ENERY PROGRESS POLITICS

ed by the Editor on His rip Across the Continent

Editorial Correspondence.)

Cascades, March 28.—A fast n Portland to Seattle is made Northern Pacific train that he former city at 11:45 p. m. is you at the Sound metropolis, s at 7 a. m. How that city has n a few years! The Seattle man is more striking than ever, g, breezy, nervous class, who u feel a greater pride in the ace. The country between Ta- d Seattle is rising out of pri- tal mud. Black river is being ened out, new channels are being d, the land cleared, dyked and planted to berries, vegetables t trees. Land is being cleared e hills that slope down to the s. New towns are springing electric roads are extruding irections.

lectric cars between Tacoma and beat the fastest railroad trains. er run the 42 miles in an hour, "juice jerkers" put their trol- ns through in about 50 min- he trolley cars now run be- Chicago and Milwaukee in 75 while the fastest limited he 86 miles in 86 minutes.

e are pulling up the mountains Cascades. Soon we stride the iver, green water, green banks, cks covered with green mosses, orests overhead, green reflec the depths. I have rode the of this river many times but me it is a new revelation of

Northern Pacific route has a suc- of the most beautiful rivers and n canyons. In the past few e tracks have been much im- so that two modern compound take the trains up and down ountains about as fast as the ains move through the Willam- lley. Now we are up in the aks.

remarkable that the state of gton, which is much better l wth railroads than Oregon, have enacted a stringent rail- mmission law. The commission e elected by direct vote, has to make rates of fare and and its findings are prima facie reasonable. Governor McBride the fight two years ago last d forced the issue. This bill the house of the Washington ure, but was killed by the sen- a narrow majority. The senate en to "influence" in Washing- as in Oregon, where for several it has been used to kill all s to tax or regulate corpora- But to defeat the McBride bill lroads had to make terms with awmill man, every manufac- very wholesale dealer and cat- per in the state. They said to ppers: Kill the McBride bill and do better by you than you can er the provisions of that bill. defeated the bill in 1903. They d they had the commission bill d of. But the legislature of ok the bill up and passed it in e of the opposition of nearly newspapers of that state, and Portland papers. The railroad was strengthened from all over ited States. W. W. Cotton, the counsel of the O. R. & N. Co., o the rescue and told the people regon was happy and prosperous t a railroad commission, or rail- ws of any kind. He was unable vince the stubborn Washington kers. The bill passed. The rail- have not quit extending their in that state. That state has not rowing. It's cities are advancing ilroad managers will do well if eep the Washington commission t of Oregon. Washington has congressmen and Oregon(?) is to four after the census of 1905. mean time the corporation law- e looking up the law and decis- railroad commissions, a subject ave neglected for about ten Rockefeller, who is reported to rge owner in the Harriman prop- of Oregon, will have to hurry up ig gifts to colleges and libraries hopes to avert railroad legisla- Oregon. If the managers of rriman properties in Oregon will advance tip they will no longer construction of some branch

hington is not only very progres- adopting railroad legislation ces power over the great trans- n companies in the hands of ple, but the people take a deep s in higher education. We hear l deal of criticism and condem- nation of the unusual appropriations for the Oregon normal schools. The Portland newspapers are stirring up the people of Oregon to take the referendum on the whole appropriation bill because of what they term the outrageous extravagance of the legislature towards higher education. Pin them down and they do not include the state university and agricultural college. The whole outcry is against the Oregon normal schools. Forsooth, they are small concerns, located in obscure places. The teaching profession don't amount to much. We can hammer them with our demagogy. Not over one out of ten votes. The rest wear skirts. Let us swallow all the big grafts, but down with the normal schools. Thus howls the Oregon anti-normal school demagogy. Take $27,000 for clerks in the legislature. Take $5000 to entertain the deadheads from other states who come to the Lewis and Clark fair. Take anything and everything but abolish the normal schools. That is the fashionable talk. But in Washington everybody honors the normal schools. No one throws stones at them. While I was in Washington the governor of the state visited all the state normal schools. Great receptions were given in his honor at Cheny and Ellensburg. The appropriations for any one of the Washington normals is nearly as large as for all the Oregon normal schools. There the demagog does not howl. The referendum is not invoked. The initiative is not threatened. The state grows. The Washington school fund is larger than ours. The state school tax is lower. The Oregon school taxes are outrageously high. The irreducible school fund is not as productive as it should be. Where is the graft that keeps a quarter of a million of funds uninvested? Why have appropriations and state taxes increased 50 per cent in the past five years? Of course. We are holding a fair, but why have all bills to produce revenues been killed? The Harris bill, the Lounemann bill, any bill to put a dollar in the treasury, has been pigeonholed in the senate or killed in the house. The only satisfaction we get is by howling at the normal schools when we had better begin to string up a few of our politicians, metaphorically speaking, to some of the corporation telegraph poles.

We are in the mountains and the snow is falling fast.

E. HOFER.

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Wisconsin K. of P.

Milwaukee, Wis., March 30.—The Wisconsin brigade, uniform rank, Knights of Pythias, holds its annual brigade convention at the Pythian temple in this city tonight and about two hundred officers and members of the twenty-one companies throughout the state are here to attend. The meeting will consider among other things the question of holding a state encampment this summer. The meeting tonight will be made notable by the presence as a special guest of Major-General James R. Carnahan, of Indiana, who has been the national commander of the organization of uniform Knights since its formation.

Missouri Valley League.

Kansas City, Mo., March 30.—The club owners and managers of the Missouri Valley Baseball League are in session at the Baltimore hotel today for the opening of the season. The schedule as adopted provides for a playing season of 112 games, to begin May 14. The magnates regard the outlook as bright for an usually successful season.

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