

Baltimore Bote, which George C. Keidel discovered in 1917, and which he summarized in his The Earliest German Newspapers of Baltimore, undoubtedly is the newspaper referred to as having been commenced. Its date is May 4, 1796, and it is number 59; therefore, as James Owen Knauss, Junior, stated, "the first number probably appeared on Wednesday, March 25, 1795."⁹⁵ That date agrees with the advertisement of March 27, quoted above, stating that Sower had commenced the publication of a German weekly paper.

The Baltimore Bote was a weekly at its beginning and at the time that number 59 was issued on May 4, 1796. Between that date and the latter part of 1799, it changed to a greater frequency. Subscribers apparently could take their choice between a triweekly paper on half sheets or a semi-weekly printed in the regular way, as indicated in this statement:

Der herausgeber dieses calenders bedienet sich gleichfalls dieser gelegenheit, dem geehrten publikum kund zu thus, dass er wieder seith geraumer zeit eine deutsche zeitung herausgiebt, und zwar dreymal die woche auf einen grossen halben bogen, fur zwey und einen halben thaler des jahrs, oder zwolf schilling und sechs pens fur zwey zeitungen wochentlich; da aber das postgeld fur einen ganzen bogen, und desfalls seinen ehemaligen kunden in der entfer-

95 Knauss, J.A. Social conditions among the Pennsylvania Germans in the eighteenth century, as revealed in the German newspapers published in America. Lancaster, Pa., 1922. Quoted in Keidel, G.C. The earliest German newspapers of Baltimore. p. 10.