

A TRIBUTE AND A DEDICATION

The officers and directors of Greater Yakima Diamond Jubilee, Incorporated, believe it is fitting and proper that this historical program should be dedicated to the Northern Pacific Railway which, as the pioneer railroad in the Northwest, played such a vital role in the history and development of the Yakima Valley.

When Northern Pacific rails came through the Valley in 1884-1885, over-grazing had sharply curtailed the livestock industry and small patches of irrigated land had begun to appear. Supporting the efforts of local leaders and state and federal agencies, this pioneer railroad participated actively in irrigation and agricultural and industrial development. For example, the Sunnyside Canal and the Kennewick-Benton City area in the late Eighteen Eighties; in more recent years the Kittitas and Roza projects and enlargement of the Kennewick project and, in the past decade, the adjacent Columbia Basin.

Consider the tremendous impact of these contributions by Northern Pacific to the general well being of this great South Central Washington empire:

NP rails opened the area to settlement and development and gave the valley's products access to distant markets.

Through far-flung colonization recruiting agencies in the eastern United States and in Europe -- backed by an advertising campaign international in scope -- Northern Pacific helped bring thousands of settlers to the valley and the Northwest.

Through the years Northern Pacific has made important contributions to improvement of agricultural production and marketing practices and has encouraged establishment of processing plants and other industries in the valley.

Since 1884, Northern Pacific rails have performed an outstanding service in meeting the transportation needs of this area.

We salute the Northern Pacific Railway, to which we dedicate this historical brochure.

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TO OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS IN THE YAKIMA VALLEY:

We of the Northern Pacific are deeply appreciative of the honor accorded our company by the Greater Yakima Diamond Jubilee officers and directors, representing the people of the Yakima Valley.

We are proud to have had a part in the settlement and development of this fabulous valley. May I emphasize, too, that the "Main Street of the Northwest" is not a one-way thoroughfare. In the past three-quarters of a century Northern Pacific has enjoyed a steadily increasing volume of business in the valley which has contributed most importantly to the financial stability and prosperity of our company.

We appreciate your patronage and your friendship and we pledge a continuation of the quality of transportation service and interest in the general well being of this area which we hope will warrant even closer relations with individuals and industries in Yakima and in the entire valley.

With more than half a million acres now under irrigation and a population of some 145,000 people, the Yakima Valley can look to the new decade and the next 75 years with genuine confidence and optimism.

Our sincere congratulations on this observance of your 75th anniversary.

Robert S. Macfarlane
President,
Northern Pacific Railway