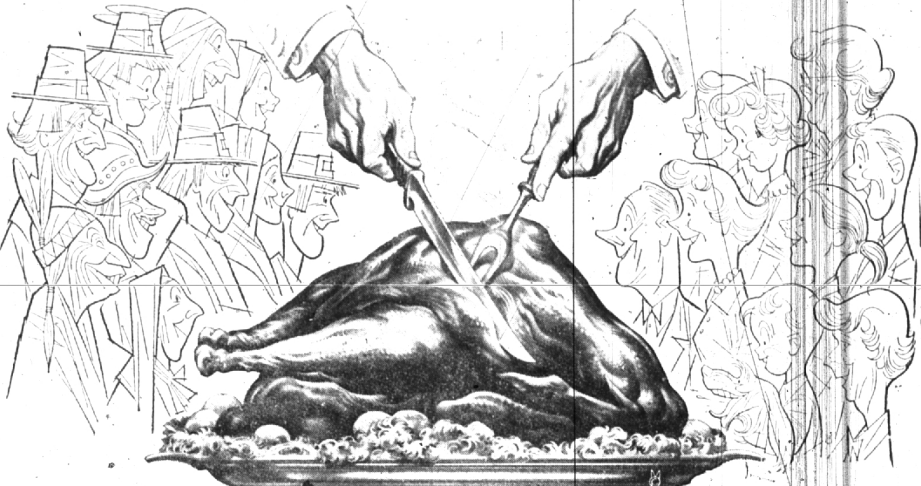
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