A GREAT TUNNEL

The Great Northern Railway is planning an 8.62 mile tunnel through the Cascades at Stevens Pass that will eliminate practically all snowsheds, five smaller tunnels and much extreme grade. David Husman, ex-'23, is engaged with the location party that is now looking over the ground. At this point in the Cascades the valley is narrow and the railway goes 9 miles to climb 1,000 feet, and the average grade is 2.2 per cent. On an average three locomotives are necessary for a freight train, and the average time for a freight train from Skykomish to Wenatchee (60 miles) is twenty hours. Another present disadvantage is that on this loop of 9 miles the snowshed is practically continuous, and is a great expense.

Competition between companies is keen, and with Seattle growing into such an important trade center, time is valuable and little will be lost in starting this huge project.