I had the pleasure of spending an evening with my seventh grade teacher, Miss Elizabeth Shaffer of 8 South Second Street. Miss Shaffer was born in Frackville and lived at 48 South Lehigh Avenue that time. She had to ring the bell at 8:45 and the recess bells by pulling a rope which was hanging through a hole in the ceiling of her classroom. The truant officers at this time were Mr. Breakish and in later years, Mr. Glen Sobey.

While reminiscing about Frackville she said Lehigh Avenue wasn't difficult to walk and lived at 8 South Second Street. Miss Elizabeth Shaffer of 8 South Second Street attended Kutztown State Teachers College and started teaching in 1912. Her salary was Fifty-Two dollars a month on an one-month contract. The classes were large and she recalled having eighty pupils in this class which consisted of first and second grades. Individual slates were used by the pupils which were issued by the schools. She recalled teaching the seventh grade students the Palmer Method of Penmanship. Each desk had an ink well at the right hand corner and straight pens were used.

The children were awarded pins for their completed drills on different levels of the Palmer Method. She talked about the form of punishment in those days, the paddle, and said she didn't have to use it often but occasionally some boy got out of hand and the paddle was used. She talked about the town clock and said that it was the alarm used by the children in town to tell them when the 9 p.m. curfew came. All children had to be home at that time. She had to ring the bell for the opening of school at 8:30, the second bell at 8:45 and the recess bells by pulling a rope which was hanging through a hole in the ceiling of her classroom. The truant officers at this time were Mr. Breakish and in later years, Mr. Glen Sobey.

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