

Northwestern News and Information.

N. P. SNOW SHEDS.—Work is progressing rapidly on the snow sheds of the Northern Pacific east of the Cascades. The contractors are Glenn, Bonzey & Co., who will use nearly five million feet of lumber in the work.

IDAHO PLACERS.—The Moose creek placer mines, sixteen miles from Salmon City, Idaho, have been bonded for \$250,000.00, to an Eastern company. When the transfer is made, the mines will be opened on a large scale.

A COEUR D'ALENE NUGGET.—A nugget of gold was recently found near Murray, Idaho, weighing a little more than thirty-three ounces, and valued at \$530.00. This is four ounces heavier than the largest previously found in the Coeur d'Alene placers.

ALBANY IMPROVEMENTS.—Work on the Oregon Pacific round-house, at Albany, Oregon, has been commenced. It will be built of brick, will contain eight engine stalls, and will cost \$12,000.00. Work on the machine shops will be the next undertaken by the company. A project is on foot to establish woolen mills at Albany, with every prospect of success.

POND LILLIES.—The large white pond lilies, that are so much admired, have about all disappeared, and in their place comes the lotus flower, somewhat similar, only larger and of a rich cream color. It is said that the only region in the West where these flowers are found, is in the Mississippi valley, between Dubuque and St. Paul, and then in but few places.—*De Soto Chronicle.*

PARALLEL RAILROADS.—The Montana Central, which is a link in the Manitoba system, is constructing a line from Helena to Butte. A branch of the Northern Pacific is also being constructed between those two cities. Both lines have progressed to Boulder, at which point the tracks are but fifty feet apart. Between Boulder and Butte, the surveyed lines cross each other several times. The fight between the Northern Pacific and the new company, as revealed in projected roads, will lead to several

similar instances of paralleling lines, a notable one being the Northern and Manitoba, between Helena and Fort Benton.

BAKER CITY RAILROAD.—The preliminary survey of a route for the proposed railroad from Baker City to Granite creek has been commenced. The beginning of this work indicates that the incorporators of the company are in earnest in the matter. The road would be of great benefit to Baker City, and to Portland as well, if the large reduction works, so much talked of, are ever erected.

VANCOUVER TO YAKIMA.—A preliminary reconnaissance has been made of a route from Vancouver to Goldendale and Yakima, for the Vancouver, Klickitat & Yakima R. R. Co. The party went through Klickitat pass, and encountered no serious obstacle to the construction of a railroad. The line passes through a splendid agricultural, timber, coal and stock region, and if built, will be a valuable one.

SEATTLE, L. S. & E. RAILROAD.—The ship *Persian* has arrived at Seattle, from England, with a cargo of two thousand and seventy steel rails for the Seattle, Lake Shore & Eastern. Track laying will be pushed rapidly ahead. The company declares its intention of penetrating Eastern Washington next summer, and is negotiating with the people of Walla Walla for a bonus for a line to that city.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE COAL.—The coal property of W. A. Robertson & Co., situated in Yaquon valley, on the Queen Charlotte islands, has been bonded for ninety days for \$110,000.00. An expert will examine the property, and the sale will depend upon his report. These islands are on the coast of British Columbia, just south of the Alaskan line, and the superior quality of the coal found there has often been asserted by explorers.

GOLD QUARTZ IN THE CASCADES.—Three residents of Brownsville, Oregon, recently discovered a ledge of gold quartz on the western slope of the Cascade mountains, between the Cali-