

river, little dreaming that they were laying the foundation for a sport which would grow in popularity each year. For as far back as he can remember, Thomas Hunter has heard his father and his grandfather discuss the fine points of curling, and he followed in their steps. His son is now an active member of the club, and no one can say how many generations of Hunters have been expert at throwing blocks and sweeping in their path.

Robert Grant, worthy of mention as one of the older Scots of the community, is eighty-five years of age, and was too feeble to appear for the group picture taken. Not many years have passed, however, since he came into town regularly for the curling matches. For years he took part in the tournaments, and the annual Burns' festival program. He is a native of Scotland, and with John Dick, is one of two survivors who actually were born in the country which originated the game of curling.

Alfred Kellman, Scotch only as far as his making for their amusements goes, has been a curler in the Galesville club since it was organized close to 45 years ago. As a lad under 20, Kellman was active in forming a club in Galesville, when a rink was kept up on the ice of Lake Marinka, and competition with the Scotchmen of Decora Prairie started. Among the players he remembers as active then were Tom McAdam, the Kribs brothers, two Farrands, and himself.

These players thought of the scheme to weight their blocks with lead, thus enabling them to travel farther on the ice and helping them to defeat their neighbors on the prairie. Blocks were turned out at the mill from white oak stock, and Dave Benton, at that time a resident here, was the man who drilled the openings for the insertion of lead. That the sport then was better than now, though the equipment was not as good, is Kellman's opinion. For a score of years, Kellman played in a team made up of the Two Dicks, Al Cram and himself and called the Forty-Niners. Some changes have been made in the personnel of that team, and the position of skip has shifted with the years, but they are still in good form, and won last year as stated.

Al Cram, Scotch-Irish, but forgetting the latter part of his ancestry when he grips the familiar handle of the trusty curlin' broom, now seldom plays the game, though he declares that came Burns' time and the bonspiel, he will be on the ice. Cram will be 74 years old in March, and is the oldest survivor of the Galesville club. He has lived in and around Galesville for 68 years, and in that time has curled for 45. He has missed but one festival program since the events have been held in Galesville, while John Dick has a perfect record.

Cram takes pride in the club building, and tells the pride of each member when the former house was

Adam Smith, Aaron and Will Kribs, and Theodore Scarseth. Of the eight he recalls, just half are now living.

Cram tells of the first importing of granite blocks, and of the pride with which they were received. He remembers the price—\$15.90—and of the receiving them from a St. Paul man he met at a tournament out of town. One of the old wooden blocks, kept as a relic, is still treasured by the club.

For years the granite blocks have been in use here, and are now owned by the club. Those first imported were the property of the individual, but some years ago, the club purchased all. They are of perfect granite, and weigh something over forty pounds.

The Galesville club is thriving, built upon the foundation of those first players. There are nearly sixty members, and the club has interesting records.

During the past fall, the club was incorporated, and funds raised for the erection of a splendid new building. The new house includes three sheets of ice and a club room, separated from the ice by a glassed partition. A spacious fireplace in the club room adds cheer and beauty. Stoves provide for the making of hot lunches, and card tables are provided for those wishing for that entertainment. Few real Scots are now included in the club membership, which embraces men of all nationalities. The Scotch spirit still prevails, however, and it is unlikely that any changes will be made in the plan of the bonspiel and festival. Upheld as a tradition here for close to seventy years, the Burns festival has done much to bring Galesville into prominence, and winter with-