
Grants Pass, Oregon's Newspapers: 1885 - 1935

Courier Had Six Owners Six Years¹ Newspapers in the early days of Grants Pass, Oregon had a precarious existence.

The first newspaper to be published in the town was the Argus, a four page sheet, pages 6 x 8 inches, and printed one page at a time on a small had press. Its first issue was dated March 13, 1885. Dr. Keeler Gabbert was its publisher and he was able to issue it at irregular intervals for several months.

The first issue of the Grant's Pass Courier (the apostrophe was then used in the name of the city) appeared only three weeks after the Agrus was started and was dated April 3, 1885. J. H. Stine was its founder and he continued publication until June 4, 1886 when J. W. Wimer's name appeared as the partner of Stine under the firm name of Wimer and Stine, which partnership continued for one month, until July 2.

Mr. Wimer change the name of the paper to the Rogue River Courier.

Mr. Stine had started a half dozen or more country newspapers in various parts of the state. He was shot and instantly killed near McMinville while on a spree, some years previous to 1898.

The Courier has no less than six owners and publishers in the first six years of its existence. The sixth owner published it for seven years.

Publishers

Courier Publishers: 1885 - 1935¹

1885	J. H. Stine
1886	W. J. Wimer
1887	A. A. Allworth & Co.
1888	Frank T. Sheppard
1889	George H. Currey
1890	Jerry Nunan
1897	Price & Voorhies
1899	A. E. Voorhies

Newspapers Since 1885 In Grants Pass, Oregon²

1885	Argus
1885	Courier
1890	Oregon Observer
1897	Oregon Mining Journal
1898	Daily Bulletin
1904	Grants Pass Herald
1924	Southern Oregon Spokesman

Argus The first newspaper established in Grants Pass, antedated the Courier just three weeks. The Argus appeared irregularly for several months and finally was sold to the Courier for \$10.

Courier Weekly paper established April 3, 1885.

Daily Courier Established September 18, 1910.

1. Grants Pass Courier. April 3, 1935. *Courier Had Six Owners Six Years*. Golden Anniversary Edition - - - Courier History Section. Grants Pass, OR.
2. Grants Pass Courier. April 3, 1935. *Newspapers Since 1885 In G. P.* Listed. Golden Anniversary Edition - - - Courier History Section. Grants Pass, OR.

More Information

Oregon Mining Journal Established about 1897 by Conklin and Wade; soon after Arthur Conklin became sole owner. After some years the name was changed to the Pacific Outlook. About 15 years later the paper died a natural death. The Courier purchased much of the equipment.

Daily Bulletin For several months during the Spanish American in 1898, the Courier published the Daily Bulletin, containing wire reports of the progress of the war.

Grants Pass Herald Semi weekly publication started in 1904 by Robert G. Smith and associates. It lived only a few months. The Courier purchased some of the type; machinery reverted to the original owners.

Southern Oregon Spokesman Ku Klux Klan paper established March 8, 1924. After some months, equipment was purchased through promises and proceeds from sale of stock. Continued a few years and finally disposed of at receiver's sale and name changed to Grants Pass Bulletin, passing through several hands until purchased by present owner, Dean D. Sellers.

Oregon Observer Established 1890 by George W. Colvig and F. W. Chausse. Continued for 37 years, being absorbed by the Courier and finally discontinued in 1927.

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

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.

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Not Quality Controlled, Nor Edited

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Very Draft
Brochure 193 Of Hugo's Early
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**Hugo Neighborhood Association &
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