

Extensions and Better Roadbeds Are Completed

In Addition to New Construction, Development Programme In-cluded New Terminals and Ship Lines-Electrification Large.

dropped for at least the time being after the Pacific & Eastern had been extended to Butte Falls, 23.44 miles toward Bend.

A recent development of the Hill system has been the construction of ocean terminals at. Flavel, near the meuth of the Columbia, and the operation of a line of ocean steamers from its rails at this point to San Francisco.

Baltrond Competition Was Keen.

Railroad Competition Was Keen. But the Harriman forces were not quiescent while their territory was be-

ing raided from the north.

The strategy of the Union Pacific contemplated a counter invasion of the Hill system on Puget Sound. A truce eventually was made which provided for the double-tracking of the North-ern Pacific's line between Portland and

eventually was made which provided for the double-tracking of the Northern Pacific's line between Portland and Puget Sound and its use in common by the Union Pacific system and the two Hill lines, the Northern Pacific and Great Northern. The net result of the war was to bring the Great Northern and Northern Pacific into active competition with the Union Pacific system in Portland, the Willamette Vailey as far as Eugene, and in Central Oregon alons the Deschutzs, while the Union Pacific was given access to Puget Sound by way of Portland.

The plans of the Union Pacific and the Southern Pacific contemplated the building by the former of a line east and west through the center of Oregon, from Ontario up the Malheur River, through Harney Valley, to a point near Odell Laice, where a junction would be made with an extension of the Deschutes Railroad from Bend southward. In the meantime the Southern Pacific lines were to be extended from Weed, in California, northward to Klamath Falls and up the Klamath Lakes, while an extension from Natron, in Lane County, was to be made up the middle fork of the Williamette River, across the Cascade Mountains to meet the Klamath Falls line. The Malhour Valley, Deschutes and Weed-Natron line has been constructed in part; but the building of the remaining 40-mile gap through mountains has been deferred, apparently pending the determination of the suit by the United States to divorce the Central Facific and Southern Pacific systems. The Union Pacific has constructed 106.81 miles of the projected east and west line from Ontario to Riverside, and construction work is progressing on the 33.61 miles from Riverside to Crane Creek Gap, Harney County. County.

Roads Were Reconstructed.

Since the beginning of the year 1907, the O.-W. R. & N. Company and the Oregon Short Line, forming the local constituents of the Union Pacific Sysconstituents of the Union Pacific System, have been practically reconstructed throughout to accommodate heavier and faster traffic. Terminals have been reconstructed, heavier rail and bridges supplied throughout, rock ballast and automatic block signals installed, changes of line made to reduce curvature and grades, more and longer passing tracks built, and many miles of second track added; while rolling stock has constantly been increased in capacity. Besides, the Deschutes and Malheur Valley lines already mentioned, branches have been constructed by the Or-W. R. & N. Company. om Elgin to Joseph, in the rich Wallowa Valley; from the main line to Pilot Rock, in the wheat and wool section of Umatilla County; and by the short line from Vale to Brogan, from Nyssa to Homedale (both in the Malheur country) and down the Snake River from Huntington to Homestead.

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In the development of its terminals in Portland, and to permit access to the new Columbia River bridge, a tunnel was constructeds under the peninsula in Portland, and an extension made from St. Johns to Troutdate to afford a water grade for freight traffic. The fleet of the system has been strengthened by the addition of three steamers in Coastwise service between Portland and San Francisco.

Linea of S. P. Extended.

Lines of S. P. Extended. The Southern Pacific system has been greatly extended in Oregon during the past eight years—both by ac-quisition of small connecting inde-

ing the past eight years—both by acquisition of small connecting independent lines, and by the construction of new branches. The company absorbed the Corvallis & Eastern, the Pacific Railway & Navigation Company from Hillaboro to Tillamook; the Corvallis & Aisea Biver line from Corvallis & Aisea Biver line from Corvallis & Aisea Biver line from Corvallis to Monroe; the Sheridän & Williamina line, and the Salem, Falls City and Western from Black Rock to Salem. With the exception of the Corvallis & Eastern and 12 miles of the Salem, Falls City & Western, these were all roads recently constructed. The Oregon & California Railroad constructed the Salem-Geer, Springfield-Springfield Junction, and Crabtree-Lebanon lines. A subsidiary known as the Beaverton & Willisburg constructed a cut-off, 19.35 miles in length between the West Side and Yamhill divisions and the main line, which practically amounted to a belt line around the City of Portland. The main line and branches have been completely rehabilitated. An important betterment has been the complete electrification of the old Yamhill and West Side divisions between Portland and Whiteson, and of that portlan of the Beaverton-Willsburg cut-off between Beaverton and Cook. The long-deferred line to Coos Bay is so nearly completed that it may be included in this summary.

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The electrification of 106 miles of steam line of the Southern Pacific has been mentioned, as well as the con-struction of the electric systems of the been mentioned, as well as the construction of the electric systems of the United Railways and Oregon Electric railway companies. These lines, with the electric interurban lines of the Mount Hood Railway & Power Company, (acquired by Portland Railway, Light & Power Company, and added to its existing system) and the Portland & Oregon City Railway Company now constructing to Viola, Clackamas County; Kenton Traction Company, running to North Portland: Portland & Troutdale Electric, and Willamette Valley Southern, all radiate out from Portland and make the city a rival of Indianapolis as an interurban center.

A surprisingly large mileage has been constructed by independent lines. Construction of the narrow gauge line of the Nevada-California-Oregon Railway has connected Lake County with the outside world by rail, by way of Alturas, Cal. An extension of the Sumpter Valley from Austin to Prairie City took the rails into Grant County. The Columbia & Nebalem River line, but recently completed, opens up the fertille Nehalem Valley and traverses a great belt of virgin timber. Besides these, other minor lines have been built since 1907.

Space does not permit consideration of the growth of the street railway systems of the state, or of the interesting and important project of Robert E. Strahorn and his associates to fill in the gaps in Eastern Oregon by the construction of lines from Bend to connect with the rails of the other great systems as new pushed into the interior of Oregon.