



JIM FASSELMANN

Fredericksburg, Gillespie County

A anecdote in which Fasselmann appealed to communal feelings in Fredericksburg during the anti-German hysteria of World War I, and admonished Germans to 'stick together' has many versions by now. The following version was related by Russel Krueger, a native of Marion, Texas, in an interview with the Texas German Dialect Project in August 2013. The voice of the speaker was edited to enhance comprehensibility. In the anecdote, a German-Black-Mexican trio is discussing choices in an upcoming mayor's election. They are speaking in German, and settle on the same candidate because "We Germans must stick together."

Da waren in Fredericksburg ein Deutscher, ein Schwarzer und ein Mexikaner. Die haben zusammen... mussten die Erd schaufeln und so weiter. Und da wollte einer von denen wissen: „Wen wählst du für Mayor?“ - „Well, ich weiß nich...“ Der Mexikaner konnt kein Englisch sprechen und der Schwarze konnt kein Spanisch sprechen. Und dann haben die gesagt: „Ich wähl für den! Wir Deutschen müssen zusammenhalten!“



There were a German, a Black man, and a Mexican in Fredericksburg working together... they had to shovel dirt and so forth. And one of them wanted to know, "Who are you voting for Mayor?" - "Well, I don't know..." The Mexican couldn't speak English and the Black man couldn't speak Spanish [but all spoke German]. And then they said, "I'm voting for that one! We Germans have to stick together!"