

The officers of the new company are well-known citizens of Spokane Falls. F. Post is president, W. A. Cannon, vice president, Geo. A. Manning, secretary, and W. D. Palmer, treasurer.

BRICK FOR PORTLAND.—Last year the brick manufacturers of Portland made nine million brick, which were all consumed in the building operations in the city. This year they announce that twenty million will be made, but so extensive are the preparations being made for the erection of new buildings, that it is extremely doubtful if even that great quantity will be sufficient. At \$7.00 per thousand, this would represent \$140,000.00 as the cost of the brick alone which will go into new buildings. Some very handsome business blocks are now in process of erection, and many others will be commenced as soon as the brick makers can provide a supply of that necessary material.

BILLINGS ENTERPRISES.—The completion of the Rocky Fork railroad to the coal mines has naturally had a most enlivening effect in Billings, and the prospects of a road from that point to Fort Benton, as well as one southward to the Union Pacific, inspire the citizens with life and energy. A large flouring mill is being erected, and will be so arranged that its capacity can be easily increased as soon as the demand for its products will warrant. A wool scouring mill is another new feature which will be ready to handle this season's clip. A larger acreage of grain is being sowed this season than ever before in the Yellowstone valley.

WATER POWER FOR THE DALLES.—A survey is soon to be made from The Dalles, Oregon, to the Deschutes river, to ascertain the feasibility of leading a canal from that stream to supply water service and power in the city. It is estimated that a ditch to convey sufficient water for city consumption and to furnish two thousand horse power will cost \$100,000.00, and it is understood that a private company is projecting this enterprise. The Dalles now has a water service for the lower part of the town, supplied from a reservoir on the bluff, but more extensive service is desired.

TO INVESTIGATE THE ARID REGION.—The bill allowing \$250,000.00 for the purpose of investigating the extent to which the arid region of the United States can be redeemed by irrigation, and for the selection of places for reservoirs and other hydraulic works necessary for the storage and utilization of water for irrigation, has become a law. The investigation is to be conducted by a joint committee, of which Senators Plumb, of Kansas, and Stewart, of Nevada, will be members. The committee is to visit the arid regions this spring, summer and fall, and present its report to congress next December.

SEMINARY FOR CENTRALIA.—The town of Centralia, Wash., is to have an educational institution to be known as Grace seminary, to cost \$10,000.00. The Northwest Baptist Convention made the proposition for building and maintaining such an institution, and the citizens have gone vigorously at work to comply with the terms of the proposition. More new buildings are being constructed in Centralia this season, in proportion to the number of its inhabitants, than in any other town in the northwest. It is progressing with rapid strides.

Klickitat & Colville Railroad.—About twenty of the leading business men of Goldendale, W. T., have adopted articles of incorporation of the Klickitat & Colville railway, having a capital stock of \$10,000,000.00. The object is to build a road from some point on the Columbia river between Kalama and Columbus, in an easterly direction, crossing the Northern Pacific at some point between North Yakima and Pasco Junction, thence in a northeasterly direction, terminating in the vicinity of Colville. Directors were chosen and the company organized for business.

ANOTHER BIG MILL ON THE SOUND.—Eastern capitalists are figuring for the construction of a saw mill, to cost about \$500,000.00, at some point on Puget sound between Seattle and Tacoma, probably at Quartermaster harbor, which is a bay indenting the southern coast of Maury and Vashon island. This bay only lacks about thirteen hundred feet of reaching through the island, and it is proposed to cut a canal that distance to connect with the main channel of Admiralty inlet, and afford a direct route to Seattle, as well as the present course to Tacoma through the bay.

CONDITION OF MONTANA SHEEP.—Advices from Northern Montana state that the condition of sheep and wool there was never better at this season of the year. The winter has been peculiarly favorable for both. The animals have almost entirely picked their own living and are in good flesh and health. The losses this year have been inconsiderable. The wool crop will be the best ever raised in the territory. The first of March green grass appeared on the ranges, and stock finds plenty of water in the open streams.

THE GRAY'S HARBOR TERMINUS.—It is announced that the syndicate of capitalists who are to build a railroad to Gray's harbor has purchased twenty-one thousand acres of land on the harbor, stretching along the water front from one to five miles below Hoquiam. It is understood that the railway terminus will be at that point and a large city built there. At high tide there is not less than thirty feet of water at any point between the proposed terminus and the ocean.

WAGON ROADS FOR IDAHO.—The recent session of the Idaho legislature appropriated \$50,000.00 for building a road over the mountains between Clearwater basin and the southern portion of the territory. There is great rejoicing over the fact in Northern Idaho. Congress will now be petitioned for an appropriation to build a road over the Bitter Root mountains.

MASONIC TEMPLE FOR COLFAX.—The Masonic Temple Association, of Whitman county, organized last year with a capital stock of \$3,000.00 is about to erect the structure for which it was organized. Ground in a central location has been obtained and the work on the building will soon be commenced.

ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY.—The Skagit Lumber and Development Co. has filed articles of incorporation for the purpose of doing a general coal and iron mining business in Skagit county, Washington. The capital stock is \$5,000,000.00, divided into two hundred thousand shares.