

## Northwestern News and Information.

**O. R. & N. EXTENSION.**—Right of way is now being secured for a branch line of the O. R. & N. Co., to run from Prescott, between Walla Walla and Waitsburg, to the celebrated Eureka Flat wheat fields, a distance of fifteen miles. It is understood that the branch will be at once constructed.

**SPOKANE AND PALOUSE RAILROAD.**—Surveys for the extension of this feeder of the Northern Pacific have been made, running from Belmont, W. T., to Genesee, Idaho, and passing through Garfield, Palouse City, Pullman, Colton and Uniontown. This will take it to within a few miles of Lewiston, Idaho.

**CANNERY AT THE DALLES.**—There will be a cannery, costing \$50,000.00, erected early in the spring, at The Dalles. During the salmon season the cannery will be engaged in putting up fish. When the season closes it will work on vegetables and fruit, thus keeping busy a large portion of the year. This industry will be quite an addition to the city's business.

**TACOMA STREET RAILWAY.**—Nelson Bennett, the well-known railroad contractor, and a number of other gentlemen, have been granted the right to construct a street railway in the city of Tacoma. The franchise will be invalid unless work is commenced within four months. Thus will another metropolitan feature be added to Tacoma. A new shingle mill will soon be added to the industries of that city.

**THE OREGON PACIFIC.**—The railroad bridge across the Willamette at Albany has been completed, and trains of the Oregon Pacific now run from that city to Yaquina. Contract for grading thirty miles of road bed east of Albany has been let, and the officers of the company state that the work of construction across the Cascades will be pushed vigorously. The road is now in a position to give an outlet to the San Francisco market for a large portion of the Willamette valley.

**RAILROAD TO JACKSONVILLE.**—The citizens of Jacksonville, Or., have opened a subscription book for the purpose of raising \$25,000.00 capital stock for the Jacksonville branch of the Oregon & California Railroad, to run from that city to the main line, a distance of four and one-half miles. This is a necessary step for the business men of that city. The Rogue river country is making rapid progress, and Jacksonville can no longer afford to be deprived of railroad facilities.

**PUGET SOUND POTATOES.**—The potato crop of Puget sound is always a large one. The potato is cultivated on the largest scale on the rich, high prairie lands of Whidby island, where the tubers are planted early in January. The rainfall is much less there than at other points on the sound, and as the ground does not freeze this early planting produces an early and prolific crop. The yield on Whidby island is enormous, both in the number of bushels per acre and the total crop.

**SPRAGUE AND BIG BEND.**—Citizens of Sprague, W. T., have incorporated the Sprague & Big Bend Railroad Co., with a capital stock of \$100,000.00, for the purpose of building a railroad from Sprague into the rich agricultural region to the westward. The Big Bend country has made rapid progress in settlement during the past three years, and it is only a question of a year or two when one or more railroads will penetrate it. A preliminary survey for the proposed line will be made at once.

**PINE CREEK MINES.**—The new mines of Eastern Oregon are attracting considerable attention in Denver, Louisville and other cities. The basin mines in the Pine creek district, with the exception of the Red Boy, have been sold to Denver capitalists for \$60,000.00. Machinery for development will be put up in the spring. The famous Red Jacket has also been sold for a large amount to Denver parties. Snow is now ten feet deep, and as it does not disappear un-