

The Daily Mail

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A COLLECTION OF FLEAS.

It is the world's good fortune that we are not all touched with a genius for dreams. Happily the gift is not universal or none of us would remain to superintend the insignificant but essential practicalities of life. The late Nathaniel Rothschild, London banker was a dominant figure in finance but in the world of natural history he was an obscure laborer in the field of detail.

With almost unlimited wealth at his command he might have unearthed the remains of some mammoth dinosaur or sought to uncover sensational evidences of some hitherto unheard of race of men. Instead Mr. Rothschild concerned himself exclusively with one of the smallest details in the whole animal kingdom the elusive flea. The Rothschild collection of fleas of all races, colors and degrees of servitude has just been bequeathed to the British Museum where the acquisition is greeted with acclaim. The rare and valuable seal flea, fleas from the forbidden areas of Thibet, from Africa and the fastnesses of South American forests, are included in the populous assortment.

Mr. Rothschild therefore can be said to have insured lasting fame for himself through fleas. In this circumstance there must be great lessons of one sort or another; possibly that if one looks after the flea the dinosaur will take care of them selves, that it is the little things in life that count, or that a flea under glass in worth two under the vest. The lessons to be derived from Mr. Rothschild's labors must be about as numerous as the fleas. In addition to this value as a source of moral precept, curators of the British Museum say the collection is almost priceless in the field of research.

The latest return from the elections in the old government, shows that the Baldwin government which staked its existence on a policy of protection, will be in a minority of ninety in the next Parliament. Leading newspapers are calling on Premier Baldwin to resign and if he does that, is likely that another election will be held in the near future.

It must not be forgotten that while Halifax in the general election of 1921, returned two Liberals by 500 majority over the Conservatives the fight was a three cornered one. There was a Labor ticket in the field which polled upwards of four thousand votes. In the by-election of this week the bulk of the Labor vote went to the Conservative candidate.

For upwards of eighty years Great Britain has flourished under free trade and judging by the result of this weeks election the people have no intention of abandoning that policy.

Manchester, one of Great Britain's great manufacturing centres is still staunch for free trade. In the election of Thursday it returned the Liberal candidates by substantial majorities.

A dispatch says the mercury is 50 degrees below zero in the Yukon and "the Valley's warmest autumn is at an end." It does look as if it would be safe there now to take down the screens.

Halifax Chronicle: Are We downhearted? Not by a long shot. Liberals are always good losers. It is part of their creed.

It is an old adage that those who marry for money earn it, and for that matter the same can be said sometimes of marrying for love.

The latest and greatest discovery of Doc Cook is that if you are selling oil stock it is important to have a little oil.

A traveler returning from India says a waterfall there is five times as high as Niagara. But, probably no wetter.

By Jan. 1, says a dispatch, there will be 17,000,000 motor cars in the world. Start the New Year right, by looking both ways.

In the sentence, "A movie star's salary is a good thing while it lasts" emphasis should properly be laid on the closing words.

Sometimes an exiled monarch does not know whether to remain where he is and die on third or try to steal home and be shot at.

Another foreign film actress has arrived in Hollywood, and strangely enough she is not known as the Mary Pickford of her native country.

In the rush of shepping some folks forget all about the New Year's resolution.

Daily it becomes more difficult to get an adult past the window displays of toys.

What the temper of a base ball pitcher accused of having flogged a woman seems to need, is control.

The January thaw has come a month too soon.

The French may be great chefs, but see what Premier Poincare has cooked up.

This age, for some reason, seems to be more interested in the cave man than in the man of the future.

All the time he was running around over here, Lloyd George was running for premier over there.

Having more money than one knows what to do with amounts to possession of a single ruble.

A Missouri farmer grew a pumpkin weighing 70 pounds. How many pies did it make?

Persons who think Santa Claus is a myth should look at the stubs in Dad's checkbook.

If you have money enough the fashion today is to marry in haste and repent in Paris.

Some of the anthracite fields, it is said, will be exhausted in 50 years. The consumer is that way now.

Prohibition continues to cause a lot of ferment.

France, there she stands—in everybody's way.

THROUGH OUR SIEVE

People marry for better or for divorce.

A small salary means humility and humility is a preventive of artistic temperament.

"It is the pursuit of happiness" remarked the Man on the Car "that makes us happy."

Personally we don't care how many carloads of German marks it takes to purchase a stein of beer.

Californians must get tired of saying "good morning" to every nice day.

Fine feathers make fine birds is an old saying. But a turkey looks pretty good without any feathers.

"Are you becoming a grouch?" asks a doctor. Not today; but we hope he won't ask the same question tomorrow.

It is not astonishing to hear that in the South Sea Islands the neighbor women arrange for all marriages. The neighbor women of this land of the free would like to.

It ought to be easy to sell life insurance to the man who told the girl before marriage he would die for her if necessary but hoped the emergency would not arise.

Alexanders weeping for more world's to conquer may have been explained by Alexander's well-known convivial habits. F. H. Collier, St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

We have always maintained that he had a crying jag.

SAVED BABY'S LIFE

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DIAMOND HEN WAS RELEASED FROM CUSTODY

Boston, Dec. 7.—The blue orpington hen that pecked a diamond valued at \$250 from the ring of William J. Hennessey of 67 North Market st., Boston, at the show of the Eastern Massachusetts Poultry and Pigeon Association in Congress Hall last evening was released from custody yesterday after spending a night in cell 7 in the Chelsea police station and is back in the show.

The hen, who has suddenly achieved fame, is still the center of controversy between the owner of the diamond and the owner of the hen. John Strom of 53 Ash st., Somerville has signed a contract not to take the bird out of the show till Saturday evening and the bird is in the custody of Pres. Lloyd H. Chase of the association until then.

The case was presented to Judge Albert D. Bosson of the Chelsea Court yesterday by patrolman Edward Isbister of the Chelsea police and Pres. Chase. The court ruled that the hen could not be found guilty of larceny and that there was nothing that the court could do about the matter as nothing criminal had been done by anybody.

He suggested that Mr. Strom, the owner of the hen, might accept Mr. Hennessey's offer of \$25 for the bird and Pres. Chase told Judge Bosson that he would make such a suggestion to Mr. Strom. Neither Strom nor Hennessey were present at the discussion which took place in the judge's lobby. Pres. Chase then took the hen back to the poultry show, where she will remain to await further developments.

Mr. Hennessey says the bird is literally "wearing" the diamond, because it will be used as part of the grinding material in her gizzard. He fears the stone will have to be recut.

REPORT OF DEATH WAS PREMATURE

Washington, Dec. 8.—A report that ex-President Wilson was dead, which emanated from a news ticker Friday and was promptly and emphatically denied, was revived again last night. Inquiry at the Wilson home today elicited the information that the former Chief Executive was "as fine as ever" and had just returned from a two-hour ride.

Rear Admiral Cary T. Grayson, physician to Mr. Wilson, said there was no more foundation for this report than for the many similar reports which have preceded it.

Mr. Michael McDade of St. John is a guest at the Barker House.

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