

THURSDAY, DEC. 8, 1898.

THE HOUSEHOLDER VOTE.

What is the meaning of the expression "rent value" in the section providing for what is called the householder vote? The validity of many recent registrations turns upon the answer to this question.

It is evident at first reading that there will be a great diversity of opinion as to what these words mean. It would not be easy to employ words of lesser significance. Undoubtedly a person who occupies a room and pays \$5 per month for a full year comes within the scope of the section.

It is a happy thought on the part of the E. & N. company to send the City of Nanaimo on an excursion to Texada Island. The result is that the attention of the public has been drawn to that very interesting locality as never before.

The matter seems to stand, the individual conscience of the person registering appears to be the only court to which there can be an appeal, unless the mayor is restrained from certifying to the list as a whole and thereby disqualifying those persons who are legally entitled to be upon it.

A MINING RUSH.

According to a Spokane mining man, a great mining rush is due next year. He says that these rushes come every ten years, and therefore says with the years ending with a 9. Thus the first great California rush was in 1849.

Perhaps some of the so-called ten-year rushes may be a little far-fetched, or rather there have been other rushes between the years mentioned quite equal to those which are claimed to support the proposition of a nine-year cycle; but there is evidence enough that next year will be the scene of an extraordinary activity in mining, especially in the Pacific Northwest.

We believe in the old doctrine of never prophesying unless you know, and so will not venture to foretell anything for 1899; but unless all signs fail, it will be a year of unprecedented activity, when the foundation of many a fortune will be laid, and the Pacific Northwest will receive an unprecedented impetus to prosperity.

The President's message read at the opening of congress on Monday is in no sense a startling document, but the occasion was hardly one that called for a very strong reprobation of the new issues with which the United States is confronted.

A STUMBLING BLOCK TO ENTERPRISE.

We reprint from the Kootenain a reference to the manner in which the Kootenay lake sawmill owners have been treated by the government in regard to an application for some timber limits. The policy which the government has seen fit to adopt is beyond reasonable explanation.

TEXADA ISLAND.

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THE JAMES BAY BRIDGE.

City Engineer Wilnot has acted wisely in urging upon the city council the imperative necessity of taking action in regard to James Bay bridge. He is also right, we think, in urging that the reclamation of the tide flats shall be taken into consideration in any plan that may be adopted.

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GAOL PHYSICIANS.

The action of the government, in abolishing the fixed allowance to physicians attending upon the inmates of the local prisons, and substituting payment by fees, cannot be defended on the score of economy, for no one can tell in advance whether or not any money will be saved thereby.

CONCERNING CORONERS.

Admitting everything that can be alleged as to the more frequent holding of inquests than might be absolutely necessary, the fact remains that it is better to have a few needless inquests than to have the coroners deterred from holding them when they are required in the public interest.

ALIENS ON CANADIAN CRAFT.

The Colonist has already directed attention to the presence last year of many American masters, mates, engineers and others, on the steamships plying upon the waters of the Upper Yukon. Some of the steamboats on those waters were owned and operated wholly by citizens of the United States.

OUR FARMING LANDS.

Mr. R. E. Gosnell, in his interesting letter upon colonization printed in Sunday's Colonist, puts a query after the expression "vast areas of fertile land" used by this province editorially in reference to this province. The query is well placed, because "vast areas" was not meant, the idea which the Colonist wished to convey being that there is a vast area of fertile land in this province.

A SHORT-LIVED GOVERNMENT.

Sixty days ago there was a very confident feeling among the friends of the Semlin government as to the future. Thirty days ago the signs of weakness began to make themselves evident. Twenty days ago the signs of weakness began to make themselves evident.

CANADIAN SENTIMENT.

Senator Carter of Montana has been talking about the annexation of Canada to the United States and he speaks about the Great Britain's interest in the Dominion as being merely a military one. This he thinks could be arranged by a treaty between the United States and the Mother Country, giving the latter the right to convey her troops across the continent at any time, and this he seems to feel effectually disposes of the only serious objection that exists to annexation.

Finance Minister Cotton refers to his predecessors in office as "a coterie of incapables." This is interesting only inasmuch as it shows that the Finance Minister's ideas of political courtesy are not very high.

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KIDNEY-SICK PEOPLE!

By far the largest army of sufferers in the world are the kidney-sick people—but by far the largest army of the cured are those who have taken South American Kidney Cure.



Kidney diseases are the most insidious of all diseases common to humanity; within the past few years medical science has made wonderful strides in coping with its ravages. South American Kidney Cure has proved rich in healing power, and every day testimony is piled up for its great curative qualities.

Good News from the North Country—A young machinist in a large manufacturing concern in Northern Ontario, fell a victim to the dropsical form of kidney disease through atmospheric changes in his climate.

SOUTH AMERICAN REMEDY—Cures indigestion and all stomach troubles which are forerunners of nervous collapse.

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Advertisement for B. Williams & Co. featuring Overcoats, Mackintoshes, and Winter Suits. Includes the text 'HIGH-CLASS' and 'B. WILLIAMS & CO. Clothiers, Hatters and Outfitters'.

DEWEY MAKE

Advertisement for Dewey Make products including Nuts, Figs, Dates, Sugar, and Owl Milk. Includes the text 'An impression on you with our fine assortment of goods?' and 'Sweet Apple Cider Fresh from the press'.

DIXIE H. ROSS & CO.

Why Certainly....

Advertisement for Elephant Brand Ready Mixed Paint. Includes the text 'Easily knocks out all comers. It has held the championship of the world for nearly 50 years.' and 'The Leader, the Winner, the first, and Best'.

Canada Paint Co'y LIMITED

The Largest Paint, Color and Varnish Factory in Canada. MONTREAL, TORONTO, ST. MALO, ST. JOHNS, VANCOUVER AND VICTORIA.

TEXADA.

It has not probably occurred to many people that Texada Island is making good a showing in the way of plants in operation as Rossland did three years ago. It is the case nevertheless.

There is a growing feeling among the friends of the government that the date of its dissolution is very near at hand. The government cannot hope to meet the house with more than nineteen supporters and several of these have no particular love for it.

AN ADVENTURE

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