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2-10-1948

### Letter From Clayton N. Fidler to Alfred L. Shoemaker, February 10, 1948

Clayton N. Fidler

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3435 Mason Street  
Laureldale

Laureldale 2-10-48

Dr Alfred L Shoemaker -  
Reading Pa

Dear Mr Shoemaker

Your letter of 2/8/48 received and contents noted I am glad if I could be of some help to you in my memory of Seebale which I enjoy very much the memories of long ago

I also note in your column yesterday you asked the Pennsylvania german name for Ash Wednesday

As Wednesday in my locality - was called Eshe Puddle and about the same a Fastnacht - the last one in deek in the morning was the Eshe Puddle. There was also an old custom on Eshe Puddle day the Master of the house got up early that morning and never spoke a word to any one until he got a bucket of ashes and went all over his live stock missing none and sprinkled every thing with ashes - this was supposed to keep his live stock free from lice for the year he would not speak to any one until all was sprinkled

I also appears to me the whole house hold  
was sprinkled with ashes but on that  
point I am not quite positive no more

I also remember a game we used  
to play we used to call Honka Dee  
that was a game of hide & go seek  
the only difference was the one that was  
it in stead of counting 50 or 100 to give the  
rest a chance to hide he or she had a  
stick and to start the game some one  
threw the stick and the one had to go  
and fetch it whe he or she got back with  
the stick instead of crying ready they  
said Honka Dee Do sthella tick my  
hevel hee when they went in search  
some one used to get around and  
throw the stick away again they always  
had to have the stick in place before  
they could count any one out.

I about singing of Kesle Kesle mmm mm  
hmm I am no singer but I think  
it can be arranged

Ich bin ein Pennsylvanier  
ich bleib über alle bin sthells duforn

If I can be of any help in my  
small way to promote your cause  
I am always willing to help it - up.

Yours Truly  
Clayton N Fidler  
3435 - Marim St -  
Lansdale Pa