

NEWS OF THE WEEK

General Resume of Important Events Throughout the World.

Commissioner Caminetti, of the immigration service, is reported about to resign.

Silas Christofferson succeeded in flying across the Coast range of mountains in California.

Mrs. Samuel Allen, widow of a lumberman and the wealthiest woman in the Hawaiian islands, is dead.

A New York commission finds that girls in candy factories in that city average about \$5 to \$6 weekly.

Theodore Low DeVinne, dean of printers and author of several books on types and their uses, is dead.

A head-on collision of railroad trains in Mississippi injured 60 persons, five of whom are not expected to live.

It is believed the immigration bill will be vetoed by President Wilson on account of the literacy test clause.

John J. Kennedy, treasurer of New York state, committed suicide. His books were found in perfect condition.

Blackmailing letters demanding \$10,000 on pain of death have been received by Henry W. Longfellow, II, a descendant of the poet.

The steamers Portland and General Hubbard, both en route from Los Angeles to Portland, collided in the Columbia river, but neither was disabled.

The sixteenth anniversary of the destruction of the Maine in Havana harbor was fittingly observed Feb. 16, by services at Arlington national cemetery.

A woman who declared she was starving held up another woman on the streets of Bridgeport, Conn. She told the officers who arrested her that she had eaten nothing for a week.

Witness in copper strike inquiry declares miners are not allowed to average more than \$75 per month, and are forced to work under such conditions that they do not last more than five or six years.

Retail prices of eggs in Pacific Coast markets fell 5 cents, and there are prospects of a further drop.

Operators of Colorado mines admit buying arms and machine guns for use of the guards during the recent strike.

The Court of Appeals of New York has decided that a woman with a baby cannot be allowed to teach school in that state.

Pendleton, Or., is waging war upon the cigarette in every possible way.

It is reported that the king of Bulgaria will visit the United States in April.

President Wilson was obliged to remain in bed several days on account of a bad cold.

The premier of Russia has resigned, and the czar is reported to be "on the water wagon."

An American naval officer was fired on and slightly wounded by a Mexican on the streets of Vera Cruz.

The Prince of Wales, during his coming tour of the British possessions, will also travel extensively in the United States.

Five children—three boys and two girls—were born to Mrs. Bertha Drury, of Taylorville, Ky., wife of a Spencer county farmer. The girls died.

Two years' salary, \$5750, was voted by the senate to the widow of the late Dr. Thomas D. McClintic, of the public health service, who died from spotted fever while discovering a successful treatment.

PORTLAND MARKETS

Wheat—Track prices: Club, 88¢; 88¢; bluestem, 97¢@98¢; forty-fold, 89¢; red Russian, 87¢; valley, 89¢.
Oats—No. 1 white, milling, \$24@25 ton.
Corn—Whole, \$35; cracked, \$36 ton.
Barley—Feed, \$22.50@23 ton; brewing, \$24; rolled, \$25.
Hay—No. 1 Eastern Oregon timothy, \$16.50; mixed timothy, \$14; alfalfa, \$14; clover, \$9@10; valley, grain hay, \$12@13.50.
Millfeed—Bran, \$21.50 ton; shorts, \$23.50; middlings, \$29@30.
Vegetables—Cauliflower, \$2.25 crate; eggplant, 10¢@15¢ pound; peppers, 10¢@12¢; garlic, 12¢; sprouts, 8¢@10¢; artichokes, \$2 dozen; squash, 1¢@1.25; celery, \$3.75 crate; hot-house lettuce, 50¢@75¢ box; spinach, 75¢@80¢ crate; horseradish, 8¢@10¢; cabbage, 2¢ pound; turnips, \$1 sack; carrots, \$1; parsnips, \$1; beets, \$1.
Green Fruit—Apples, 75¢@82.25 box; cranberries, \$12@12.50 barrel; pears, \$1@1.50.
Onions—Oregon, \$3.50 sack; buying price, \$3 sack at shipping points.
Potatoes—Oregon, 80¢@1 hundred, buying price, 60¢@90¢ at shipping points.
Eggs—Oregon fresh ranch, 35¢@36¢ dozen.
Poultry—Hens, 16¢@16.5¢; springs, 16¢@16.5¢; turkeys, live, 20¢@22¢; dressed, choice, 25¢@26¢; ducks, 14¢@18¢; geese, 12¢@13¢.
Butter—Creamery prints, extras, 35¢ pound; cubes, 32¢.
Pork—Fancy, 10¢ pound.
Veal—Fancy, 14¢@14.5¢ pound.
Hops—1913 crop, prime and choice, 18¢@19¢; 1914 contracts, 15¢.
Pelts—Dry, 10¢; dry short wool, 7¢; dry shearings, 10¢; green shearings, 10¢; salted lights, 60¢@75¢; salted heavy, 75¢@90¢.
Wool—Valley, 14¢@15¢; Eastern Oregon, 10¢@15¢; mohair, 1913 clip, 26¢ pound.
Cattle—Prime steers, \$7.25@8; choice, \$7@7.25; medium, \$6.75@7; choice cows, \$6.25@6.85; medium, \$6@6.25; heifers, \$6@6.75; light calves, \$5@9; heavy, \$6@7.75; bulls, \$4@5.75; steers, \$6@7.
Hogs—Light, \$7.50@8.60; heavy, \$6.50@7.60.
Sheep—Wethers, \$5@6; ewes, \$3.50@4.75; lambs, \$5@6.75.

Unfriendly Legislation Threatens Apple-Growing

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—If H. R. 9266 is enacted by the national congress, it will be an offense punishable by fine and imprisonment to keep apples in cold storage for more than 90 days and then ship them out of the state. If H. R. 9530 is enacted, it will be illegal to take from storage and then return them again to storage, either before or after interstate shipment. Both bills enumerate certain food products and then add, "also any other articles used for human food." Remedial amendments have been promised, but so far eggs only have been given more favorable terms.

High authorities in the apple business assert that the first of the proposed laws would ruin the industry and bankrupt producers from one side of the continent to the other. It would cause a glutted market in some seasons and a dearth and an apple famine for the remainder.

If re-storage is prevented it will greatly damage the apple business in many sections of the country. It would be illegal, for instance, to take apples from a cooler at Hood River and ship them to the great Eastern markets. All apples and pears, once put into cold storage with a temperature below forty degrees for a longer period than ten days, are branded as adulterated if shipped out of the state.

Northwest growers should write to their congressmen asking them to use their influence to have fruits exempted, said Professor C. I. Lewis, horticulturist of the college. "Since both bills threaten the fruit interests fruitmen should refer to both bills, preferably by number, in all correspondence regarding the proposed legislation. And they should do it at once."

Japanese War Talk Is All Jingo, Says Professor

Boston—"Talk of war between the United States and Japan has emanated from the Eastern part of America, not from Japan," Professor Sidney L. Gulick, of Doshisha University at Tokio, said before the Twentieth Century club in this city.

"I don't believe there will be any war," he added. "There are a few Japanese who say America will finally insist on war, and there is a 'yellow press' in Japan, just as there is in this country. But the Japanese earnestly desire the friendship of the United States, for they know they have foes at their back door, and, besides, Japan sells more goods to this country than to any other."

PERFECT BABY WEIGHS 2 POUNDS; 11 WEEKS OLD

Tacoma, Wash.—Florence Virginia Cole is a future voter of Washington here who is attracting much attention because at the age of 11 weeks she weighs only two pounds. The nurses say she is perfectly normal in every way and has not been sick at all in the weeks of her existence in the basket, surrounded by hot water bottles.

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Cole, of Oakland addition, and weighed 13 pounds at birth. It is possible to slip a finger ring over her hands and arms to the armpit. Full length of the baby at birth was 12 1/2 inches; at eight weeks, 15 1/2 inches.

Congress May Enact Laws Barring Hindus

Washington, D. C.—Representative Burnett, of Alabama, chairman of the house committee on immigration, has proposed that as a compromise on the Pacific Coast fight to exclude Japanese and all other Asiatics congress at this session would enact legislation to bar out the Hindus.

"Whether the immigration committee will go further than that I do not know," Mr. Burnett said, "but there is no gentleman's agreement or favored national arrangement with Great Britain so far as the Hindus are concerned. There ought to be prompt legislation to nip in the bud any steamship arrangements to bring on an extraordinary number of the Hindus, a project which the immigration bureau once discovered and foiled."

Travel By Coaster Idea

San Francisco—A roller coaster with plenty of seats is being considered as a means of transporting millions of visitors from the Ferry building, where North Coast and overland traffic end, to the Panama-Pacific exposition. It is announced officially here. The distance is perhaps a mile and a half. The project contemplates an endless platform, bearing gondolas or cars, starting 12 or more feet above ground and sliding down, with machinery to raise the belt from the foot of the incline to a new altitude.

Rescuer Dies in Flames

Minneapolis—One man lost his life and several others were injured in a fire that destroyed the six-story building occupied by the Northern Manufacturing company here. To save the life of a girl employed in his department, William P. Howe, 70 years old, a shipping clerk, after having himself been assisted outside the burning building, plunged back before he could be restrained, and was burned to death. Rose Schultz, for whom Howe lost his life, was carried down the stairs and only slightly injured.

Benefactor of Blind Dies.

Philadelphia—Dr. Robert C. C. Moon, widely known as a benefactor of the blind, died Monday from heart disease after an illness of 18 months. He was 70 years old. He continued the work of publishing books and charts for the blind from embossed type which was begun by his father, Dr. William Moon, of England.

King Thanks Carnegie.

Madrid—King Alfonso has sent an autographed portrait and a letter of thanks to Andrew Carnegie for the diploma cast, which Mr. Carnegie recently presented to the Madrid museum of natural history.

Industrial School Club Contests Are Planned

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—Club membership in the newly-organized industrial school club contests will be open to the classes of any Oregon boy or girl who is between the ages of fourteen and nineteen years on October 1, 1914, and has had less than five months training in domestic science, domestic art, or manual training, may become members of Class A. Those between the ages of ten and fourteen years at the time specified will be members of Class B. And those who have had more than five months' training in the foregoing subjects will constitute Class C.

The club winners contest at the state fair will be open only to the prize winners in classes A and B in county contests. The awards will be based upon the rules governing the respective club projects and will be made to the contestant scoring the highest general average in any club project.

Any boy or girl in Oregon who is enrolled in any club project and completed with the rules governing it, is eligible to enter the State Fair club project contest, regardless of having entered any other.

Any boy or girl in Oregon who enters an exhibit accompanied by a statement from parent or guardian certifying that the exhibit is actually produced by the entrant, is eligible to

enter the State Fair Juvenile Exhibit contest. Contestants may engage in more than one contest but are not allowed to enter the same work or exhibit for more than one prize in any club contest.

Girls and boys who are not able to enter school or county contests may compete in the project special contest or the juvenile exhibit contest, provided they have enrolled for any club project.

All contestants must be regularly enrolled on the special enrollment blanks provided. The blanks may be obtained from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Salem, from the State Agent of Club Work, Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, or from the teacher.

A club project is the particular kind of work in which a boy or girl engages. It is called a project from the fact that the work is so outlined that the club members can make rapid progress by first acquiring the knowledge and skill which distinguish efficient workmen from the untrained. By learning how to do these things and by doing them in the most practical, scientific and businesslike way, the members will discover at the close of the contest that they have gained knowledge and skill which are more valuable than any prize—knowledge, power and efficiency.

Lane County Pears Are All Taken By France

Eugene—An order for all available canned Lane county pears for shipment to France has been received by the Eugene Fruitgrowers' association, following the shipping, four months ago, of a carload of the goods. Not only are the cannery officials elated at the receipt of the order, but they are doubly so at the prospect of opening in Europe a market for the Lane county canned fruits.

"This opens the way for a very large business in canned fruit," said J. O. Holt, manager. "We are quoting prices to dealers in France, not only on pears, but on berries and cherries. The French people have been accustomed to buy California canned fruits, but they are learning that the Oregon fruits are better."

The fruits and berries on which

we have been quoting prices are of the highest grades, and are sold f. o. b. Eugene. In spite of the high freight charges, we are able to book the orders, and with the opening of the Panama canal, and the reduction of probably one-half of the freight cost, we should be able to book large orders in Europe, for then we will be able to deliver our goods on the eastern side of the Atlantic as cheaply as at New York."

The Eugene Fruitgrowers' association last year sold \$20,000 worth of prunes in London alone, and shipments to Europe were made to points in Holland and Sweden.

The Eastern broker for the Eugene cannery is now booking orders for canned fruits and vegetables for delivery in the fall of 1914.

Wool Man Optimistic As to Future Outlook

Pendleton—"Statistically, wool is in a stronger position today than it has been for a number of years," says Dr. S. W. McClure, secretary of the National Woolgrowers association. The statement was made in a letter received by State Senator Burgess and which the national secretary requested Mr. Burgess to spread the hopeful tidings among local growers of wool. Dr. McClure says:

"My advices from Boston are to the effect that the market has been practically cleaned up here and abroad. In London the January sales closed stronger than they have at any time in the last 12 months. American buyers bought considerable quantities. Since the sale has closed, wool continues to advance. Statistically wool is in a stronger position today than at any time for years.

"About January 20, Eastern wool buyers began contracting wool in Utah and Idaho. Already \$9,000,000 pounds have been contracted at prices the same as last year and in some cases a half cent higher; 16¢ cents has been paid for Soda Springs wool and 16 cents for Utah. I am unable, of course, to predict the future course in prices, but I believe that these facts should be given to your wool-growers."

Grants Pass Approves City Bonds for Railroad

Grants Pass—At a special city election held last night the issuance of railroad bonds in the sum of \$200,000, to be used in building and equipping the 10-mile line to Wilderville. The bonds are said virtually to have been sold to Keeler Bros., of Denver.

Much encouragement is felt here, as the municipal road will stimulate trade between this city and Illinois valley.

Dr. J. F. Reddy says as soon as the municipal unit is finished and equipped capitalists will be on hand to build the remainder of the line to Illinois valley, tapping 30,000 acres of land which is under gravity irrigation.

O. W. R. & N. Buying Land.

Pendleton—Ellsworth Benham, of Portland, representing the O. W. R. & N. Co., has arrived at Standfield and at once began buying land for the right of way of the proposed Coyote cut-off. This action apparently confirms the report which has been current for the past few days that the railroad company expects to commence operations this spring. The proposed line connects with the present line at Standfield on the east and Coyote on the west, shortening the road eight miles.

Wool Buyer Now Out.

Pendleton—According to reports received by local sheepmen, R. F. Bickwell, a buyer of sheep and wool, is now in Morrow county endeavoring to contract for the 1914 clip at prices approximately 2 cents in advance of those paid last year. According to these reports some sales have been made, but most of the growers are refusing to contract. Bert Smith, of the J. E. Smith Livestock company, said local growers sold their wool last season at least 2 cents too low.

Bunny Scars Poison Bait.

Pendleton—Ray T. Jackson, a representative of the bureau of biological survey, who has been in Umatilla County for several days in an effort to assist farmers in ridding their fields of jackrabbits, reports poor success. His specialty is feeding poisoned wheat, and he finds the rabbits of this part of the county prefer the green feed, which is to be had in abundance, to the poisoned grain which he has scattered about.

GOING SOME



A ROMANCE OF STRENUOUS AFFECTION BY REX BEACH SUGGESTED BY THE PLAY BY REX BEACH AND PAUL ARMSTRONG Illustrated by Edgar Bert Smith

CHAPTER VII—continued.
"No, indeed," Jean corrected, "he will merely use this room to train in."
"How do you train in a room?" Stover asked her.
"Why, you—just train, I suppose," Miss Chapin turned to Glass. "How does a person train in a room?"
"Why, he—just trains, that's all. A guy can't train without training quarters, can he?"
"We thought it would make a nice gymnasium," offered Miss Blake.
"Looks like business," Stover's admiration was keen. "I rode over to Gallagher's place last night and laid out my bets."
"How much have you wagered?" asked Fresno.
"More'n we can afford to lose."
"But you aren't going to lose," Miss Blake said, enthusiastically.
"I got Gallagher to play some records for me."
"Sillas on Fifth Avenue?"
"Sure! And 'The Holy City,' too! Willie stilled out by the bar-b-wire fence; he didn't daat to go in. When I come out I found him ready to cry. That desperado has sure got the heart of a woman. I reckon he'd commit murder for that photograph—he's so full of sentiment."
Fresno spoke sympathetically. "It's a fortunate thing for you fellows that Speed came when he did. I'm anxious for him to beat this cook, and I hate to see him so careless with his training."
"Careless," cried Helen.
"What's he done?" inquired Stover.
"Nothing, so far. That's the trouble. He's sure he can win, but—Fresno shook his head, doubtfully—"there's such a thing as overconfidence. No matter how good a man may be, he should take care of himself."
"What's wrong with his training?" demanded Glass.
"I think he ought to have more rest. It's too noisy around the house; he can't get enough sleep."
"Nor anybody else," agreed Glass, meaningly; "there's too much singing!"
"That's funny," said Stover. "Music soothes me, no matter how bad it is. Last night when we came back from the Centipede Mr. Fresno was singing 'Dearie,' but I dozed right off in the middle of it. An' it's the same way with cattle. They like it. It's part

of a man's duty when he's night-riding a herd to plizen the atmosphere with melody."
"We can't afford to spoil Speed's chances," argued the young man. "There is too much at stake. Am I right, Mr. Glass?"
"Now, like most fat men, Lawrence Glass was fond of his rest, and since his arrival at the Flying Heart his sleeping hours had been shortened considerably, so for once he agreed with the Californian.
"No question about it," said he. "And I'll sleep here with him if you'll put a couple of cots in the place."
"But suppose Mr. Speed won't do it?" questioned Miss Blake.
"You ask him, and he won't refuse," said Jean.
"We don't want to see him defeated," urged Helen's other suitor; at which the girl rose, saying doubtfully:

"Of course I'll do my best, if you think it's really important."
"Thank you," said Stover gratefully, while Fresno congratulated himself upon an easy victory.
The two girls took Speed's trainer with them, and went forth in search of the young man.
"It's up to you fellows to see that he gets to bed early," said Fresno, when he and Stover were alone.
"Leave it to us. And as for getting up, we turn out at daylight. I don't reckon he could sleep none after that if he tried." Stover pointed to the striped elastic coils of the exerciser against the wall. "I didn't want to speak about it while they were here," said he, "but one of them young ladies lost her garters, that's a chest-weight."
"Just wait for what?"
"Chest-weight—chest-developer."
"Oh!" Stover examined the device curiously. "I thought a chest-developer came in a bottle."
"Shower—I didn't order a shower-bath!"
"No; but we aim to make it pleasant for you as we can."
"If there is anything I abhor, it's a shower-bath!" exclaimed the athlete.
"You just got to have one. Mr. Fresno said all this gymnasium lacked

ond, a mandolin has proved to be many a young man's ruin."
Glass examined the bow of ribbon upon the lonesome piece of exercising apparatus.
"It looks like the trainin'-stable for the Colonial Dames. What a yelp this place would be to Covington or any other athlete."
"It is not an athletic gymnasium." Speed smiled as he lit a cigarette.
"It is a romantic gymnasium. As Socrates once observed—"
"Socrates? I'm hep to him," Glass interrupted, quickly. "I trained a Greek professor once and got wised up on all that stuff. Socrates was the Hemlock Kid."
"Exactly! As Socrates, the Hemlock Kid, deftly put it, 'In hoc signaturis vintage.'
"I don't get you."
"That is archaic Scandinavian, and, translated, means, 'Love cannot thrive without her bower.'"
"No answer to that telegram yet, eh?"
"Hardly time."
"Better wire Covington again, hadn't you? Maybe he didn't get it?"
"I promised Mrs. Keap that I would, but—" Speed lost himself abruptly in speculation, for he did not know exactly how to manage this unexpected complication. Of one thing only was he certain; it would require some thought.

"Say, Wally, suppose Covington don't come?"
"Then I shall sprain my ankle," said the other. "Hello! What in the world—"
Still Bill Stover and Willie came into the room carrying an armful of lumber. Behind them followed Carara with a huge wooden tub, and Cloudy rolling a kerosene barrel.
"Where do you want it, gents?" inquired the foreman.
"Where do we want what?"
"The shower-bath."
"Shower—I didn't order a shower-bath!"
"No; but we aim to make it pleasant for you as we can."
"If there is anything I abhor, it's a shower-bath!" exclaimed the athlete.
"You just got to have one. Mr. Fresno said all this gymnasium lacked

was a shower-bath, a pair of scales, and a bulletin board. He said you'd sure need a bath after workin' that chest-developer. We ain't got no scales, nor no board, but we'll toggle up some sort of a bath for you. The blacksmith's makin' a squitter to go on the bar!"
"Very well, put it wherever you wish. I shan't use it. He said you'd sure wouldn't overlook nothin', if I was you," said Willie, in even milder tones that Stover had used.
"You overwhelm me with these little attentions," retorted Mr. Speed.
"Where you goin' to run today?" inquired the first speaker.
"I don't know. Why?"
"We thought you might do a hundred yards again time."
"Nix!" interposed Glass, hurriedly. "I can't let him overdo at the start. Besides, we ain't got no stop-watch."
"I got a reg'lar watch," said Willie, "and I can catch you pretty close. We'd admire to see you travel some, Mr. Speed."
But Glass vowed that he was in charge of his protegee's health, and would not permit it. Once outside, however, he exclaimed: "That's more of Fresno's work, Wally! I tell you, he's Jerry. He'll bring them pirates to clock you, and if they do—well, you'd better keep runnin', that's all."
"You can do me a favor," said Speed. "Buy that watch."
"There's other watches on the farm."
"Buy them all, and bring me the bill."

Before setting out on his daily grind, Speed announced to his trainer that he had decided to take him along for company, and when that corpulent gentleman rebelled on the ground that the day was too sultry, his employer would have none of it, so together they trotted away later in the morning, Speed in his silken suit, glass running flat-footed, and with great effort. But once safely hidden from view, they dropped into a walk, and selecting a favored resting place, paused. Speed lighted a cigarette, Glass produced a deck of cards from his pocket, and they played seven-up. Having covered five miles in this exhausting fashion, they returned to the ranch in time for luncheon. Both as heartily, for the exercise had agreed with them.

TWO OPINIONS AS TO MERIT

"What did you think of her?"
"Oh, she was positively nil. She couldn't sing or dance and she was so bold that Mr. Hank and I were both disgusted as well as disappointed," came the ready criticism.
The topic changed and the bachelor excused himself to join the men in another room. His curiosity was aroused, and finding Mr. Blank's ears not

directly engaged, he singled him out for a chat.
"You saw Gaby Des Lys in London, did you not?" he began.
"Gaby?" responded Mr. Blank with a sudden impetus of interest. "Yes, I saw her in London and I sneaked off and saw her again in New York, too. She certainly is a peach!"
Some men are Johnny-on-the-spot when it comes to paying a grudge, but when it comes to paying the butcher and grocer—well, that's another story.



Carara Followed With a Huge Wooden Tub.

"What do you think?"
Stover mopped the sweat from his brow.
"Can't we time him with an ordinary watch?"
"Sure. We can take yours. It won't be exact, but—"
"I ain't got no watch. I bet mine last night at the Centipede. Willie's got one, though."
"Mind you, he may be all right," Fresno repeated, reassuringly; then hearing the object of their discussion approaching with his trainer, the two strolled out through the bunkroom, Stover a prey to a new-born suspicion, Fresno musing to himself that diplomacy was not a lost art.
"You're a fine friend, you are!" Speed exploded, when he and Glass were inside the gymnasium. "What made you say 'yes'?"
"I had to."
"Rot, Larry! You played into Fresno's hands deliberately! Now I've got to spend my evenings in bed while he sits in the hammock and sings 'Dearie.' He shook his head gloomily. "Who knows what may happen?"
"It will do you good to get some sleep, Wally."
"But I don't want to sleep!" cried the exasperated suitor. "I want to make love. Do you think I came all the way from New York to sleep? I can do that at Yale."
"Take it from me, Bo, you've got plenty of time to win that date. Eight hours is a workin' day anywhere." Glass chuckled. "The whole thing is a hit. Look at this joint, for instance." He took in their surroundings with a comprehensive gesture. "It looks about as much like a gymnasium as I look like a contortionist. Why don't you get a Morris chair and a mandolin?"
"There are two reasons," said Speed, facetiously. "First, it takes an athlete to get out of a Morris chair; and, second, if you go to see Gaby Des Lys while you were there?"
"We saw her in London," replied Mrs. Blank.
"What did you think of her?"
"Oh, she was positively nil. She couldn't sing or dance and she was so bold that Mr. Hank and I were both disgusted as well as disappointed," came the ready criticism.
The topic changed and the bachelor excused himself to join the men in another room. His curiosity was aroused, and finding Mr. Blank's ears not