

Bowser Joins A New Club

Tender Spring Lambs Make Him a Regular Member of the Organization.

HE IS GIVEN A FROLIC

It Turns Out Just as Mrs. B. Predicted. How Her Better Half Was Initiated.

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"Did you meet Mrs. Green at the gate?" asked Mrs. Bowser as Mr. Bowser reached home the other evening.

"I have no recollection of so doing," he replied.

"She was in here a minute ago and wanted us to come over to her house this evening and play cards. I partly promised her."

"You shouldn't have done so. I have in engagement this evening."

"Couldn't you put it off? She wants to make up two tables."

"Then she'll have to wait. I've been elected a member of the T. S. L. club and must be on hand this evening to be initiated. I hope dinner is all ready."

"What kind of a club is it?" asked Mrs. Bowser as she followed him down to the dining room.

"It is composed of professors, savants and philosophers. It was this



TO FIND MR. BOWSER SITTING ON THE CHAIR.

club that settled the fact that a cat's whiskers help her to see in the dark had rather be a member of the T. S. L. than to be elected to congress."

"And what is the real name of the club?"

"The Tender Spring Lambs."

Never Heard of the Club.

Mrs. Bowser reflected for a moment and then said:

"I never heard of such a club. It doesn't seem to me that any dignified professor would join such an organization. Are you quite certain that it isn't a lot of fellows who want to guff you?"

"Guff me?" he hotly exclaimed. "Mrs. Bowser, you seem to forget who I am. So I look like a man that anybody could dare guff?"

"But you joined the Ancient Horse Marines, and they made you dance and sing."

"Never! Never in this world!"

"You joined the Honorable Black Rows, and they made you stand up in a chair and caw."

"Woman, what are you saying?"

"And you joined the Very, Very Ancient Mossbacks, and they made you tuck vinegar and then rolled you in a seaweed. You told me all about it yourself. There is no knowing what the Tender Spring Lambs have in store for you."

"I have been elected a member of the T. S. L.," said Mr. Bowser as he looked at the table with the handle of his knife and looked very determined. "I have been notified to report in evening for initiation. I shall report. I shall be initiated."

"Very well," replied Mrs. Bowser. "I now you would enjoy the evening at a Greens', but if you want to go off at canter around and let folks make sport of you I have nothing more to say."

Did Not Say Another Word.

Mr. Bowser's face went so red that he looked for a stroke of apoplexy, it was managed to hang on to himself, it drew back from the grave. Not another word was said during the meal. When it was finished she said: "I will go up and lay out a clean shirt and your Sunday suit."

"You need do nothing of the kind," he sulkily answered. "The old guy isn't got so old that he can't help himself."

She entered the sitting room, and he sat upstairs. When he came down an hour later she was feeling sorry that she had said what she had, and she observed:

"Well, I hope you will enjoy yourself all come home and tell me all about it."

"There's no use of your sitting up and burning the gas. I may not be up until midnight."

"Well, I will at least leave a light on you. Don't go away mad at me."

"I am not mad," replied Mr. Bowser, out when you treat me as if I were a child I cannot help but resent it. You ought to understand by this time that men would as soon think of using the czar of Russia as me. If it

was a common club there might be some signaling, but this is the Tender Spring Lambs. I believe it was Darwin who founded it, and Darwin was not the sort of man to stand up in a chair and crow or caw."

Left For the Club.

Two minutes later he got away in good shape, and Mrs. Bowser settled herself down for the evening. The hours passed, and midnight came, and she was nodding over her book when she heard a scrambling of feet on the front steps. She passed down the hall and opened the door, to find Mr. Bowser sitting on the sill and two men running away. She helped him to his feet and into the house, and as she got his hat and overcoat off and walked him to a chair in the sitting room he began to cry. She gave him five minutes in which to exhaust his tears and then asked:

"Well, tell me all about it."

"Can you ever forgive me?" he asked as he looked at her in a piteous manner. "Can you ever forgive me for doubting your word?"

"You are forgiven. Now, what happened?"

"Well, sir, I went to the club. The Tender Spring Lambs were very nice to me—very nice; said I was a great man; said they were proud of me; said they just loved baldheaded men."

"I see."

"Tender Spring Lambs took me in to be initiated. They first rubbed lard on my scalp."

"Yes, I see it's all grease. Didn't you object?"

"I was going to, but they said all Tender Spring Lambs greased their heads so that lightning would slip off. They said that lightning would slip off my head, I want to kill some one."

"And then what happened?" asked Mrs. Bowser.

Put Snuff on His Feet.

"Then I had to take my shoes and stockings off, and they rubbed kerosene and snuff on my feet. Said it was to make me frolic like a lamb. Think of me frolicking like a lamb! Mrs. Bowser—think of it!"

His speech began to thicken up and his tears to fall, and though Mrs. Bowser patted him on the knee, it was several minutes before he could go on.

"I didn't want to frolic. I'm too heavy. Got too much dignity to frolic. Haven't frolicked since I was a boy. They said that Darwin and Huxley frolicked and that I couldn't get out of it. Then two of 'em took me by the arms and ran me around the room—ran me a million times around. Oh, Mrs. Bowser, I thought I should die."

"Of course you did, you poor man, you," she replied as she patted him some more. "What did they do next?"

"Made me climb up a long ladder after a piece of meat tied at the top. Said I must climb for my mutton. When I came down they made me sit on a lump of ice. They said it was cold storage for Tender Spring Lambs. Oh, how cold that ice was! Mrs. Bowser, can you ever forgive me? You said they would guff me, and—and they did. I called you a liar, didn't I?"

"I don't think so. After the ice, what then?"

Rolled Him in the Sawdust.

"They put tar on my nose and then stuck pieces of wool on it. Said it was the fleece of a Tender Spring Lamb. Then somebody cried: 'Wolf! Wolf!' and about twenty fellows grabbed me and rolled me in the sawdust. Said they were rescuing a Tender Spring Lamb from danger. Think of rolling me, Mrs. Bowser, in the sawdust!"

"I can see a picture of it," smiled Mrs. Bowser. "Was that the end of the performance?"

"No; they made me swear to eat nozzing but grass and to frolic all day. Then I had to drink some mutton broth. Then I had to sing 'Mary's Little Lamb.' Then they made me bleat like a lamb. Think of that, Mrs. Bowser! Think of your husband bleating like a lamb!"

"And then you came home?"

"Yes, I guess I did. I guess two old rams brought me home."

"But don't you know whether they did or not?"

"No; all I remember is that the two old rams made me frolic and climb trees and that you are my darling and the best wife in all this whole world. Mrs. Bowser, I love you. Yes, your husband loves you to the bottom of his heart, and from this time on you—"

"Come, my lamb—my Tender Spring Lamb," she interrupted, and, taking him by the arm, she led him down the hall and upstairs and let him fall upon the bed and begin snoring, while she set to work to remove the evidences that he had met the shearer and been shorn.

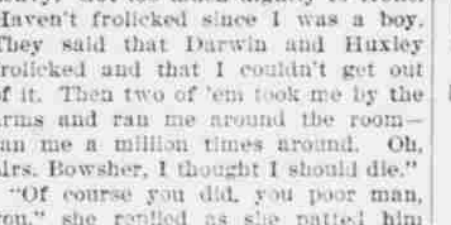
M. QUAD.

In Embryo.

The Bud—How did you get your first start in life, senator?

The Senator—Why—or—I haven't really got started yet, you know. I am only worth \$10,000,000 as yet.—Judge.

Just Out.



The Duck—Your ma is looking everywhere for you.

The Chick—Tell her I'm out.

The Hog Didn't Like It.

Benham—A hog couldn't eat this dinner.

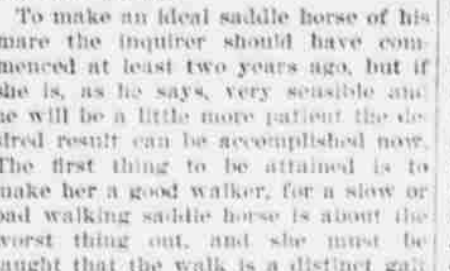
Mrs. Benham—That's too bad. I thought it would just suit you.—Detroit Free Press.

GAITS OF THE SADDLE HORSE

There is no doubt that the horse is its every variety is a live proposition nowadays, which farmers are showing a disposition to handle to the best advantage. In this connection perhaps the saddle horse is less talked of than other classes, yet interest in it is not wanting. To a man who has a four-year-old mare—a natural trotter—and is considering training her for a saddle horse E. P. Mayo of Maine says in Rural New Yorker:

To make an ideal saddle horse of his mare the inquirer should have commenced at least two years ago, but if she is, as he says, very sensible and he will be a little more patient the desired result can be accomplished now. The first thing to be attained is to make her a good walker, for a slow or bad walking saddle horse is about the worst thing out, and she must be taught that the walk is a distinct gait as much as the canter or the gallop. He should not be satisfied until he can get her where she can walk from five to six miles an hour. Of course if she is naturally a fast walker this can easily be accomplished, but she should never be allowed to trot while taking her walking exercise, for it is as much a misdemeanor for a mare walking to break into a trot as for a trotting mare to break into a run. To acquire the walking habit requires no special training, but persistent practice, at all times urging her to walk as fast as possible without fatigue and not making her lessons too long at a time.

There are three trotting gaits—the jog trot, about four miles an hour, some-



FINE KENTUCKY SADDLE HORSE.

(Note, owned by G. A. Dimock, Michigan.)

The horse is sixteen years old and was bred in Kentucky. The position in the picture represents the Spanish step, out of a possible thirty-one high school movements Nebel performs twenty-one.—Farm, Field and Fireside.]

thing to be avoided and always to be discouraged; the true trot, in which the animal moves naturally and with frictionless gait, while the third is known as the flying trot, or at speed gait. The true trot, of course, is the trot that this mare must attain if he would have her accomplished in the different gaits. When this is accomplished—and it is equally as easy as the walking gait—the next is the canter, or slow gallop, and the horse should go from the walk or trot either to the canter at will of the rider. The right fore leg should be made to go forward first, or, rather, to take the lead. In training for this gait the horse should be kept well in hand by the bit and while being urged forward lead the head slightly in the opposite direction from which the fore leg is to lead, and with a very little practice the horse will understand from the leaning of the head what is wanted and strike an easy, natural canter. If an out and out gallop is required, when the horse makes the first leap forward with forefoot well extended and you see that he understands what is required give him his head slightly and urge him to make still greater effort.

The Future in Hogdom.

Summarizing the various opinions now audible in market circles, Breeder's Gazette obtains three views of the future in hogdom: "One, emanating from Packington, is that a sharp decline in values is assured whenever the summer run of 'grass widows' is cut loose. It is on this supply that killers are banking their hope of filling cellars. Another view is in the permanency of present prices, which the country appears to share. It is based on light stocks, urgent demand and figures that indicate a normal summer run. There is a third element that stakes its reputation on the materialization of the seven cent hog, insisting that if packers abandoned their present hand to mouth attitude prices would jump 50 cents per hundredweight. Packers favor lower prices for both hogs and product. Hog product is now selling dangerously near the limit or disposition of the consumer to pay."

Needs of Young Alfalfa.

Spring sown alfalfa needs to be run over with a mower every three or four weeks to keep the weeds down. The cutter bar should be set high, and the mowing should be done only when the alfalfa is dry and there is no appearance of rain. August sown alfalfa does not need to be touched the first season. Stock should be kept off alfalfa until it is a year old at least, and if it is desirable to maintain a stand on a field for ten to fifteen years stock should be kept off until it has passed its third year.—H. M. Cottrell.

Benefits of a Clean Barnyard.

Keep the barnyard free from manure and house flies will be far less troublesome. To remove daily the freshly made manure to the field or pasture serves a double purpose—first, the maximum value of the manure is secured; second, that household pest, the fly, is largely avoided.

Good Sheep Require Good Pasture.

Mutton breeds of sheep do not depend on waste lands and hillsides to become profitable. Good sheep require good pastures and pay well.

GREEN FEED.

Help in Stock and Pasture in Time of Heat and Drought.

It will be an unusual season if many farmers in the corn belt are not confronted with the short pasture problem during July and August. Nine years out of ten the seventh and eighth months are droughty in some of our agricultural states, and a scant supply of nutritious, green feed at this critical time means decreased returns to the dairyman or the man who is making beef on grass. It is a sorry outlook for stock where this situation exists, and its ill effects are greatly heightened by the presence of flies and hot weather.

In order that stock may get through this period without a setback provision should be made for a liberal quantity of green feed to supplement short grass or entirely to supplant the pastures. A continuous supply of this material is essential to the profitable development of young and growing animals as well as to the maintenance of a paying flow of milk from dairy cattle. It is just as important to provide plenty of feed for the dry months of summer, when grass is inadequate for their needs, as to grow it for winter. The proposition runs right to the pocketbook of every stock farmer, declares Breeder's Gazette.

Soiling Crops.

Most pastures are overtaxed. This and dry weather make them pretty scant picking for about two months of the year. Just as soon as they get a little short soiling crops should be ready to use. For the benefit of the grass stock should be taken off the pastures just as soon as there is an abundance of green feed. Let the grass grow. Give it a chance to recuperate.

Several varieties of crops are admirably adapted to the purpose of supplying green feed for stock through a droughty summer. Early corns are highly recommended. Sow five or six quarts of seed per acre. Cowpeas and soy beans sown at the rate of a bushel per acre will do well in many localities. Oats and Canadian field peas, a bushel of each per acre sown together make excellent green feed. Dwarf Essex rape, four pounds of seed to the acre, will make capital provender for sheep and hogs. Sorghum may be included to advantage. Cowpeas and rape may be sown in cornfields at the final cultivation. Rye sown in corn will afford feed for late fall and early spring and thus help the pastures. Sweet corn is commonly grown for soiling purposes.

THE SHEPHERD

An excellent way with young lambs running with the ewes is to have a pen made of boards in the yard or pasture, with openings through which the lambs will crawl, and in this keep a shallow, flat trough in which the lambs cannot walk. In this trough a few handfuls of mixed cornmeal bran and linseed meal are scattered quite thinly. The lambs will soon find it and will run in and out and feed at will. This has doubled the ordinary growth without it in two months' feeding and will make weaning an easy business.

More Sheep.

From the reports I hear sheep will be increased this year. The prices received for wool and lambs have been high compared with years back, and all who have even a few sheep seem to be satisfied and are ready to increase their flocks. The dog question bothers some, but the dog who chases sheep in this part of the country is sure of a free pass to some other world, says a New Hampshire man.

With the Farm Flock.

Don't sell the best and firstborn ewe lambs and keep the poor ones for breeders.

Don't leave the sheep out in the wet after they go to pasture. It will take but a few minutes to run them in, and it will be time well spent. Don't let the sheep run in the old pastures unless you give them the gasoline treatment before they go out.

Don't make any fence around the sheep pasture, except one of woven wire. This will both keep the sheep in and the dogs out and is really the most economical fence on the market. Don't think sheep can go without water. They will live if they have only dew for drink, but they will not thrive.—Rural New Yorker.

Slow and Sure With Sheep.

Start with a few sheep, learn their habits, gain their confidence and gradually increase the flock, keeping only the finest ewes. The four best mutton breeds are the Southdowns, Shropshires, Hampshires and Dorset Horns, each having certain points in their favor which the others have not.—Country Gentleman.

Matton Chops.

Don't forget to dip. Even cull ewes sell up to \$4.75.

It's a pretty coarse weed that sheep will not eat.

By all means dock your lambs and dock them early.

Fold the fleece with the bright side toward the market.

If you wish to do a mail order business in sheep you must advertise.

If you want to see your lambs smile prepare for them a patch of rape.

If there is better roughage than clover hay we would like to know what it is.

Good, big, strong lamb crops are the common report from all over the country.

He who breeds a certain breed of sheep because he likes it is pretty sure to succeed.

Owners of pure bred sheep and goats who do not advertise do not know what they are losing on that account.—American Sheep Breeder.



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Lake County Examiner, June.