

**BIENNIAL REPORT
TO THE LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY. 1889**

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Biennial Report to the Legislative Assembly. 1889 by Railroad Commissioners of the State of Oregon

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RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS OF THE STATE OF OREGON

**BIENNIAL REPORT
TO THE LEGISLATIVE
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BIENNIAL REPORT

Aug 24

OF THE

RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS

of

TO THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION.

1887-1888.



SALEM, OREGON:
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1889.

RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS' REPORT.

STATE OF OREGON,
OFFICE OF RAILROAD COMMISSION,
SALEM, January 14, 1889. }

To the Honorable the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

GENTLEMEN: The board of railroad commissioners of the State of Oregon respectfully submits its first biennial report in pursuance of the requirements of section 10 of "an Act to create and establish a board of railroad commissioners, and to define and regulate its powers and duties, and to fix the compensation of its members," approved February 18, 1887. Which provided that "the board shall make a biennial report to the legislative assembly including such statements, facts and explanation as will disclose the actual workings of railroad transportation of freight and passengers and its bearings on the business prosperity, personal convenience and safety of the people of the State, with such suggestions in relation thereto as to its general railroad policy, or any part thereof, or the condition, affairs or conduct of any railroad corporation as to them may seem appropriate; and particularly what changes in the classification of freights or what changes in rates of freight or fares are advisable or necessary for the public welfare; also whether any railroad company or corporations make any discrimination in matter of freight between points intersected by competing lines and points not so intersected, and what change should be made in the laws to promote the interests of both railroads and the public."

OF THE ROADS REPORTING AND THEIR BUSINESS.

The corporations or companies which have made reports to the board since its organization, April 1, 1887, are as follows:

- Oregon Railway & Navigation Company.
- Oregon & California Railroad Company.

Willamette Valley & Coast Railroad Company.

Oregonian Railway Company (limited).

Northern Pacific Railroad Company.

Oregon Short Line Railway Company.

Portland & Willamette Railway Company.

The corporations reporting operate 1,212 84-100 miles of railroad within the State; of which 1,042 52-100 miles are of standard gauge, and 170 30-100 miles are narrow gauge. The whole mileage operated by these companies within and without the State is 4,129 91-100 miles.

The total mileage of the several railroads reporting whose lines are partly or wholly within the State, is as follows:

Name of Railroad.	Miles.
Oregon Railway and Transportation Company.....	751.9
Oregon and California Railroad.....	439.5
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	83.3
Oregon Railway Company (Limited).....	143.3
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	2,140.1
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	541.08
Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company.....	30
Total mileage of roads reporting.....	4,129.91

The mileage of the railroads in operation within the State is divided among the several corporations reporting, as follows:

Name of Railroad.	Miles.	Gauge.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	467.1	Standard.
Oregon and California Railroad Company.....	439.5	Standard.
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	83.3	Standard.
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited).....	143.3	Narrow.
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	28	Standard.
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	15.41	Standard.
Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company.....	30	Narrow.
Total mileage in the State.....	1,212.84	

The capital stock of the several corporations reporting, are as follows:

Name of Railroad.	Amount.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	\$ 24,000,000 00
Oregon and California Railroad Company. Preferred, \$12,000,000; Common, \$7,000,000; total.....	19,000,000 00
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	3,900,000 00
Oregon Railway Company (Limited).....	1,643,455 38
Northern Pacific Railroad Company. Common, \$49,000,000; Preferred, \$37,786,199.17; total.....	86,786,199 17
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	14,073,600 00
Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company.....	150,000 00

The capital stock represented by the roads in operation within the State of Oregon on the basis of mileage in the State, is as follows:

Name of Railroad.	Amount.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	\$ 11,182,070 38
Oregon and California Railroad Company.....	19,000,000 00
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	3,900,000 00
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited).....	1,643,455 38
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	1,543,992 34
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	293,263 77
Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company.....	150,000 00

In the foregoing statement the capital stock of the Oregon Railway and Navigation Company invested in railway transportation is taken to be \$18,000,000 instead of \$24,000,000, for the reason that a considerable part of its capital stock has been absorbed in ocean steamers, river and sound steamboats and barges, and other property connected with an extensive system of water transportation. The exact amount of capital stock thus absorbed is not definitely known, but sufficient is known to warrant its being placed at \$6,000,000. Hence that amount is deducted from the capital stock of said company in all statements and estimates bearing on the railway transportation business of said company.

The funded indebtedness of the several corporations operating said roads in this State for the years ending June 30, 1887 and 1888, were as follows:

Name of Railroad.	1887.	1888.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	\$ 12,807,000 00	\$ 16,843,000 00
Oregon and California Railroad Company.....	11,630,000 00	15,120,000 00
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	4,600,000 00	6,400,000 00
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited).....	1,044,515 50
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	76,710,221 20	81,608,500 00
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	14,931,000 00
Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company.....	400,000 00

The funded indebtedness of the several corporations operating railroads in the State for the year 1888, apportioned to each company upon a basis of miles operated within the State, is as follows:

Name of Railroad.	Amount.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	\$ 10,463,310 91
Oregon and California Railroad Company.....	13,126,000 00
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	6,600,000 00
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited).....	1,944,515 50
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	1,449,355 14
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	
Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company.....	400,000 00

Total of stock and funded debt represented by the railroads operated in the State according to mileage within the same:

Name of Railroad.	Amount.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	\$ 21,645,280 30
Oregon and California Railroad Company.....	32,126,000 00
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	10,500,000 00
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited).....	2,687,970 88
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	2,989,947 48
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	
Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company.....	550,000 00

The stock and funded debt of each company operating railways in the State, apportioned according to the mileage operated within the same, is per mile of road in operation as follows:

Name of Railroad.	Stock per mile.	Debt per mile.	Stock and debt per mile.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	\$ 23,939 35	\$ 22,400 38	\$ 46,339 73
Oregon and California Railroad Company.....	43,253 69	29,911 26	73,164 95
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	46,818 72	79,231 69	126,050 41
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited) line.....	7,552 78	7,444 87	14,997 65
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	40,413 35	38,133 05	78,546 40
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....			
Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Co.....	5,000 00	13,333 33	18,333 33

The floating debts of the several corporations for the years ending June 30, 1887, and 1888, as reported by them, are as follows:

Name of Railroad.	1887.	1888.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	\$ 2,337,859 74	\$ 2,359,098 20
Oregon and California Railroad Company.....	2,091,220 58	70,580 21
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	1,400,000 00	1,400,000 00
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited) line.....		359,780 00
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	6,524,220 57	9,446,755 15
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	1,358,011 23	

- * The Northern Pacific reports assets, held to offset her floating debt, of over \$12,000,000.00 for 1888.

The number of passengers carried by each company for the years ending June 30, 1887 and 1888, were as follows:

Name of Railroad.	1887.	1888.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	182,968	196,568
Oregon and California Railroad Company.....	288,927	360,442
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	32,713	44,731
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited) line.....		25,187
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	Not given.	1,343,737
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	65,722	
*Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company.....		18,704

* This road has been in operation only since January 1, 1888.

The amount of the passenger earnings of the several roads for each year ending June 30, 1887 and 1888, were as follows:

Name of Railroad.	1887.	1888.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	\$ 734,951 65	\$ 754,994 35
Oregon and California Railroad Company.....	406,948 65	618,137 58
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	39,909 52	44,050 42
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited) line.....		14,958 34
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	8,268,703 27	4,367,580 11
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	430,168 02	
*Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Co.....		1,887 53

*For half year.

The amount of freight earnings by each company in the years ending June 30, 1887 and 1888, were as follows:

Name of Railroad.	1887.	1888.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company.....	\$ 3,059,588 31	\$ 3,630,558 42
Oregon and California Railroad Company.....	462,701 32	415,195 29
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company.....	166,271 88	91,560 82
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited) line.....		28,131 95
Northern Pacific Railroad Company.....	8,730,547 24	10,127,461 31
Oregon Short Line Railway Company.....	1,359,672 22	
*Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company.....		11,141 55

*For half year.

Total gross earnings from all sources for the years ending June 30, 1887 and 1888, were as follows:

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Name of Railroad.	1887.	1888.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company	\$ 3,981,692 37	\$ 4,542,752 25
Oregon and California Railroad Company	955,477 34	1,120,849 67
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company	161,890 89	139,913 57
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited) line		67,561 39
Northern Pacific Railroad Company	12,789,448 10	15,577,699 83
Oregon Short Line Railway Company	1,920,664 47	
*Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company		20,496 08

*For half year.

The total net earnings of the several roads reporting for the years ending June 30, 1887 and 1888, were as follows:

Name of Railroad.	1887.	1888.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company	\$ 1,800,594 32	\$ 2,285,437 71
Oregon and California Railroad Company	*17,454 55	20,754 53
*Oregonian Railway Company (Limited) line		71,550 67
Northern Pacific Railroad Company	5,516,428 61	6,679,443 38
Oregon Short Line Railway Company	212,138 40	
†Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company		2,732 20

*Deficit. †For half year.

Gross earnings per mile of road operated as shown by the corporations reporting, are as follows for the years ending June 30, 1887 and 1888:

Name of Railroad.	Gross earnings per mile of road.	
	1887.	1888.
Oregon Railway and Navigation Company	\$ 5,273 77	\$ 6,041 69
Oregon and California Railroad Company	2,169 39	2,550 28
Willamette Valley and Coast Railroad Company	1,945 46	1,679 63
Oregonian Railway Company (Limited)		481 55
Northern Pacific Railroad Company	5,978 09	7,278 91
Oregon Short Line Railway Company	3,544 88	
*Portland and Willamette Valley Railroad Company		683 20

*For half year.

The net earnings of the several roads reporting, per mile of road operated, for the years ending June 30, 1887 and 1888, were as follows: