

News comes from Quebec that the Northern Pacific is negotiating with the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec for aid in constructing a short line across them from Sault Ste. Marie to Quebec, which would give it a line 160 miles shorter than the Canadian Pacific, as well as access to the Atlantic coast cities independent of the American lines now connecting with it at Chicago. If this be done it will be the boldest move in the railroad game yet made, and will make a really trans-continental line out of the Northern, a distinction now only enjoyed by the Canadian. As the latter is backed by the dominion government, no aid is expected from that source in this invasion of its territory, but the provincial governments of Ontario and Quebec are free to do as they choose, and as the new road would be of incalculable benefit to those provinces, there is little question about their willingness to render what aid then can. As each province owns great tracts of unoccupied land, a valuable land grant will probably be made. The Canadian Pacific's monopoly seems to have been badly encroached upon the past two years. Attorney McNaught denies that there is any such scheme on foot, and says that he and President Oakes were in Quebec to secure a "salmon fishery," and that the Northern Pacific will confine its attention to building new lines in the northwest and Manitoba; but denials of this kind are looked for as a matter of course, and as the premier of Quebec is authority for the original statement, the denial of Mr. McNaught has but little weight. The scheme may never come to an issue, but there is little doubt that it has been broached and is under consideration.

Corvallis has aroused herself and has put her foot firmly in the path of progress. A meeting of citizens was recently held, at which three committees were appointed, one to look into the question of a branch line of the Oregon Pacific from Corvallis to Brownsville and from Corvallis to Eugene or Junction, one to see about the construction of a water ditch to the city for manufacturing purposes, and a third to report on measures for building a bridge across the Willamette. Any or all of these projects would be of vast benefit to the city if carried to a successful issue. An electric light plant is now being put in and an ice factory is projected, a street railway company has been incorporated and many other improvements are on the boards.

It is announced that the delegates to the convention of American states now in session at Washington will visit the Pacific slope upon the completion of their deliberations. They recently made a tour of the eastern states lasting forty days, and were royally entertained. Now let our western cities prepare to receive them in a

manner creditable to ourselves and the nation. The relations between the states of the Pacific coast and the nations of Central and South America are going to be very close and the interchange of traffic large in a few years, and nothing will stimulate it better than giving these representative men a correct idea of our great resources and ability to supply things they need. When the canal across Nicaragua is completed many of those states now out of our reach will be brought into close communication, and now is the time to lay a foundation for the trade that will then spring up. This matter should be taken in hand by the various boards of trade in season to make suitable preparations for their coming.

It is with deep satisfaction that every honest American citizen receives the verdict of the Cronin jury. If it will only run the gauntlet of the supreme court as well as the anarchist cases, Chicago will have reason to feel proud of her ability to punish criminals in spite of the fact that unlimited money and great legal ability were combined to secure their release. If any man objects to the punishment of these men, be he Irish or otherwise, he is no true American nor true friend of Ireland and her suffering people. If there is any miscarriage of justice whatever, it is the failure to bring home the crime to the chief plotters in the conspiracy to "remove" the objectionable doctor.

Official dishonesty has met with at least a temporary check in Mormondom. Indictments have been returned by the grand jury against the mayor of Salt Lake City and a dozen other city and county officials, charging them with a wholesale plunder of the treasuries. The cry of religious persecution will no doubt be raised, but the fact that the Mormon church and civil officials have always considered themselves entitled to a "good living" out of the people is well known, and an effort to put an end to such a state of affairs is being made. Indictments, however, are easier to secure than convictions, and the culprits may escape their just deserts.

Doctors disagree in other things besides the proper method of giving their patients happy dispatch. At Olympia now the fight is over a state medical board, in which the "regulars" are trying to shut out the others. Orthodoxy in medicine is getting to be quite as absurd and dogmatic as in religion.

The Czar has refused to recognize the Brazilian republic. Never mind! One of these fine days a dynamiter will so work upon the Czar that Brazil will not recognize him, nor will anyone else, not even his own mother.