

HIDES IN THE SUGAR BOWL

Mischievous Chicago Canary Seeks Singular Convert to Baffle Mistress. Ever since he was hatched Bob has been accustomed to the freedom of the house for a portion of the day. He declines to bathe in his cage and makes a persistent racket until released. Then he speedily gets into all kinds of mischief, for no bad boy ever had as much curiosity or determination to satisfy it. He has the habit of secreting himself when engaged in some unlawful foray. He seems to know as well as if his human captivity will result in his being returned to his cage. He will play about for an hour or two, calling out all the time to attract attention. Then when his mistress becomes too busy with the housework to answer his cries he will suddenly grow still. She knows he is into something and commences a vigorous search as soon as she realizes that the scamp has quit calling. He hides under the seats of chairs or above the folds of the curtains and with a bright black eye cooked on his mistress will remain still as a mouse for a long time. Then he will suddenly chirp in glee and come to view as if to say: "I knew you couldn't find me." Then he will fly down or up as the case may be and permit himself to be closed in the cage. The other day the mistress was extremely busy. She had lowered the kitchen transom, thus opening a way for Bob to get to the outer world and the sparrows that fluttered down to the window outside. The canary would try to push himself through the glass and when remonstrated with flew to the picture molding and scolded. His mistress went on about her work while he yelled defiance and rebuke and challenges for admiration for over an hour. He varied the monotony by singing awhile. He is a youngster and has not come to his voice, but he can do fairly well. He had acquired a taste for sugar when the master used a few grains placed on his finger tip to attract the bird. Bob's curiosity got the better of affected timidity and he sampled that sugar. Since then he asks for it regularly. When his mistress went forward to attend to her work Bob discovered that he was not being watched as much as he thought his just desert, so he cast about to find some mischief. Luckily he did not visit the kitchen. After a time his mistress hurried to the dining-room and kitchen to look for him. She suddenly remembered the open transom and the little chap's eager efforts to get outside with the sparrows. She hastily closed every opening and then badly frightened commenced a vigorous search, but no sign of the bird could be found. Neither did he chirp. She hunted all over the house and called the janitor to continue the look in the back yard, but the canary was nowhere visible. Finally, exhausted and almost in tears, the mistress went mechanically to the sideboard to find Bob, but to wipe up the dust there. She picked up the sugar bowl and instantly Bob's black topknot emerged from inside and he faulted out, his bill full of sugar. While he vocalized his disgust at the interruption of his feast. He was chased until he gave up, placed in his cage and kept there the rest of the day and for a couple more. But he had a fine time in that sugar bowl. Chicago Chronicle.

MANDY AT THE THEATER

The Felt Like a Wicked Pinner After Looking at White Folks' Foolishness. "Have you ever been to a theater, Mandy?" a young matron of Columbia Heights asked her middle-aged children's nurse the other morning. "No, ah-deed, Ah hain't, honey," replied Mandy. "Ah hain't got no money, tuck look away!" "Well," said the young matron, "you may put on one of your pretty new aprons after luncheon and take the children to the matinee. I'll go along with you to help you to look after the children." So the young matron, with her two little ones and the middle-aged nurse, went to a polite vaudeville matinee, taking four seats in the front row of the balcony. A muscular limbed do-dancer opened the performance. Mandy watched the gyrations of the smirking young woman through her fingers. "Ump-uh!" she muttered to herself, "ef dat hain't scan'tious! Sech uh lit'l young gal as cat-uh one uh-hoppin' uhroun' 'dout no mo' chlo's! Ef dat hain't scan'tious, jes' show me sumpin' 'at is, dat's all!" When the toe dancer left the stage with a final kick at the back of her head Mandy turned to her mistress with a mournful face. "Ah doan' see how yo' kin sit deah an' look at sech fo'ks, 'deed Ah doan' honey!" she said, reproachfully. She watched the outrageous conduct toward each other of the knockabout team with wonder and amazement. When the larger man of the team apparently dug his stiffened forefingers into the smaller man's eyes, and kicked him on the shins, and pounded him on the head with a croquet mallet, and yanked him around by means of a crook-topped cane, and squirted a siphon-full of water on him, and scratched matches on his face, and showed a lighted cigar into his ear, and otherwise abused him shamefully, Mandy almost rose in her seat in her wrath. "Ef uh wunduh tuh we dat some o' dem fo'ks uh sittin' down deah doan' climb up an' beat de life out o' dat big, no-count, bull-dozin'!" she whispered, hoarsely, to her mistress. "De deah o' uh big man lak he-all uh-treatin' uh lit'l man dat can't he'p' kine'f' dat-uh-way! Ah doan' see how yo' kin sit deah an' laff, missy, 'deed Ah doan'!" Mandy regarded the blacked-up monologist with a stolid countenance. "Jes' look at dat fool wite man uh-tryin' tuh play he-all's uh nigguh!" she said, scornfully. "Ah wunduh ef he-all thinks we-all think he's uh suah-enough nigguh!" Mandy didn't see anything remarkable about the music rendered by the male quartette. "Dem men hain't no great shakes w'en it comes tuh singin'," was her judgment. "Dey sing purty enough, but Ah knows lots o' no-count nigghers w'at in o' Prince George's county tuh kin sing all uh-rong' dem wite mad!" The man-and-wife sketch team, giving the usual act in which the husband comes home after having dined all too well and tries to bluff his wife out of her wrath, filled Mandy with weariness. "Who-ah evuh heahd uh gen'l'm'n tek on lak dat w'en he-all gets dat-uh-way?" she asked her mistress. "W'en uh man come home dat-uh-way, he-all doan' say nothin'." "H let he wife do de sayin' and w'en she git tired he crawls intuh baid, an' dat's all dey is tuh it!" Mandy regarded the magician with awe, not unmixed with fear. "Ah wouldn't want no sech creepie man like dat uh-rong' me, yo' heah me uh-tal-kin'!" she whispered to her mistress. It was thus throughout the performance. "Didn't you like any of it, Mandy?" her mistress asked her when they were coming away from the theater. "Sech foolishness may be all right fo' wite fo'ks," replied Mandy, "but Ah feels lak uh wicked sinnuh, an' Ah doan' want no mo' sech doin's fo' me! Anyhow, Ah hain't got no money tuh look away!"—Washington Star.

ABOUT UNCONSCIOUSNESS

Some of the Causes of Sudden Cessation of Mental Control and Treatment. It is often difficult, when a person is found unconscious, to determine the cause of the condition. Yet this determination is of the greatest importance, since upon it must depend the treatment, and perhaps the life, of the sufferer. Of course, this is a task for the physician, and it is often one that taxes his acumen to the utmost; but there are certain signs which everyone may learn to know, and so be prepared to prevent possible maltreatment before the physician arrives. The chief causes of a sudden loss of consciousness are apoplexy, Bright's disease, diabetes, drunkenness, opium poisoning, injury to the head, epilepsy and fainting. A person found unconscious should be placed on his back, the clothes, especially those about the neck, should be loosened, and he should have plenty of air, curious spectators being kept at a distance. If the breath smells of alcohol, the first thought is that the man is drunk; but it is most unsafe to assume this to be the case without corroborative evidence. The man may have taken a drink just before the accident befell him; or he may have been slightly drunk, and in that condition he may have had a stroke of apoplexy or have fallen or been struck a blow on the head; or some bystander may have poured whisky down his throat, with the mistaken idea of helping him. The head should first be examined to see if the skull is broken, if there is a wound of the scalp, or if blood is coming from one of the ears, which is a sign of a fracture of the base of the skull. Note should be taken of the breathing. If it is very slow, six or eight times or less in a minute, the probability is that the case is one of opium poisoning. If the respiration is rather slow and snoring, with blowing out of the lips and of one cheek, apoplexy or concussion of the brain may be suspected. In unconsciousness resulting from Bright's disease the breathing is usually more rapid and not noisy, and in that resulting from diabetes the inspiration is slow and prolonged, while expiration is short and quick. A drunken man can usually be aroused temporarily if spoken to in a loud voice or pricked with a pin, and the same is true of one suffering from Bright's disease; but in apoplexy and opium poisoning the unconsciousness is usually complete. Unconsciousness may be hysterical in its nature, and may simulate any of the types mentioned above. A dash of cold water in the face will often restore consciousness with great rapidity in such a case.—Youth's Companion.

FEMINE FASHIONS

New Jackets and Dresses for the Spring Season—Easter Hats and Wraps. The coats and jackets of the spring season of 1900 are as satisfactory in shape, outline, adjustment, fabric, finish and appropriate decoration as any models devised since the day of wraps began. With many of the handsome evening dresses sent home this season are gumples made of various rich or delicate materials. These are designed to transform the decollete waists of the dresses into gowns appropriate for afternoon receptions and early dinners. Black and white combinations are evidently a feature of dress not to be overlooked next season, as something in these effects is brought out on nearly every model thus far shown. Black and white predominate among stylish striped and dotted silks, and fancy satins, costly silk and wool mixtures, matelasses, foulards, shepherd's checks, etc. Narrow black velvet ribbons, gathered on the edge of heavy cream lace insertion, is effective, and tiny ruffles of black chiffon or net are also used for this purpose. Accordion-plaited black tulle will be well in an important factor in the decoration of Easter hats; also loops and choux of black velvet ribbon, graceful scarf ends on "dress" styles, and a fascinating mixture of tulle, ribbons and foliage. Parma violets, peach blossoms, and white lace on Wilhelmina models. Straps of braid continue to terminate on many tailor costumes in tiny buckles or buttons, and the vests of handsome "dress" costumes have a double row of costly gold and enamel slippers. There being no heel if the slipper is a little short, it is not uncomfortable, does not look small for her, and does not proclaim to the world when it is off that she is a large woman and has a large foot.—N. Y. Post.

TEA AND COFFEE

An eminent doctor says that no person should be permitted to drink tea or coffee until he or she has attained the age of 18 years. In the young these beverages unduly excite the nervous system, and have an injurious effect upon the digestive organs.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

THE SUCKER STATE

Differing Stories as to How Illinois Came by Its Singular Nickname. How did Illinois come by its name of the Sucker state? A good many people thought they had it settled to their entire satisfaction, but now comes forward a Galena man with an assertion which will afford the old settlers a fruitful topic of discussion. As the story was told to the present generation, the term of Sucker state came from the practice of the pioneers, who, when exceedingly dry and the jug was empty, broke off a reed, inserted it in a crawfish hole in mother earth, and imbibed through the reed sufficient to slake their thirst. That such a practice was necessary in a country so filled with lakes and fresh water streams was rather hard to be believed at first, but the old settler insisted he knew what he was talking about, and his version was accepted. The Galena man who would upset this theory offers another quite as homely, but perhaps equally acceptable. In a carefully prepared paper read before a farmers' institute he set forth that in an early day the country for a hundred miles south of Galena was sparsely settled, while the southern part of the state was quite well dotted with homes. Every spring many people would go to Galena to work in the mines in that region, returning in the fall, this practice being kept up a good many years. This was the north in the river did. They came north in the spring, and went down stream when the fall rains appeared. Hence the name of suckers was applied to the people, and the name of Sucker to the state. This version was not accepted by all of the members of the institute. It aroused a warm argument, and the question is not yet decided. Who is authority on the subject?—Rockford (Ill.) Star.