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Letter From Helen Moser to Alfred L. Shoemaker, January 25, 1954

Helen Moser

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Indep²²

Jan. 25th 1954
Bally, Box 91
Pa.

Dear Al: 54

I have been a silent listener for quite a while but I have not been sleeping all the time, I have been thinking if I still knew something that would be of interest to you and I came across a few rhymes. Here is one I heard a man say. When I went to school we had to say a piece every Fri. afternoon and this is what one of the boys said one day.

rinsve bussie hut der schnubba
won do is nat glarva mit,
Kunsht hame kumma gucka.

And this is what I heard
one of the girls say in my

(2)
school when we were short
of something.

Die mommy kircha bocked het
won se make bot het
won's net om fette g'falt het.
And here is the way we used
to say that Schloof bobbli,

Schloof bobbli schloof
Der Dandi hiet die schoof
Die mammi melked die
rooda kee.

Die sthand ^(stand) im check bis on
de knia, ^(knees)

And here I guess is something
new I never heard you talk
about. that is counting of
bottons on a chess or shirt
on anything you have on
coat sweater etc. for a girl
we would count, fadie,
shlip, shlop, and so we

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Repeat down the line of
bottoms to the last one and
if (that) ^{is} a ladie me were
a ladie / if shlop then a shlop
if me could get a boy to
count of me would say
Gentleman, heddlemon, ^{thief} deep
and so down the line of
bottoms and whatever the last
one was that me would say
he was. It was a lot of fun.

You were asking about the
sayings or sounds of the
birds call or song I cannot
help you out with that, but
I can tell you what me say
if the coffee is strong you
have no ans. to it as yet.
Din is yo so shtarick er bent
yo in oi dramya.

It is so strong it could carry
an egg

The farmers used to make their brine so strong with salt to cure their meat that it would carry an egg or a potato I guess that is where they got it from to say so.

In the Feb. 1950 Pa. Dutchman were the following candle mas saying I had send in.

Lichtmess, schpinna fergess
Halb gress dang zu nacht essa.

Lichtmess schpinna fergess
Pischt dich für dang zu nacht
ma.

Lichtmess schpinna fergess
Schtroo un hoi habur.

That is all for this time
I must do some thinking
and hunting again.

Your Helen Moser
Friend Bally, Box 91.
Pa.