

# BOWSER, NATURALIST

### Discovers That Most Animals Change With Seasons.

#### IT IS SO WITH MANKIND.

Cost the Philosopher Three Pails of Beer to Corroborate His Theory About the Goose—Takes a Mean Advantage of Mrs. Bowser.

[Copyright, 1906, by C. H. Sutcliffe.]  
Mr. Bowser had hardly entered the house the other evening as he returned from the office when he found that the whereabouts of the family cat, being informed that Grimalkin was circulating around the neighborhood somewhere, he dropped the matter, and, though Mrs. Bowser directly questioned him, he made evasive replies. It was not until dinner was over and they had returned to the sitting room that the cat walked in and took his accustomed place on the rug. Mr. Bowser at once gave the feline his full attention and kept it up so long that Mrs. Bowser petulantly demanded: "Now, what on earth do you see about that old cat to interest you? One would think you were a child and seeing a cat for the first time."  
"I am seeing certain things for the first time nevertheless. I see corrobor-



THE GOOSE MAN WAS IN HIS GOOSEBERRY. Illustration of a man and a woman in a room, with a cat on a rug. The man is looking at the woman, who is looking at the cat.

ration of an article I read in a scientific magazine the other day. Mrs. Bowser, what change do you see in that cat since the fall season set in?"  
"None whatever."  
"Had you asked me the same question yesterday I should have answered it in the same way. Now I must tell you that I see a dozen changes. You will observe that his eyes are brighter and have a more intense color. There is a certain elation about him. There is an alertness that strikes you at once. He is no longer morbid or lymphatic. He is no more the cat he was last August than day is like night."  
"Well," asked Mrs. Bowser.  
"Well, the same or other changes have taken place in all other animals—in the horse, the ox, the dog, the fowls of the air and of the coop. They have taken place in mankind itself. Ever since the world was created there have been changes of season, but up to the present moment mankind has not been ready to admit that all things change with the seasons. It stands to reason that they do, however."  
"And, if they do, then what?"  
"Then we have solved one of the human problems. If man changes his nature four times a year, as the seasons change, then he has but to discover when he is at his best and his worst to guard against things. Am I the same man I was last spring or last summer?"  
"You didn't kick about last month's gas bill?"  
"Then there has been a change in me. That was the very point I was fishing for. If we can secure a few other instances, we can set it down that human nature is a greater kicker over the small gas bills of summer than over the big ones of winter."  
"But haven't we got to take human nature as we find it, good and bad?" asked Mrs. Bowser.  
"We have had to, but when we find human nature's best and worst seasons we can shape our course accordingly. Suppose that the spring season is your mean and cantankerous season. As soon as I discover it I treat you differently from what I otherwise would. Suppose my cantankerous season is the summer. You know it, and you don't talk back to me during those three months. Is crime more rampant in spring, summer, autumn or winter, and why? Are there more divorces in March than November? Does our conscience uphold us more in January than July? Why should we give a tramp 10 cents in September and the boot in April?"  
"It was beyond Mrs. Bowser, and she simply shook her head.  
"It is changes, my dear, changes. Last August I seriously thought of getting a divorce from you for your extravagance in using up clothespins. Tonight I feel that I could not sever the bond under any circumstances, not even if you smashed half the crockery in the house. What has changed me except the change of season? If a man has criminal desires in the spring, he must fight them off until summer. If the summer makes a man soft and mellow and an easy mark, he must have a guardian appointed until September comes. I already begin to understand that my season for being real good begins with the first fall month.

What I shall be during the winter season is a mystery at the present moment. The magazine article that I referred to says that the change is more observable in the goose than in any other living thing."  
"That's queer."  
"So it is, but it will not long remain so. There's a man down the street who keeps goose by the score, and I propose to drop down and have a little talk with him. Like the rest of humankind, I have always supposed

that a goose was a goose the year round, but if it is true that she changes her disposition four times a year I want to give her all proper credit."

"I'd let the goose part of it go if I were you," said Mrs. Bowser, feeling trouble in the air all of a sudden.

"But there is the foundation of the whole question, you see. Does the goose change with the seasons? If she does, then why not all other living things, man included? If she changes, what are the changes? I'll be back in an hour and tell you all about it, and I may think best to sit up the rest of the night and write an article dealing with the question."

When Mr. Bowser left the house he headed straight for the gooseery. The fire engines crossed his path, but they could not tempt him aside. There was a free for all fight among a lot of longshoremen, but he refused to halt. A tramp wanted him to stop and argue on the amount of food a man could live on for a week, but he was brushed aside. The goose man was in his gooseery, as it behooved him to be, and within five minutes of his arrival Mr. Bowser had stated his case. Did a goose change with the season? Under the head of goose he included cancer as well. The promptness of the goose man was rather surprising.

"If you will send for a pail of beer, sir, we'll talk," he said, and his little son soon returned with a two quart pail frothing over. He took it that Mr. Bowser was a strictly temperate man and offered him some of the contents. "Do a goose change with the seasons?" he repeated after imbibing half the contents of the pail without drawing breath. "I answer you that he do, sir. We will begin with spring. In the spring he is lamblike and would not hurt a fly. He sits and warbles love songs and makes goosy eyes at his mates. He takes long walks in the moonlight and can be heard to sigh ten rods off."

"You astonish me!" exclaimed Mr. Bowser.  
"Yes, sir, and the pail is empty, and as soon as more beer arrives, we will take up summer. Dan, the gentleman is handing you 10 cents for more beer."

When the pail came back and had been duly looked into, the goose man continued:  
"When spring runs into summer the goose gets cranky. He drops poetry and love and moonlight and won't take a word from nobody. He becomes morbid. He reasons that all the world is agin him, and it is then that he attacks and devours young children. If you have a young and innocent child, sir, let it beware of the summer goose."

"Nonsense! I have heard of a goose chasing a person, but as for inflicting—"

"You are talking to a man who has lived his life among them, sir. If you were to hand Danny another 10 cents, he would get another pail of beer, and we would pass on to the fall season."

Mr. Bowser, hesitated, but finally handed out the money, and four or five minutes later the goose man, refreshed and in good spirits, was saying:

"September has hardly come, sir, when the goose begins to show a disposition to make a ass of himself. He wants hair renewer for his bald head, though he knows that it won't renew. He bosses and bulldozes and thinks he's a devil of a fellow, and the only way to tame him down."

"What are you driving at?" sharply demanded Mr. Bowser as he rose up.  
"Danny," said the goose man to his son, "the gentleman will hand you 10 cents to get a pail of beer."

"The gentleman will do nothing of the kind!" roared Mr. Bowser.  
"Then the gentleman, as is no gentleman, won't get no more goose information here and can go to Texas."

When Mr. Bowser reached home he entered very quietly and had reached the sitting room and dropped into his chair when Mrs. Bowser asked:  
"Well, does a goose change with the season?"  
"As you have been one all your life you ought to know," he meekly answered as he picked up his newspaper and refused to answer another word."  
M. QUAD.

### WHEN NIGHHOOD WAS IN BUD

The night and day barber will now shave your face.  
The night and day banker your note.  
The night and day lawyer will fix up your case.  
The night and day tailor your coat.  
The night and day florist will make you a wreath.  
The night and day cooper a keg.  
The night and day dentist will pull your back teeth.  
The night and day plumber your leg.  
The night and day bootblack will polish your shoes.  
The night and day teacher your wife.  
The night and day actor will cure you of blues.  
The night and day doctor of fits.  
The night and day justice will give you ten days.  
The night and day ice man your ice.  
The night and day chauffeur will give you a raise.  
The night and day rev'end a spice.

Our wide awake cities to slumber are loath: They're raising particular hob.  
This night and day business seems likely to coast.  
The night blooming burglar his job.  
Yet nothing is new, Father Adam, 'tis plain.  
Was first in the night and day group.  
For Edna was sleeping when poor little Cain.  
The night and day baby, had croquet.  
—Earle Hooker Eaton in Harper's Weekly.



Just Kids. Illustration of a man and a woman in a room, with a cat on a rug. The man is looking at the woman, who is looking at the cat.

"Say, mister, wot's yer lowest cash price fer marriage license?"—New York World.  
Then He Doesn't.  
He knows just how the thing is done; His wisdom he'll unfold.  
He knows a cure for every one— Until he gets a cold.

### THE HOMESEAKER'S PARADISE.

#### Extract From a Folder Recently Gotten Out in this Office.

To those who are looking for homes, health and wealth, we will give a little information concerning Dallas, Polk county, and the state of Oregon.

Polk is a county of resources, and Dallas is the center geographically, and the hub virtually of that county. The Willamette valley is known as "the garden spot of Oregon," and Dallas is the most promising part thereof. From the valleys and fields of Polk county, grain, hops and fruit are a plentiful store. The hills contain the rich nourishing grasses so dear to the heart of the stockman. Her lofty mountains on the west contain the giants of the forests, from which lumber is sawed and shipped to every part of the world. Polk county is a promising home for the coming emigrant of the eastern states. These people leave the East of high rents and profitless labor, and coming to the West, where in "old Polk" they find room for their best efforts. If the homeseeker desires to farm and raise grain he can do so; if he wishes to raise fruit, he may do that; if he wishes to embark in the hop industry, the chance is here; or in the sawmill business, or he can raise stock, or gardens. If he comes in search of employment, he finds that too, and health and a strong constitution are his for the breathing. In hop raising Polk is the banner county of the state. Thousands of dollars are spent yearly among the people in raising and caring for this crop. Almost as much is expended in harvesting the prune crop, which, in Polk county, is an exceedingly large one.

Western Polk is a land of sawmills. At Dallas, the county seat, and at Falls City millions of feet are cut annually. These mills are in virgin timber that is, as yet, hardly disturbed. In Polk county are several mills engaged in the sawing of oak timber only. The product of these mills has a ready sale in the markets here, and is al-

### LOG JAM NEAR DALLAS.



LOG JAM NEAR DALLAS. Illustration of a log jam near Dallas.

so shipped east in large quantities. Dallas, the metropolis of Polk county, has a population of 2,500 people. Among its manufacturing industries are two large sawmills with a daily capacity of 200,000 feet of lumber, employing 340 men, and having a monthly payroll of \$17,000.00; a sash and door factory, a foundry, flouring mills, tannery, ax-handle factory, creamery and machine shops. The city is literally surrounded by hop fields, prune and apple orchards. The soil is rich and yields excellent crops of all kinds. Land in the vicinity of Dallas can be purchased at from \$10 to \$75 per acre, and is adapted to fruit raising, hop culture, dairying, or raising of hay and grain.

Falls City, located nine miles west of Dallas, is a town of payrolls, several large mills being located in and about the city. It has a population of about 1,000 people. Independence and Monmouth are other towns of importance in Polk county.

People who have come from the east and located here are more than pleased with our country, our climate and our people, and have no inclination to return to the lands of blizzards, cyclones and freezing weather. Such irregularities as storms, cloudburst, earthquakes, blizzards, etc., so well known in the eastern states, are entirely an unknown quantity in Oregon.

Polk county surely has a wonderful future before her. Rich in everything dear to the heart of the homeseeker, and abounding in wealth and promise, it is, without doubt, the banner county of our great commonwealth. We only ask that you come out, take plenty of time to investigate thoroughly, and we feel confident that you will cast your lot with us, and make this country your home.

### ESTABLISHING AN ORCHARD.

By Claud L. Lewis, professor of Horticulture, Oregon Agricultural College.  
The large profits realized from our orchards the past few years have given a great impetus to fruit growing, and as a result many people are setting out orchards. To a large number of these persons fruit growing is a new occupation, and they are seeking information to aid them in establishing their orchards.

As regards the time to set the trees, from October to February or March is generally preferable where climate conditions are such as to allow one to carry on the work. Trees set at this time become well established in early spring and are ready to begin growth in April. In irrigated sections or at high elevations, where there is danger of fall freezing, planting can be delayed until spring.

The kind of soil is a question of importance; and in speaking of soils we consider both the physical and the chemical. The physical is, perhaps, the most important in that its conditions are hard to change, while often the chemical we can supply lacking plant foods. Often the grower expects the chemist to analyze a small sample of his soil to state, where often the physical characters of soil are concerned, apples in our climate prefer a clay loam—not necessarily a heavy clay, but a clay apt to retain moisture, and good such as apples need. Pears will grow on similar soil to apples or even heavier soil. Cherries and prunes prefer the lighter loam, and many of the red soil lands, especially where the soil is deep. Peaches do well on the granite sandy soils, while grapes prefer the sunny southeast slopes, especially those that have been washed in by the rivers, stony sub-soil. The main requirement with the walnut seems to be a deep soil. Attention should be paid to the sub-soil. Those soils having a hardpan near the surface, a cement gravel or a loose gravel that does not reach a water supply are to be avoided. In many parts of western Oregon the alluvial soils that have been washed in by the rivers, are often appearing light in character, are among our best fruit soils, being rich and deep and generally furnished with plenty of moisture. East of the mountains the rich volcanic soils, when furnished with humus and given plenty of water will grow most any of our fruits. Other things being equal, the higher elevations and slopes are to be preferred. They are apt to be better drained, more free from frosts, and often seem to produce fruit of better color.

Having chosen your land the next step is to prepare it. If this is old wheat land it should be thoroughly plowed and harrowed, and where possible stable compost should be added. On many of the newly irrigated lands it is often better to irrigate a season or two growing some crop to supply humus before planting the orchard. On many of the stony lands holes can be dug for the trees and the land prepared as rapidly as possible. By the time the trees need the intense cultivation over a large surface the stumps will have been removed.

The question of varieties is a difficult one to settle. Certain localities of our state have already determined this, but to those localities where commercial orchards have not as yet been developed, the rule would be to grow those commercial varieties which show the most promise in your immediate locality. It is better to start with a few of the leading commercial varieties. Three to five varieties will be enough for a commercial orchard and it is much better to plant at least three to insure thorough pollination, as some of our leading varieties seem to be sterile.

Often we are asked what age and size of trees is best. The one-year-old tree is to be preferred. It will establish itself more easily and can be headed low, thus saving much money in future years in spraying, thinning, pruning and harvesting the crop. The medium sized trees are better than the very small or the very large. We are fortunate in Oregon in having nurseries that can furnish the finest of trees.

When the trees come from the nursery they should be immediately unpacked, and if in a good condition, a trench should be dug deep enough to cover the roots, and the trees are generally dropped in at an angle of about forty five degrees. This will keep the trees in good condition until planted. Never bury them in bundles for a long period, as they will often heat and decay. If they arrive somewhat dried and shriveled bury them in moist earth or submerge them in water. The bark will often pull off, and if so, all the trees will live. The distances to plant trees apart is a matter of interest all over the state, as there is a tendency to plant them too close. On our rich virgin soils, with plenty of water, our orchard can be planted closely, and probably make the best use of the land for the first ten or twelve years, when they begin to crowd.

It takes a good deal of nerve to cut half an orchard that has been yielding a large profit, but if this is not done the whole orchard will be ruined, so, for a great many people it would be better to plant the trees their permanent distance and grow some garden crop in between if necessary for the first few years. There is, however, one system that will

allow you to cut out some trees. Apples should be planted from thirty to forty feet apart; the smaller varieties of pears in the vicinity of twenty; while some of the larger varieties of pears will stand thirty. There the cherry attains a good size, it will need from thirty to thirty five feet. Small varieties of peaches, twelve to fifteen, and the larger varieties to twenty, and probably some varieties will do better with even 25. Our older prune orchards are showing that 30 feet is none too far, while grapes are often planted in rows six feet apart and eight to ten feet apart in the row.

There are several systems of setting out an orchard. The first is the rectangular or square method in which the trees are set in squares. The chief advantage of this system is that it enables easy cultivation to be done. Its disadvantage is that the trees are not all equally distant, the diagonals being greater than the sides. The second system is the hexagonal. It is set out on the basis of the circle, the distance between the trees being equal to the radius of the circle. Thus we have six trees in a hexagon, with one tree in the center. The advantage of this method is that the trees are all equally distant, but its disadvantage is that if the trees are set too closely they cannot be easily removed to advantage; for, if you take out any trees, it will still leave some trees crowded, while other parts of the orchard will have large spaces of it. By this system four trees constitute a square and a fifth is set in the center of the square. The orchard can be set out with the idea that the square will be the permanent and that the fifth tree, in the center, will be removed when crowding occurs. This center tree can be some early maturing tree, like Wagner. The following table shows the number of trees per acre by each system:

System	Number of trees per acre
12x12	303
15x10	290
15x15	193
18x15	145
18x18	134
20x20	108
25x20	87
25x25	70
30x30	48
35x25	41

In conclusion I would state that before setting your trees you should cut off all injured roots, set your trees in a hole ample enough to accommodate the roots and about three inches deeper than it was in the nursery. Be sure to have your trees well lined and head them low, so that the first branches come from eighteen to twenty-four inches from the ground, and you have laid the foundation for an orchard that will give you tremendous returns with good care.

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