STRAHORN WRITES OF PROPOSED RAILROAD

Oregon Shippers Should be Stockholders in New Central Oregon Lines. Earnest Inauguration of this Project Will Revivify Failing Projects and Offer Incentive for Starting New

| poses independent railroad lines throughout Central Oregon, an <br> outline of which was published <br> in our last issue, writes the fol- lowing for the Sunday Journal: <br> The different railroad surveys <br> heratofore made in central Ore- <br> gon provide for ines to cost from $\$ 00,000$ to $\$ 40,000$ per mile. In <br> estimating revenues and expens. <br> es, traffic and operating expert <br> have figured on the high interest charged on construction, and on <br> such schedules of rates and op- <br> erating conditions and costs as would necessarily follow owner- <br> ship and operation by the large <br> companies interested. <br> Their figures have also neces sarily allowed for the high costs <br> and embarrassment of interstate <br> and state commission supervision <br> In the difference between lines so built, owned and operated, and <br> lines built for less than half such <br> fizures, on capital to an impor- <br> shippers or those directly inter- <br> ested in the country themselves, <br> and operated free from interstate commerce commission supervis. <br> ion on a seale of economy and <br> liberality of rates which would not be tolerated from even the <br> not be tolerated from even branches of main line railroads. <br> lies the possibility of securing <br> these lines on a basis which insure their paying interest. <br> This must be literally a pioneering railroad. The case of con- necting up the productive sec- <br> tions mentioned which are sepa- <br> rated by vast areas now largely <br> unproductive, is so extreme that <br> it must be met by the livable construction and operat- <br> ing costs and the highest rates <br> the traffic will stand. Its Ore- <br> holders who will feel that besides <br> reaping all the other incaleulable <br> benefits from convenient trans- <br> paying liberal rates during the <br> development period they are in effect taking the money out of <br> effect taking the money out of | one pocket and putting it in the other, <br> Lines particularly needed are, region by way of the nroductive Fort Rock and Silver Lake sections rather than the more westerly but largely timbered region ing lines; second, a continuation of this line from the vicinity of Lake and Paisley territory, to Lakeview and Warner Lake valnection in Harney valley with the Oregon Short Line approaching from the east. This makes a I believe, can be built standard gauge and equipped on the ecofor $\$ 15,000$ per mile. I believe it feasible so to prosecute and finance the project as to keep the bond interest charges within $\$ 800$ per mile. This would be less than one-third the average ing railroads in Oregon. <br> $t$ is not accounted for merely by much lighter construction but because of the generally favorable territory, the entire elimismaller overhead charges, the furnishing of most of the equipother important items. I believe the money can be raised if Portvitally affected will cooperate to the extent the aceruing benefits justify, on plans I will propose as surveys over the more difficult sections and assemble some other necessary data. Meantime I have formed the Oregon, California \& Eastern Railway company with modest capital to conduct and $\qquad$ of the various railways which have painfully worked their way to the outer edges of this great inland empire that they would |
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## HARNEY COUNTY RE- JOICES OVER RAILROAD <br> Special Writer for the Portland Journal Visits Work and Reports Progress. Hundreds of Men and Teams Are Rushing Project. Rails Been Laid Will Follow Bridge Work Rapidly

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## accuracy

ons confirm my predent impres-
sions, I will reppond to their ap-
Building Railroad is Not The Most Important

> In an interview in the Uregon. ian Mr. Strahorn says that there are several other important mat. ters in connection with the development of Central Oregon. The article follows:

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