Many people in town stop as I walk through town or shop at the grocery store. They comment on the "TALES" and remind me of many stories and places. I was reminded of Sebold's Hardware Store, on the corner of Balliet and Spring Streets. (This is now an apartment house owned by Mary Kehl.) Sebold's had a complete line of hardware and plumbing supplies. George Sebold will be remembered as a plumber in town. They installed and painted tin roofs, rain spouting, and gutters. They made their own black stove pipes—"cut to size—while you wait." They had a beautiful garden filled with flowers and a lily pond with a small cement bridge that crossed the pond. Franzi Hedeker had a shoe store for many years at the rear of the store.

I was asked if I remembered Mr. Spaniard, the umbrella man? He went house to house fixing scissors and umbrellas. I can almost hear him chanting "Umbrellas to Mend, Scissors to Grind." He carried his grindstone with him and sharpened your scissors in a few minutes. It was Mr. Spaniard who built the houses on Spaniards Row. After he retired his son-in-law, Mr. Jordan took over as umbrella man. Yes, I had forgotten the, umbrella man but I'll remember him again for a long time.

Another story I had never known was about dog catchers in the 1920's. Wilbur Hawt, who was employed by the state was the dog catcher in town. He had a Model A Ford with a closed box on the back. The exhaust pipe led into this box and the stray and neglected dogs were placed here. They were "Put to sleep" by the fumes as he drove through town. (This was before SPCA.)

Frackville was always proud of its bakeries and one of the first in town was Sanners Bakery with Sam Sanner as chief baker. This bakery was located in the red brick building at the rear of the American Hardware Store on the corner of Lehigh and Frack Street.

Another local bakery was located at 119 South Balliet street which was owned by Dick Moll. The baker here was Charles Reese.

Many residents in town remember Kalbach's Bakery at Washington Street and Hogan's Alley. The Kalbach News Agency was located here many years later and today it is a residential building. The Kalbach Bakery was located in the Kalbach building from 1915 to 1924 but later built a new building on the corner of Spring and Center streets. Bill Lawrence, Marty Snyder, Lewis Schwab, and Jack Farrell were the truck drivers and delivered the baked goods to the stores in town.

The New York Bakery, at 5th and Spring streets was operated for many years by Joe Gray. It is still in operation and retains the same name but is owned by Steven and Nancy Sawka. Alfonce Tamaszukas, John Ewasko and Bob Berdlner are the bakers.

There are many stories about the railroad which I hope to research in the future. Many of our townsmen were employed by the Reading Railroad. One group was the N.E. TION CREW who had to repair the railroad tracks. One of the men on this job was Elwood Mengel. The T.R.E. was the name that was given to this task force from the Traction Research and Engineering Center. Oscar Maser was the boss of this crew. Elwood Mengel, Lewis Schwab, and Jack Farrell were the track walkers. They covered the tracks with yellow sand for the conductors to see the tracks.

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