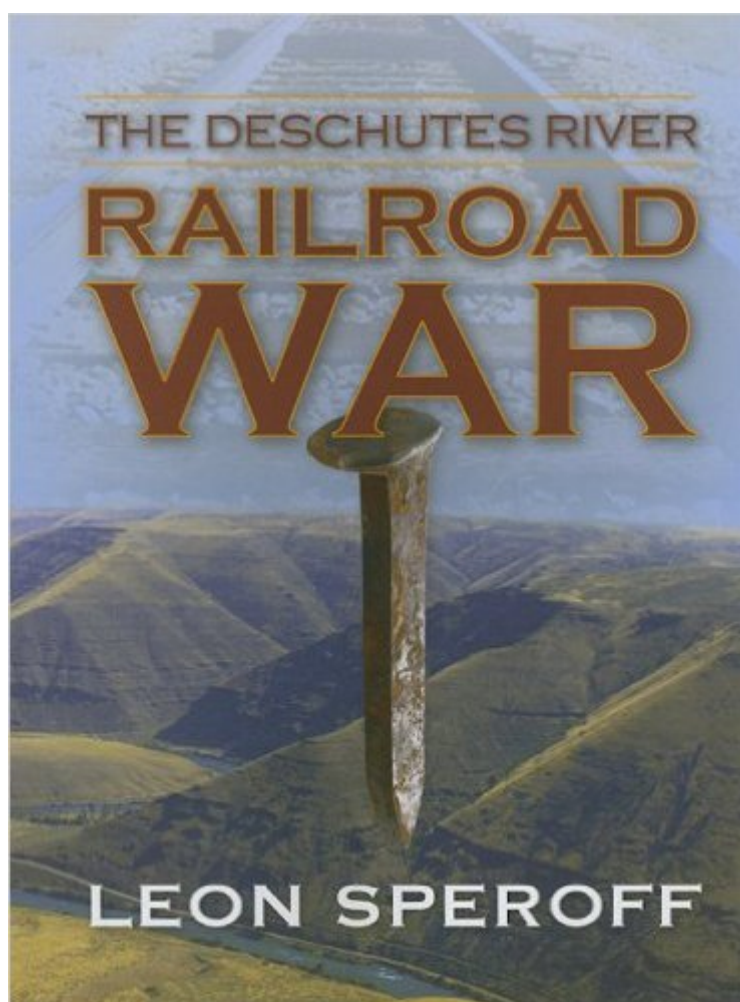


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# The Deschutes River Railroad War



## Synopsis

Tracing the geological and railroad history of the Pacific Northwest, Leon Speroff uniquely evokes the Age of the Railroad in his newest book, *The Deschutes River Railroad War*. With intricate detail, expert understanding and amusing anecdotes, he brings to life this fascinating true tale of the race to expand railroad service from the Columbia River up the Deschutes River to Bend, Oregon. When the two railroad barons, James J. Hill of the Great Northern and Edward H. Harriman of the Union Pacific, both set their sights on the Deschutes River Canyon for building a railway to Bend, neither man could have foreseen the massive expenditure of money, time, energy and human lives that characterized their mad rush to the finish. At the heart of this gripping story is the essence of the American West and the magnates, workers, immigrants and settlers whose impact on the region would usher the age of railroad transportation into the Twentieth century.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 240 pages

Publisher: Arnica Publishing Inc; 1st edition (November 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 097456866X

ISBN-13: 978-0974568669

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.9 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,400,106 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #292 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Vehicle Pictorials > Trains](#) #628 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > History > Railroads](#) #968 in [Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Railroads](#)

## Customer Reviews

I enjoyed this book written about the building of the Oregon Trunk Railroad in Central Oregon. The book begins with a credible, yet understandable look at the geology of the watershed, continues to the overall history of the competition between UP and GN railroad presidents and then to the particulars of the construction of the lines on both sides of the Deschutes river. I liked it because it wasn't only a railroad book, nor a roadside geology book, nor a history book, but all three to some degree. I would recommend it to anyone interested in the Deschutes river canyon, its history, geology, or railroads.

I must compliment the swift attention from this seller as I received my purchase next day, via USPS. (Being quite knowledgeable on the transport options the United States Postal Service IS ALWAYS the most inexpensive, respectful delivery and most expeditious!) "The Deschutes River Railroad War" is in-depth and quite complete work, a little more favorable to the "Jim Hill" side than I would have preferred, but I'm a little "Union Pacific" sided, so I guess we equalled each other out, LOL.

The Deschutes River Railroad War This incredible book not only spins an exciting true story about the Deschutes River Railroad War but is also a wonderful explanation to the terrain of Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. I have wondered for years about the fertile valleys of Washington and Oregon. The "strange" peaks that seem to sprout from no-where in the western Oregon valley. Now I know and understand more about some of the strange geologic formations in Oregon and Washington. This is a riveting book that educates as well as entertains.

Covers the background geography of the Deschutes River Canyon and the history of two rival railroad tycoons building through solid lava rock and the final resolution by Washington DC. It doesn't have the minute details but why argue? It's a great book and a great story.

Good book for turn of the century history about the lower Deschutes River. Leon Speroff provide a schematic of history for the region. Five stars for this hard to find information about Oregon and the lower Deschutes River.

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