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## “Coming” For Homesteads: 1920

1920<sup>1</sup> The opening of further tracts in the forfeited O. & C. land grant to homestead settlement is attracting the attention of the land hungry of the nation, and thousands will be attracted to Oregon to investigate the lands. Not all who come will settle on these tracts, but many who do not find fortune in that direction will become interested in other lands, and there will be a great stimulation in land movement. These visitors from the east are not going to return from the west once they have seen the advantages offered for home building here.

*The opening of further tracts in the forfeited O. & C. land grant to homestead settlement is attracting the attention of the land hungry of the nation.*

The government is offering the ex-service men a preferential right in making filings upon these lands, and many of the boys throughout the nation are arranging to take advantage of the offer. From Washing city there comes to the local commercial organization a letter that shows to what extent this sentiment is crystallizing in parts of the east. The letter in question states that the writer is heading a party of from 40 to 90 former service men who are coming to Oregon with the expectation of filing upon O & C homesteads. The following is quoted from the letter:

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## Late Hugo Homesteads

“I am very much interested in the Oregon and California railway land grant which is to be opened for settlement with a preference to ex-service men on May 10, 1920.”

“I expect to have between forty and ninety men in my party and will reach your city some time prior to the last above mentioned date and will appreciate the forwarding of such data as you have for free distribution relative to the country surrounding Grants Pass and which you would consider of importance to us.”

“In this connection I expect to spend from ten days to two weeks looking over the land which will be subject to homestead and will appreciate very much your recommendation of a reputable locator and have him communicate with me direct.”

The boys who took up arms for Uncle Same are entitled to first claim upon the lands to be opened, but it should not be considered in any sense as balancing the obligation due. It should not stand in lieu of other contemplated action by congress, but should be additional to such action, and the west will welcome this class of homesteaders who will come and aid in the development of our country. And for those who do not find what they want in the homestead line , a welcome awaits just the same. There are other lines of endeavor open to them and we want them for citizens.

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## 1920s - 1930s

### 1920 Homesteads

1920 Charles Smith  
1921 Edward Nertney  
1923 Charles Andrews  
1923 George Elsey  
1923 Silas Ludwick  
1924 Robert Smith  
1925 Edgar Fall  
1926 John Olson  
1926 Albert Brown  
1926 George Deane  
1927 Edward Squier  
1928 David Leefeld  
1929 Sylvester Decker  
1929 John Simemn  
1929 Wesley Truax

### 1930 Homesteads

1930 Mary Galbraith  
1932 John Kidwell  
1935 Harvey Ritchie  
1936 LeRoy Norton  
1937 Jay Rumbaugh  
1937 Charles Brewer  
1937 Henry Kile  
1938 Louis Dillree  
1939 Pearl Russell  
1939 Royal Wilson

**Want more information?** Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood* on how you can become involved in your community’s history and land use.

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1. *Rogue River Courier*. March 19, 1920. [Coming For Homesteads](#).

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## Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society's Mission

This information brochure is one of a series of documents published by the Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (*Hugo Neighborhood*). It is designed to be shared with neighbors for the purpose of helping protect our rural quality of life by promoting an informed citizenry in decision-making. The *Hugo Neighborhood* is an informal nonprofit charitable and educational organization with a land use and history mission of promoting the social welfare of its neighbors.

### Land Use & History

The *Hugo Neighborhood's* land use mission is to promote Oregon Statewide Goal 1 — Citizen Involvement, and to preserve, protect, and enhance the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, if requested, as a technical resource assisting neighbors to represent themselves.

Its history mission is to educate, collect, preserve, interpret, and research its local history and to encourage public interest in the history of the Hugo area.

Volunteer membership dues are \$10.00 annually per family and normally used for paper, ink, envelopes, publications and mailings. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

Email: [hugo@jeffnet.org](mailto:hugo@jeffnet.org)

Web Page: <http://jeffnet.org/~hugo/>

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## HUGO HOMESTEADS: 1920s - 1930s



Very Draft  
Brochure 191 Of Hugo's Early  
Settler Brochure Series



Not Quality Controlled, Nor Edited

January 23, 2008

**Hugo Neighborhood Association &  
Historical Society**

Brochure 191 in Hugo's Early Settler Brochure Series  
HNA&HS 2007 - 191

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1930s\BROCHURE\_191 Hugo Homesteads 010308.wpd