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William Goodheart Breitenstein

The University of Montana

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A HISTORY OF EARLY JOURNALISM IN MONTANA

1863-1890

Submitted as one of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts

By

William Goodheart Breitenstein

University of Montana
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Montana as a state is rich in history. Peopled successively in the early days by the Indian, trapper, fur-trader and gold seeker, who were the real pioneers, the state later reached a broader development in which all occupations and professions were given their proper place. In the succession of events which transpired from the time of the explorations of Lewis and Clark to the present day, there have been many historical occurrences. In the field of journalism there were many capable editors. Around the lives of these men is woven an interesting history, most of which has never been adequately recorded. Lips are now silent, which in their day could have told tales, that in wealth of adventure and daring would outtrival the most thrilling news-story of today.

The gold rush of the 60's was responsible for Montana's first important increase of population. Fortune hunters and exploiters mingled with the sturdy home-seekers in their rush across the western prairies to the new-found gold fields. Mining camps rose like magic on the favored spots and business flourished under the spell of sudden prosperity. Gold dust was used almost entirely as a medium of business and legal tender was scarce. First Bannack and then Virginia City became western mining camps of world-wide fame. After the civil war the soldiers came west to further their fortunes, and Montana was the haven for many ex-confederates as well as Union veterans.

With such a crude type of citizenship for a constituency, the early editor was called upon for unlimited versatility and unusual ability. Such requirements were fully met by the pioneer Montana journalists. Many of the most prominent citizens of early Montana; those vitally interested in the growth of
the state and the proper maintenance of order: were the editors of the first Montana papers. Montana's first editors were men of character, and their newspapers a credit to the principles for which they stood. It is an unusual fact that many of Montana's pioneer editors had never been engaged in journalistic work previous to their initial services in the state. What they lacked in actual experience they made up in sterling qualities. They served by the turn of events as newspaper editors after having gained experience in other professions and occupations. Some were graduates of English and American universities, others were men of less cultured training; but all sturdy, honest, well-meaning citizens with the courage of their convictions and the power to make their convictions impressive to others. In later years they became a real power in the state, not only because of the natural power which they held as a part of the press, but because of their characters and personalities.

The early papers of the state were independent in politics. Even after they did become affiliated with political parties, they were known for their fairness. The personality of the editor dominated the paper and among the early sheets we can find none that were prostituted for an unworthy cause. It is a brilliant galaxy of names; the list of the prominent pioneers of Montana journalism, including: T. J. Dimsdale, Henry N. Blake, James H. Mills, W. W. Alderson, Horatio Nelson McGuire, T. J. Favorite, R. Emmet Fisk, Peter Ronan, Frank H. Woody and a host of others. They were men of high calibre, who had the ability to be successful in any place and the fact that they succeeded in the then rugged territory of Montana, is but proof of their worth.

T. J. Dimsdale was a scholarly gentleman, reared in England and educated at Rugby and Oxford. At the time of his succession to the editorial chair of the Montana Post he was the territorial superintendent of schools. He entered the work with no experience but proved a talented and finished writer.

James H. Mills was confessedly "pitchforked into the newspaper business by the force of circumstances". W. W. Alderson was a Gallatin Valley farmer and preacher, who in reality entered the game to encourage the inclination of his son for the newspaper office. Few of the others mentioned had newspaper experience, but
they fitted well into the career they entered upon, and had the mental and moral attributes which make the successful editor.

The task of the early editor was difficult. Access to eastern news was for a time impossible; there was no news service, nor any mechanical aids to lighten the burden. The early papers were entirely set up by hand, frequently by tramp printers, and the editors performed every conceivable service from writing the copy down to being the "printer's devil" or delivery boy.

The first paper in the state was taken over by a book store a few issues after its initial publication. The isolated miners were in a position to appreciate news, and the firm publishing the first newspaper realized the business value of the paper which they brought forth. The first editor gained his position more by his intellectual attainments than by knowledge of journalistic affairs. Although there were a small number of papers in the state during the 60's, conditions gradually improved and the period of the 70's brought a number of worthy papers, which have flourished in the state since the time of their inception.

The printing press preceded the newspaper in Montana by barely a year. In 1863 two presses were brought into the state, one coming from Colorado early in the year, supposedly brought by a man named Lewis. It figured in the publication of the "East Bannack News Letter", which lived only three weeks and scarcely deserves credit as a real paper. The press was later used by Judge M. H. Lott, John S. Lott and J. Allen Hosmer of the Beaverhead News, another short-lived, inconsequential publication. Later it was utilized by Tom Deyarmon, Tom Baker, A. B. Kiser and W. W. Cheely, successive proprietors of the Madisonian, and August 20, 1897, it was presented to the Montana Historical Society and is now a part of the historical collection of the Montana Historical and Miscellaneous Library at the state capitol at Helena.

D. W. Tilton, later a partner in the first newspaper of Montana, brought a printing outfit into the state in September 1863. This consisted of a small job press and a limited quantity of type, but it served well for the mining camp of Virginia City, which place showed traces of social activities even at this early date, the first job ordered being for one hundred ball
invitations for J. M. Castner. The price paid for the invitations was 25
dollars in clean gold dust - a sum of twenty five cents apiece.

In January 1864, Benjamin R. Dittes, who was a partner of Tilton,
printed a news sheet at Virginia City. Colonel Wilbur Fisk Sanders edited the
news matter so he has the distinction of having performed the first real
editorial work in Montana, but the sheet for which he furnished the material
was not of enough significance to warrant its assumption of the name of newspaper.
Unimportant as these early sheets may seem, they are an evidence of the fact
that there was at least a perceptible field for the newspaper in the territory.
When the first real newspaper did appear, it was a creditable piece of work,
well designed, well written and produced with really good typographical appearance,
an historical heritage that the newspapers of the twentieth century can be proud
of as their forerunner in a state destined to be among the greatest commonwealths
of the United States.

THE MONTANA POST

The first real newspaper in Montana, the recognized pioneer in the
field of journalism, and a paper which was a credit to the publishers and the
community which it served; was the Montana Post. On August 27th, 1864, the
first issue of this paper came forth. With an ideal of patriotism, which was
evidenced by the motto "My Country, May she Always be Right, But My Country,
Right or Wrong", this paper came before the rough miners as a creditable sheet.
A. Buchanan was the editor and proprietor, but Colonel W. F. Sanders wrote the
initial editorial and salutory for Buchanan. At the request of Buchanan, Sanders,
who was an admirer of William Cullen Bryant and his New York Evening Post, gave
Montana's first newspaper the name of the Montana Post. The Post was a six
column, four page sheet, all the matter being set up by hand, and the paper
printed on a Washington Hand press. It measured 21 by 31 inches and from all
general standpoints was a very creditable looking sheet for a frontier mining
camp. In harmony with the motto of the front page, the editorial column of
the Post was headed by a cut of an American flag. The initial issue carried two
columns of editorials and the rest of the paper was made up of war and eastern
news, locals, correspondence, poems, narrative articles and advertisements. Lack of type hindered the set-up of the advertisements but fairly good form was used, there being much spacing and all single column ads.

Buchanan's career as a journalist was very brief, for on the advent of the third issue of the Post, the paper had been purchased by the firm of D. W. Tilton and company, Benjamin R. Dittes being connected with D. W. Tilton, the Virginia City Book Store proprietor, in the company which was to guide the destinies of the Post for several years. Buchanan edited the paper for a few issues and then Professor T. J. Dimsdale took the editorial stool of the Post. Dimsdale was an Englishman with a splendid education, a previous student of Rugby and Oxford and at that time a teacher at Virginia City. He was the first superintendent of instruction in the territory of Montana and proof is given of his literary ability by articles which subsequently appeared in the paper which he edited.

The first "extra" published in Montana made its appearance on Saturday evening, April 22nd, 1865, and it heralded the surrender of Lee to Grant. Previously the Post had been supplying the only war news which many readers in the territory could find to read. Eastern papers did not make a general appearance in Montana at this time, so the lone publication was naturally the news authority for everyone in the territory. The "extra" carried a cut of a steamboat in its advertising columns; this being a testimonial of spring steamboating on the Missouri River at Fort Benton. These two statements in the extra edition of the Post were of real importance to Montana, for the ending of the war and the beginning of steamboat traffic meant the influx of many people into the territory. On April 29th, 1865, the Post heralded the death of President Lincoln and the paper appeared in the conspicuous black liners.

The issue of May 27th, 1865, was reduced to half size because of the lack of paper. Scarcity of paper proved quite a hindrance to all the early Montana papers, for in their remoteness from the markets, it was a difficult
task to get material, many of the early issues of the Post came out on wrapping paper or various hues, brown, purple and grey being used and a glance over the bound files of some of these papers shows a variegated combination or rainbow hues; a testimonial, however, to the fact that the early editor and publisher was zealous to supply the news to his patrons. The Montana Post was published weekly for the first year and for the first issues demanded the price of 5 dollars for a year's subscription which was raised soon after to 7 dollars and fifty cents a year. Between the dates of November 11 and 18, 1865 the slogan-head "The Only Newspaper in the Territory" was changed to "The Pioneer Paper of Montana", the Montana Democrat having risen as a rival.

The Post started the year 1866 with promising prospects, carrying substantial advertising and having readable news columns. On February 3, 1866, the first supplement was issued and from this time on, the increase in news and business warranted the regular issue of supplements. On July 7 the supplement proposition was solved when the Montana Post graduated into a six-column, eight-page paper, and the subscription price was raised to 8 dollars. The owners had transported to Virginia City from the east a Campbell Cylinder Press and a splendid new job office equipment including a large stock or newspaper type and material. Starting with the issue of August 26, 1865, Dimsdale had been contributing weekly a series of articles called "The Vigilantes of Montana". These stories continued until March 26, 1866, and proved to be of great historical authenticity and value. Dimsdale later had these articles published in book form and while preparing them for publication H. N. McGuire occupied the editorial chair of the Post. On August 1, 1866, Henry N. Blake became editor of the Post, but Dimsdale contributed to its editorial columns almost up to the date of his death on September 22, 1866.

D. W. Tilton company was still the proprietors of the Post and on September 29, 1866, began the issue of the Post as a tri-weekly paper. In July, Tilton and Dittes, owners of the Post had started the tri-weekly Republican at Helena. This was the first paper, other than a weekly, published in the territory and it was edited by E. W. Carpenter. In September, when the firm
wished to enlarge the Montana Post into a tri-weekly, they shipped the Republican material to Virginia City and the publication was ceased. On November 2, 1866, telegraphic communications between Virginia City and Salt Lake City were perfected and the Post then became the recipient of telegraph news, which served as material for the newly started tri-weekly. On January 1, 1867, James H. Mills became editor of the Montana Post, and in him the pioneer paper of Montana had an able pilot; a man of executive ability coupled with knowledge of affairs of the day which made him among the greatest of Montana editors.

From the dates of March 26 to April 26, 1863, there was a lull in the issuing of the paper, for arrangements had been made for the removal of the Post from Virginia City to Helena, that place having become more populous and therefore more important. Placer mining had made Last Chance Gulch and Helena a progressive western mining camp, and the owners of the Post followed the fortunes of the hardy miners upon whom they drew for their support. Tilton disposed of his interest at this time to Benjamin B. Dittes, who had a good knowledge of business affairs in Helena. The paper was first issued in Helena as a daily on April 26, and became the property of a stock company with George M. Pinney as manager, Alex H. Beattie in charge of the business and James H. Mills as editor.

The Post continued in Helena with prosperity until April 23, 1869, when a disastrous fire swept over the city and, while the flames were stopped before damaging the Post, the complete business upheaval caused a suspension of the Montana Post with the issue of Friday, June 11, 1869. From the time of the fire to the date when the sheriff called a halt upon the issues of the paper, the Post had been published without drawing from the advertisers or subscribers; this was a noble effort and it might have endured but for the legal attachment which meant the death knell to Montana's earliest news sheet. The Montana Post was a worthy pioneer in the western journalistic field. In T. J. Dimsdale, Henry N. Blake and James H. Mills, the paper had a trio of editors which could hardly be duplicated on any one paper in the state. Both Blake and Mills
became prominent on other papers after the demise of the Post and both are considered among the best writers who ever pushed the pen and faber in the state. The Post for more than a year was the only newspaper in the territory; and for more than a year thereafter the only tri-weekly, and for a year the only newspaper in Montana that paid for and furnished its readers the telegraphic news reports from the wires.

After the removal of the Montana Post from Virginia City to Helena in the spring of 1868, the Virginia City Republican was published at the Madison county mining city but was suspended in October, 1869, when it was offered for sale by Frederick Cope. The Republican was succeeded by the Montana Capital Times which was published by Joseph Magee, S. P. Bassett and Isaac H. Morrison. The Capital Fact issued November 8, 1869, followed the Times, with the same owners and editors.

MONTANA DEMOCRAT

The second child of Montana journalism was the Montana Democrat. It was first issued on November 2, 1865, as a six column, four page paper with John P. Bruce as editor and proprietor. Bruce was formerly editor and publisher of the Cynthiana News in Kentucky; later one of the editors of the St. Joseph Missouri Gazette and had purchased the old material used in printing the Valley Tan at Salt Lake City for the publication of his Virginia City sheet, which was the first democratic newspaper in the state of Montana. Peter Ronan was local editor and foreman and Bruce, political editor and manager. Major Bruce devoted his energies however to the financial department of the Democrat and rarely wrote an article for its pages although his name appeared conspicuously as editor. The Democrat was not a formidable rival to the established Montana Post and many numbers did not even contain an original leader. The life of the Democrat was but two years as Bruce discontinued the paper in the fall of 1867.

Montana Radiator - Helena Herald

"Independent in all Things - Neutral in Nothing"; such was the motto of the Montana Radiator, the first newspaper published in Helena. The initial issue of the paper was on December 17, 1865 under the editorship of Bruce Smith. T. J. Favorite, a practical printer, was the proprietor of the Radiator and he
brought out the paper on a Washington hand press which was brought to Helena from Walla Walla, Washington, by muleback over the Coeur d'Alene and Rocky Mountain trails. At the time of the transportation of this press into the territory the press uprights had to be cut in two and packed in pieces in order to lighten the pack loads for the animals. The paper was a five column, four page, affair measuring 14 by 20 inches and while a creditable piece of printing work, it in no way compared with the Montana Post. Its life was cut short in less than a year and it ceased publication on October 13, 1866, being succeeded by the Helena Herald after the issue of 46 weekly editions. Poznansky and House was the firm name of the proprietors of the Herald and R. Emmett Fisk was the editor. The first issue of the paper came forth on manilla paper, the only stock available in the market at that date. Blank print paper was expressed from California at the cost of 1 dollar 25 cents per pound for the Herald during the winter and spring of 1866-67. As a six column, four page paper of 15 by 24 dimensions, it was an improvement over the Radiator and soon sprung into prominence with the able Fisk at the editorial desk. On August 1, 1867 the Helena Herald appeared as a daily, the first daily in Montana.

Late in December, 1866, Fisk had purchased the Herald and early in January voiced his intentions in an editorial stating, "we have determined to proceed at an early date to the States, there to purchase and get ready for shipment by one of the first steamers up the Missouri next spring, such an outfit as will make a complete and unexcelled job office out of our present establishment and also enable us to commence the publication of a first class daily and tri-weekly Herald, as well as an enlarged edition of the weekly, by the middle of June or the first of July next". In R. E. Fisk's absence the paper was edited by Captain James L. Fisk, Charles R. Stewart of Minnesota being associated with him. After the publication of the daily, Dan W. Fisk and A. J. Fisk subsequently became partners in its publication. In May, 1871, J. S. Hammel appeared as assistant editor to R. E. Fisk.

On Sunday October 1, 1871, the Herald was visited by fire which originated in the press room and which set fire to the adjoining buildings. Not an
issue was missed however as the press of the Rocky Mountain Gazette was utilized to bring out the issue the following day. The Herald prospered through the 70's and in July, 1883, increased from a four page paper 17\(\frac{1}{2}\) by 24\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches, to a blanket sheet of 20 by 25\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches. Further enlargements were made in 1883 and the paper remained as a large four page sheet until May 22, 1886, then the Herald became an eight page sheet of six columns, measuring 15 by 21\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches. The paper remained as a strong factor in the capital news circles under the regime of the Fisks through the 90's and into the twentieth century. On June 30, 1900, the Helena Herald and the Fisk family became separated, and a company composed of C. K. Cole, A. B. Keith and E. D. Boardman took the ownership with A. B. Keith editor. A full leased wire service of the Associated Press was obtained at this time. Robert Emmett Fisk as editor, and D. W. Fisk and A. J. Fisk as associated on the Herald, quit the newspaper game on the oldest daily of the state, and the management fell into new hands. Changes in policy and strong competition in the field caused the owners to sell the Associated Press franchise, the plant and property of the Helena Herald to the Montana Record on December 27, 1902. The Herald was strong factor as a newspaper and for years was the leader of the capital city sheets. It was the first Republican newspaper in Montana and likewise the first daily. After starting out as a morning daily in its infancy it changed to an evening daily in December, 1867. R. Emmett Fisk, who had broken into the game as a compositor on the New York Tribune, later proved to be one of the most able writers and managers ever connected with a Montana newspaper. In the early days of Helena, when physical, as well as mental ability counted, Fisk had gained the nom-de-plume of the "Fighting Editor". While in charge of the editorial policy of the paper during his long term, Fisk had fellow contributors to the Herald's columns in such well known man as Cornelius Hedges, Alex C. Botkin and C. W. Wiley.

**Rocky Mountain Gazette**

The third paper to start in Helena was the Rocky Mountain Gazette. The initial paper on August 11, 1866 was under the ownership of Wilkinson, Maguire and Ronan but after three weeks, Wilkinson and Ronan became the proprietors,
with E. S. Wilkinson editor. Martin Maginnis, for years Montana's representative to congress, purchased an interest in the Gazette and became a joint editor with Wilkinson. On September 2, 1872 the Gazette was destroyed by fire, but after starting up in new quarters, the paper was doomed to a second destruction for on January 9, 1874, the Gazette went down in the flood of fire that swept over the upper portion of Helena. Twice visited by disastrous fires, the Gazette did not resurrect, and the present Helena Independent took its place.

Helena Independent

The Helena Independent was originally started as the Independent at Deer Lodge, on October 12, 1867, Frank Kenyon had brought the defunct remains of a paper that had been published at Salmon City, Idaho, to Deer Lodge and formed the stock company which financed the paper. With the idea in mind of securing a democratic organ for Deer Lodge many prominent democrats subscribed to the company. Among these were Dr. A. H. Mitchell, Phil McGovern, Thomas L. Napton, Lee J. Sharp and others of Deer Lodge County. John H. Rogers took editorial and managerial charge of the paper which had 4,000 dollars paid-up stock. He was with the paper for about two years when it was sold to J.C. Kerley and D. C. Hathaway, both practical printers. They conducted the paper until May 22, 1870, when Addison Smith bought one-third interest in the paper to help it out financially. To enable the new firm to run, the stockholders discounted their stock twenty-five cents to the dollar. Smith's accession to the Independent saved the paper for within twelve months, its debts were paid off and its subscription list increased from 450 to 1,220. In March, 1871, Hugh McQuard obtained one-fourth interest in the paper. After the burning of the Rocky Mountain Gazette at Helena, the paper was moved in March, 1874, to the capital, the last issue from the Deer Lodge plant being on March 7, 1874.

After the removal of the paper to Helena, where it took the name of the Helena Independent, and was published daily, Addison Smith sold his interest to L.F. Lacroix and the firm took the name of Kerley, McQuaid and Lacroix. J. C. Kerley held the editorial chair and on September 1, 1874, the paper was enlarged and presented a unique appearance with its headlines of ten decks. In October,
1879, A. M. Woolfolk bought Kerley's interest in the paper and took the editorial charge. In November, 1881, the Independent Publishing Company was formed and C. C. Swallow took the editorial chair of the Independent. In 1883 the paper was enlarged to eight pages, being issued as such for two years when it again took the four-page form. In April, 1886, J. S. Dickerson, Alex Devine and J. E. Hendry bought the Independent and J. S. Dickerson became the editor. J. E. Hendry succeeded Dickerson in 1887 and upon the latter's death December 13, 1887, George D. Eastin assumed the position. The Independent since that date has had many well known newswriters upon its staff and the editorial chair has been filled by a number of capable men. George D. Marin in 1889, H. W. Lyman in 1889-90, Jerre Collins in 1894, Dr. W. G. Eggleston in 1896, J. L. Dobell in 1902, Dr. Eggleston again in 1904, J. H. Raftery followed in 1904, George C. E. Neill in 1911, and John S. M. Neill, for many years owner—have all been editors previous to the present staff, now headed by W. A. Campbell. John S. M. Neill first purchased the Independent in 1898. Early in August, 1902, the paper was purchased by W. A. Clark, the influential mining man, who sold it back to Neill in October, 1904. On March 5, 1913 the present Independent Publishing Company took charge, and W. A. Campbell became the editor. The Helena Independent bears the distinction of being the oldest paper in the state that has retained the same name from the time of its foundation. Starting at Deer Lodge as the Independent it still retains that name as the morning daily of the capital of Montana.

**New Northwest**

The New Northwest was founded at Deer Lodge in July, 1869, by James H. Mills, who had formerly been editor of the Montana Post at Virginia City. The first issues were large blanket sheet measuring 24 by 36 inches. In the years 1870 and 1871, a daily was issued during the summer months with a circulation of 600. In 1875 Harry C. Kessler and James H. Mills became co-publishers in the New Northwest. Harry J. Norton was local editor of the paper for a number of years before he began his work on the Montanian. On April 4, 1877, Kessler left the firm and two years later on April 1, 1879, the interests of John S.
Mills made the firm Mills brothers. James H. Mills ran the New Northwest, making his sheet one of the strongest factors in Montana journalism and building up a clientele and reputation for it through his strong editorials. In 1883 it measured 28 by 42 inches being a large blanket sheet. In 1885 the New Northwest property was valued at 8,000 dollars and the paper enjoyed the patronage of 1,600 subscribers. On November 1, 1891, L. P. Bowen, who for six months had been editor and business manager of the paper, took over the New Northwest, associating with him for a number of years, Mrs. J. A. Bowen as assistant editor. In June, 1893, James W. Fox purchased the New Northwest, running it for a year when the paper was purchased in June 1893, by the Populist Publishing Company to advocate the Principles of the Populist party. In less than a year, in March, 1895, the paper went back to the New Northwest Publishing Company with J. M. Kennedy editor, and in March, 1896, Kennedy sold his interest to James W. Fox, who published the paper as a republican sheet until December 25, 1896, when the paper was suspended.

Avant Courier

H. N. Maguire started the Pick and Plow at Bozeman in 1869, but the paper was a short lived sheet and served materially as a predecessor to the Avant Courier, the material being purchased in 1870 by Joseph Wright who brought out the first copy of the Avant Courier on September 13, 1871. In January 1873, R. H. Williams became associate editor and staid with the paper until July of that year. On August 25, 1876, Joseph W. Allen and George B. Wright were included in the company with Wright and Allen as the proprietors; J. Wright, editor and Allen his assistant. After a reduction in size, the Avant Courier appeared on December 8, 1876, as a semi-weekly. Joseph Wright died on December 29, 1876, and was succeeded in the editorial chair by J. W. Allen who remained until January 30, 1877, when Wm. W. Alderson purchased the offices from Major John Bruce, the administrator of the estate of Captain Wright. Alderson enlarged the sheet and on August 23, 1877, put his son Matt W. Alderson in the editorial chair. August 29, 1878 the Avant Courier purchased the Bozeman Times. The Times was started November 13, 1874 with M. W. Black
publisher and proprietor and J. V. Bogart editor. It was suspended September 14, 1875 but revived by Henry C. Wilkinson and Raleigh F. Wilkinson. It was edited by E. S. Wilkinson until August 29, 1878, when it was taken over by the Avant Courier. The latter remained on the paper until October 1880, when his brother W. W. Alderson became editor. The Gallatin News was a semi-weekly publication started by C. A. Carson in Bozeman during the fall of 1881. It was a five-column, four-page sheet measuring 12½ by 20 inches. It continued for nearly a year when it was taken over by the Avant Courier. M. W. Alderson later returned to the paper and remained on the staff until 1887 when he left to become business manager of the Butte Miner. In January, 1888, another Alderson became connected with the Courier, this being George Alderson, who served for a period as associate editor. Matt W. Alderson returned in 1891 as manager of the paper and remained as such for a period of five years, when he deserted newspaper work for mining. In March 1897, Charles R. Alderson was manager of the Courier. Frank Alderson astreasurer in 1900 added another Alderson to the list of the family which was so prominent in the publication of the Gallatin County paper. He came in September, when the paper was enlarged from a four to an eight-page paper. In 1905, the Avant Courier was merged with the Gallatin County Republican. The latter paper had started in 1800 with A. E. Mackintosh as editor. In July, 1905, the merger of the two took place with W. W. Alderson editor and A. E. Mackintosh city and associate editor. The paper took the combined name of the Republican Courier. On December 31, 1907, A. E. Mackintosh severed his connection with the paper and W. J. McCulley became editor. On June 21, 1910, John H. McIntosh, who had been on the staff as a sports writer while physical director at Montana State College, took the editorship. December 4, 1911, a daily was published as the Evening Courier and a weekly was brought forth as the Republican Courier. In September, 1912, C. C. Davis became editor, and later the paper discontinued the daily and the weekly became known merely as the Bozeman Courier, under which name it now issued under the editorship of C. C. Davis.
In a period of six years after the Montana Post had started in Virginia City, that mining town had taken the aspect of a Mecca for new newspapers. Following the pioneer Post, came the Montana Democrat, then the Virginia City Republican which was followed by the Montana Capital Times and the Capital Fact. On July 19, 1870 another Virginia City paper came upon the field. This was the Montanian and it started as a six-page weekly of six columns, with independent tendencies. G. F. Cope was the proprietor and Joe Wright the editor and publisher. Wright did not remain long and he was succeeded as editor and proprietor by G. F. Cope, who in the fall of 1871 had A. M. S. Carpenter associated with him on the editorial force. In February, 1872, Cope went east on business and Harry J. Norton associated with Carpenter as editor. On June 1, 1874, the Montanian sold by George F. Cope to Henry N. Blake and A. B. Knight, Norton still remaining on the staff with Blake as editor-in-chief, in which position he continued until August 18, 1875, when he was appointed as associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory of Montana. On March 9, 1876, the final issue of the Montanian was published, the equipment and good will being disposed of to the Madisonian, which remained alone in the field at Virginia City.

The Missoulian

The Missoulian and Cedar Creek and Pioneer was established in Missoula, September 15, 1870 by the Montana Publishing Company, composed of Joseph Magee and I. H. Morrison. On January 26, 1871 the name was changed to the Missoula Pioneer, the paper continuing under the same management until November 2, 1871 when W. J. McCormick became publisher and the name was changed merely to the Pioneer. On December 2, 1872, F. H. Woody became editor and the name was again changed, this time to the Montana Pioneer. On February 8, 1873, Frank H. Woody and T. M. Chisholm bought the paper and the name was changed to the Missoulian. The first issue of the Missoulian appeared on February 28, 1873, under the editorship of Frank H. Woody, being a four page sheet of seven columns and on August 15, 1873, Woody and Turk became the publishers, W. R. Turk buying Chisholm's interest and Woody still retaining his position as editor and publisher. May 19, 1875 W. R. Turk vacated shortly before his death and Worden and
and Company took possession of the plant and shortly afterwards Chauncey Barbour who formerly had been foreman of the plant became editor and the firm of Barbour and Aspling was formed. November 10, 1875, Charles S. Aspling sold out his interest to Chauncey Barbour, the latter becoming the editor and sole proprietor, in which capacity he continued until August 15, 1879 when Duane J. Armstrong became editor and publisher. In 1885 the circulation had reached 850 copies and the paper was a seven-column, four-page, sheet measuring 18 by 23 inches. March 14, 1888, Armstrong sold out the Missoulian to Harrison Spaulding of the Missoula County Times, who joined the papers and retained the name of the Missoulian.

The Missoula County Times had started May 15, 1882 with Harrison Spaulding as editor, being a Republican weekly eight-columns, four pages and measuring 20 by 25½ inches. In 1884 it had been changed to seven-columns, four-page sheet of 18 by 24 dimensions. Shortly after the merger, in April, 1888, the size of the Missoulian was again changed to blanket-sheet proportions, eight columns, four pages, 20 by 27½ inches. In 1891 the Missoulian became a daily. August 16, 1892, the Missoula Gazette was merged with the Missoulian. The Missoula Gazette was first issued as a weekly democratic Sunday paper on April 29, 1888 by a company composed of W. M. Bickford, F. G. Higgins, W. J. McCormick and H. M. Pierce. In 1889 after a change in which T. C. Marshall, J. P. Mathus, J. M. Keith and L. Mollinelle became owners of the Gazette, the paper became a daily.

February 20, 1895 the Missoulian was changed from a morning to an evening daily, and on October 7, 1893, the daily was temporarily suspended and the weekly continued. By the following year Mollinelle and Nesmith had become lessees and managers, resuming the daily in 1894. During the period of the 80's and the early years of the new century the paper was successively published by the Missoula Publishing Company, the Missoula Co-operative Printing Company and the Fruit Growers Publishing Company. June 23, 1901 the paper was reduced to a six-column, four-page sheet and was published six days a week.

Speaking of the history of the Missoulian from the time of Mollinelli's work as editor, the fortieth anniversary of the edition, May 5, 1912, says:
"Lambert Mollinelli then became editor and manager. He was one of the brightest newspaper men that Missoula ever knew. His command of the invective was great and his powers of description was fine. Those were the days when the invective was in daily use in Missoula and "Moli" was in his element."

The next transfer of the paper was to the capitalists representing the Helena interests in the capital fight. George E. Boos, who had been manager of the Helena Journal, came to Missoula to take charge of the Missoulian. George E. Harris and later E. J. Willis conducted the paper under lease.

In 1902, the Missoulian Publishing Company was organized. T. E. Butler was in charge of the business office and Harry 0. Collins became the managing editor. The leased-wire service of the Associated press was secured and the Missoulian enlarged its plant and equipment. The graceful pen of Collins and his editorial capability gave new strength and attractiveness to the newspaper.

In August 1907 Butler sold his interest. Since that time the Missoulian has been conducted by the Missoulian Publishing Company. A. L. Stone formerly of the Anaconda Standard became editor in August 1907, retaining that position until September 1914 when he became dean of the School of Journalism at the University of Montana, located at Missoula. J. M. Dixon is the present editor.

The Madisonian.

The Madisonian started November 3, 1873, in Virginia City as a democratic weekly with Thomas De Yarmon as editor, being an eight-column, four-page sheet of 19 by 24\(\frac{1}{2}\) dimensions. On December 5, 1874, J. R. Wilson appeared as associate and local editor and A. B. Kiser business manager. In March 1876, the Madisonian purchased the Montanian equipment and remained as the only newspaper in Virginia City. A daily edition was started later in the spring of '76, which lasted for several months. It was not particularly successful and the paper resumed the weekly form. In January 1877, Wilson left the Madisonian and De Yarmon continued the publication. In March 1877, Thomas Baker was associate editor. In 1884 De Yarmon sold out to A. B. Kiser, who
had been connected with the publication of The Madisonian since the first issue. Kiser changed the paper from a democratic to an independent political sheet. Kiser continued in charge until December 1, 1884, when Thomas Baker, for nine years on the staff, bought The Madisonian. December 1, 1888, J. W. Bush became business manager. In October 1889, A. B. Kiser, former owner and editor, resumed control of the Madisonian, and the policy of the paper was again changed, this time from an independent to a republican sheet. He remained as owner and editor of the paper up to his death on January 27, 1894. H. L. Childs took care of the business until September 11, 1894. Then the Madisonian was sold to W. W. Cheely who had been previously on the Butte Miner Staff. Cheely changed the paper from a four page blanket sheet to an eight paper of smaller dimensions, enlarging this later as the business warranted. On January 1, 1899, Joseph Smith II became editor and publisher, purchasing the plant from Cheely and changing the paper first to an independent and later to a democratic sheet. Smith ran the paper for over eleven years and on October 27, 1910, Horace B. Elling purchased the paper from him and made Frank T. Conway editor and publisher. Conway died November 19, 1911, and H. M. Colwell as editor and publisher. In November 1914, H. M. Colwell again became editor, which position he still retains. The history of the Madisonian from the standpoint of politics is a unique paper. Starting in the early days as a democratic paper it was first changed to an independent sheet, later becoming a democratic journal and then republican. Cheely changed the paper to an independent organ and Smith re-adopted it to its original form of democracy. The recent 1915 merger of the Madisonian and Times into the Madisonian-Times changed the name of a paper that had previously born the record of being the oldest paper in Montana that retained the same name in the same city since its original publication.

The Benton Record

The first paper published at Fort Benton, the river metropolis of Montana in the early days, was the Benton Record. W. H. Buck started its publication on February 1, 1875 with a four column four-page diminutive sheet measuring 10 3/4 by 16 inches; democratic in politics. In its second year it
appeared greatly enlarged being a seven column four-page paper of 17 by 23\(\frac{3}{8}\) dimensions, prospering for a number of years as the largest paper published in the territory. In 1880 the Benton Record became an eight page paper and on October 8 of the same year, H. R. Buck, W. H. Hunt and Charles Spencer were the editors and John J. Healy business manager. Healy contributed to the paper a series of interesting articles under the name of "Frontier Sketches" that proved valuable copy. At the time of its publication the Record office was the most complete in the territory and for three years a daily edition was published. In 1881 H. R. Buck was editor, on June 15, 1881, resuming full control with Harry H. Hill as assistant. In February 1885, the Record yielded up the ghost after a hard struggle, the River Press purchasing the plant.

DAILY NEWS LETTER

The Daily News Letter started June 12, 1875, as the Weekly News Letter at Helena but became a daily on July 27. It was run by J. W. Allen and Lee Travis on a Novelty Press, Travis being but a fifteen year old lad and the pioneer juvenile journalist in Montana. On September 1, 1875 the Daily News Letter became the Daily Montana News and on November 3, 1875, Lee Travis bought the paper from Joe Allen, the youngster Travis taking charge of the paper and running it in a business like fashion until January 1, 1876, when T. M. Chisholm purchased it. Chisholm was not successful and he stranded the paper in a little over a month.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HUSBANDMAN

The Rocky Mountain Husbandman was first issued at Diamond City, Montana being the first agricultural paper in the state. R. N. Sutherlin, its veteran editor tells graphically of its history in the following account:

"The first outfit of material intended for the publication of the Rocky Mountain Husbandman went through the bridge at Brainard, Minnesota in the summer of 1875, and that delayed the appearance of the initial number until November of that year. Another cause of delay was that Thomas P. Street, who had been connected with "Pick and Plow" at Bozeman, who had been engaged as foreman, was in Salt Lake and came back from the land of the Desert with a two
horse team and was thirty days in making the trip. The material which was
a duplicate shipment made by the Northern Pacific Railroad, then halting at
Bismarck, together with a stock of paper, finally reached Diamond City, the
metropolis of Confederate gulch, one of the bygone placer mining camps of the
then territory of Montana, and then the county seat of Meagher County, in
September.

The building selected for a printing office was one Sutherlin Brothers
chanced to own. It had at one time been used for a saloon, and Speigle in
the palmy days of the camp used to smash the mirrors with big nuggets of gold
he took from his sluices; later, the house had been fitted up and used for
a Good Templars Hall. Finding this the only available house, a printing office
was set up in one end of the building, which already had a history.

An Old Washington hand press 24 x 36 was purchased of the Madisonian
of Virginia City, then in its first year. This press had been brought from
Utah in the years of the gold rush, and was reported to be the press on which
the "Valley Tan", the first gentile paper of Utah, was printed.

The Rocky Mountain Husbandman was ushered into existence as an octavo,
four columns to the page, sheet; the sheet being the capacity of the press.
The subscription price of Montana papers in those days was five and six dollars
per annum, and the farm paper was launched at four dollars a year. The first
issue made its appearance on Thanksgiving day, November 25, 1875. It was No.
11 in the Territory, but it is really No. 2. now. The first issue and every
preceeding one from that day to this is on file in the Historical Library in the
State Capitol.

The publishers were W. H. Sutherlin and R. N. Sutherlin. It was
regarded on all sides as an experiment. In fact, agriculture, in Montana,
was in its experimental stage and a history of the paper constitutes a history
of Montana agriculture. Many of the best men of the state declared that a
farm paper could not exist in this region, as Montana was not a farming country.
There were less than 2,000 country homes in the state at that date, and the most
of these devoted their attention to pasturing rather than tilling the soil.
R.N. Sutherlin being young and active, and ambitious as well, mounted the hurricane deck of a cayuse and started on the road to carry the new publication to the pioneer homes of Montana's Valley. He started from Diamond City, February 22, 1876, and remained on the road until September 20, securing a subscription list of over eight hundred the first year.

The grasshopper scourge came that year and lasted for half a dozen years, and proved a great drawback to the progress of a farm paper, and home building in the valleys. Diamond City did only a small retail business, and the town and country contributed less than 150 dollars a year in advertising to the support of the newspaper, hence it became necessary to live off of the subscriptions received. In 1879, the subscription had reached over 1,400 and the capacity of a Washington hand press had been reached. It would be hopeless to install a cylinder press at a point like Diamond City; so after weighing things carefully, it was determined to buy a cylinder press and try and find some other location in Meagher County that might build into a town.

White Sulphur Springs was finally selected as that point. It had a tri-weekly mail, a post office, and was something of a resort for invalids. Just four years from the date of the first issue, the paper was set up on the prairie at White Sulphur Springs with a new cylinder press. The new cylinder press was bought by wire in the factory at Westerly, Rhode Island, and was hauled by wagon freight from Corinne, Utah to Helena, and reloaded there for White Sulphur Springs. A year or two later the county seat followed the newspaper, and then came the struggle for existence. The Utah and Northern Narrow Gauge was pushed through in 1881 to Butte, and in 1883, the Northern Pacific was completed from that date to 1893, came the most prosperous season the state knew between the placer mining era and the present date. Statehood dawned and agriculture backed by the irrigating ditch, became the one absolutely certain pursuit. The cattle baron and the sheep king had an inning, the like of which Montana had never known before, nor has it known anything like it since. The publishers of this paper were likewise active. W. H. Sutherlin rustled through the state, while R. N. Sutherlin stayed on the job and cranked off every issue.
of the paper for three years by hand, missing but one shift in all time, and that shift was worked by two curly colored men inured to toil. They were five hours doing what the editor did in three.

With the installment of the plant at White Sulpher Springs, the paper was enlarged to a six column paper, the size, shape, and style it is at present. A steam engine was installed in 1883, and about 1887, a larger one was employed. In 1898, a water motor was put in place, and now the plant is propelled by electricity.

In 1898 a Thorne typesetting machine was put to work and about five years later relegated to the junk heap, and a Mergenthaler purchased. The paper was caught heavily loaded with real estate investments and endorsements for the Auditorium Company, which the Sutherlins had undertaken to carry to successful issue in 1898. The only debt left unpaid by the Sutherlins of the Auditorium Company, was a small balance on an $81 indebtedness to Spencer, Mayn and Heitman. The building was paid for, but the newspaper was broke. Values had gone out of everything, and buildings amounting to $36,000 dollars and real estate worth $15,000 dollars more, over $50,000 dollars worth of property, property that cost that sum in conservative times, went to satisfy an indebtedness of $6,100 dollars. However, the greatest loss the paper has sustained since its beginning came in the death of W. H. Sutherlin, which occurred June 2, 1900. Mr. Sutherlin's last work, perhaps his greatest, was the carrying to successful completion, Montana's great exhibit at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition at Omaha in 1898.

The Rocky Mountain Husbandman Company was organized in 1898 in order that death might not necessitate a sale of the plant. The loss of its able business manager was a stunning blow and to add to this, the dear old town was on the taboggan slide and things went from bad to worse until every thing but the paper and plant was swept away. But a great work had been accomplished. Three million acres of southern Montana land were under the water ditch and the surviving Sutherlin resolved to try to irrigate three million acres in northern Montana. The reclamation act had been passed and the irrigation of the Milk
River and the country north from the Dearborn River, as far as the Canadian line, was being agitated. A drowning man grasps at a straw. The Rocky Mountain Husbandman gave up its cherished idols at White Sulpher Springs, its thermal water, ancient mines, prehistoric wonders, extinct volcano, living glaciers, and land of health and promise for the sake of putting three million more acres in the famine immune class, in other words, below the water ditch.

The second great loss was the death of Miss Caroline Murphy, traveling correspondent. Miss Murphy was the most genial and lovely lady the Montana people ever met and they all loved her. She wrote good prose and some of the sweetest rhymes ever put in print.

For some reason the paper was not welcomed in its present home. The people were not ready for irrigation, and a veritable struggle for life ensued. On two occasions boycotts were announced and maintained for a time, but the old pioneer had a work to perform, country homes to build and to beautify. It has weathered the storm, proved its efficiency and ensconced itself into many homes through its sterling regard for truth and its honesty of purpose. Once more upon its feet, once more upon a footing of independence, once more fully installed in the hearts of the people of the State, it will go down to posterity as the country home maker of the Rocky Mountain Northwest. Language is inadequate to portray the anxiety, the lonely hours of toil it cost to put this publication where it is today. And then to think that after all the long years of constant effort of toil, the long hours of labor of its early life that one misstep should put it in a position that the work had to be done over again.

Publishing a newspaper in a town like Diamond City that has no patronage to bestow did not offer chagrin, but when it came to working on from year to year in the second city of the state with the slightest possible recognition from the business interests in a second attempt to make the paper prosperous was the most wearying of anything in a long life of labor and anxiety. But the paper has weathered the storm a second time, and there is sunshine. This part of Northern Montana fought hard against irrigation, but old Sol with his relentless gaze had made dreadful inroads on the enemies to water artifically employed in
growing crops, and the old pioneer newspaper, now in its fortieth year, has won its way to the front, the recognized authority on Montana agriculture and country home building.

Butte Miner

The Butte Miner started as a tri-weekly publication in Butte on July 1, 1876, as a six column, four-page sheet of 22 by 32 dimensions, being independent in politics at first and later changing to democratic tendencies. Butte was then a mining camp populated by trail blazers who had fought their way to Montana in the eventful days of the 60's, having a population of 4,000, which was 20 percent of the population of Montana territory. H. T. Brown, formerly of the Montana Post, the New Northwest and the Montanian; in partnership with James H. Mills, formerly of the Montana Post and at that time owner of the New Northwest; and Harry C. Kessler of the New Northwest, were the publishers, using the old Washington Hand Press, formerly of the Madisonian, for the issuing of their paper. Mills was at this time at Deer Lodge on the New Northwest, but Kessler and Brown were in Butte, Brown being business manager and R. H. Mason the first editor.

The Miner was first published in a small structure on West Broadway, but as the growing needs of the paper increased another story was added to the building and the place further improved and enlarged. Human muscles furnished the motive power for the press, the type all being set by hand. It was by a paper gotten out under such crude circumstances that the first authentic account of the great Custer Massacre on the Little Big Horn River, appeared on July 6, 1876.

Because of the weekly mail service, the Miner changed from a tri-weekly to a weekly on September 15, 1876, the weekly proving a successful venture. On April 9, 1876, George B. Johnston became a member of the firm and acted as editor, the paper being enlarged in size under his management. On August 5, 1879, the Miner began the issue of a daily and for the first time the people of Butte read the telegraphic news hot from the wires of the Western Union. October 15, 1880, Daniel Searles became editor-in-chief and John B. Read, city editor. On November
1, 1881, Joseph Hyde, H. T. Brown, J. R. Clark and Daniel Searles formed the Miner Publishing Company with a capitalization of 14,000 dollars. In 1882, H. T. Brown sold his interest to Hyde and the size of the paper was increased from a six-column folio to a quarto. Hyde later sold his one-third interest to Chauncey Barbour and Daniel Searles, Barbour becoming business manager. By 1886 the Miner had passed into other hands and Edward Wolcott of Denver, one of the stockholders, succeeded in establishing C. O. Ziegenfuss in the editorial chair. On January 1, 1886, the Miner issued a splendid 96-page New Year's edition. The paper was now a weekly, semi-weekly, and a daily. Ziegenfuss remained as editor for seven months and was succeeded by Daniel Searles. In January 1887, Matt W. Alderson came from the Avant Couriér at Bozeman and was manager of the Miner, leaving in November of the same year. On June 1, 1887, J. S. Dickerson was editor, being succeeded in October 1887, by C.D.L. Haig, the latter previously having been city editor. In 1888, A. T. Doty became editor, being followed by J. M. Quinn and H. C. Sulzer, the latter remaining several years. During Sulzer's regime M. M. Miller was business manager.

In July 1890, the Butte Miner ceased its semi-weekly publications and the issues were confined to the weekly and daily editions. By 1893 the Miner had become an eight-page daily. In November 1901, when the Miner moved into its new home, A. B. Keith succeeded H. C. Sulzer as managing editor, M. M. Miller still remaining as business manager. A Goss color press was added to the equipment of the plant and the paper was immediately increased, the daily issue running from twelve to sixteen pages and the Sunday edition forty-eight pages.

M. M. Miller left the business managership in 1903 and was succeeded by George Sikes. July 1, 1905, J. L. Dobell succeeded A. B. Keith as managing editor, Dobell having been previously the managing editor of the Helena Independent for twenty-five months and before that having been associate editor of the Miner when Keith first took editorship. In June 1906, George Sikes died and Charles H. Clark, formerly of Great Falls, became his successor as business manager. Clark died suddenly of heart disease in April 1907, and was succeeded by Alex Devine, the present business manager. The paper has continued a power in Montana journalism
up to the present date, the editorial chair being in charge of J. L. Dobell and the officers of the Butte Miner Company being James K. Helset, president; Alex J. Johnston, vice-president and J. L. Dobell, secretary.

Frontier Index.

The Frontier Index was started in Butte August 5, 1878, having been published by Legh R. Freeman at Fort Kearney Nebraska in 1850, and continued in Butte by him. Freeman came from Ogden where he had published the Ogden Freeman and had brought the equipment for the Frontier Index with him from that place, coming overland by wagon and team. While enroute his wife was accidentally shot and died from the effects of the wound.

The Frontier Index was a seven-column, four-page weekly of $17\frac{1}{2}$ by $23\frac{1}{2}$ dimensions. The name was subsequently changed to the Inter-Mountains Freeman. The paper was published under this name until legal proceedings were brought by the Inter-Mountain publishing Company, publishers of the Daily Inter-Mountain and Freeman was enjoined from the use of the name Intermountain. During the competitive period Freeman has issued a Daily Inter-Mountains, almost identical in name with the Daily Inter Mountain. The name, Daily Labor Union, was then adopted and under this title the paper was issued December 3, 1882. Later the name of the publication was changed to the Union-Freeman, but the paper was suspended about 1885 when Freeman moved to Washington State. Freeman died in February 1915, at North Yakima, Washington, at the age of 72.

Yellowstone Journal.

The pioneer journal of the Yellowstone Valley, the first paper established between Bismarck in the Dakota's and the Rocky Mountains in Montana; such was the Yellowstone Journal. The material for this paper was hauled 359 miles by bull teams two years in advance of the railroads and on July 24, 1879, Thompson P. McElrath started the first eastern Montana newspaper as a weekly at Miles City. Major McElrath was receiver of the land office, and a newspaper man by heredity, his father having been a partner of the immortal Horace Greeley in the publication of the New York Tribune during the civil war. In February 1880, W. D. Knight became interested in the Yellowstone Journal and was editor and publisher. On December 25, 1881, T. P. McElrath sold his interest to Knight, who became sole owner. August 1882, the
Daily Journal was inaugurated and published continuously until February 10, 1883, with a newspaper man named Feely of Chicago, editor.

In July 1883, Sam Gordon became editor and business manager of the Journal, taking a half interest in the concern with W. D. Knight. On the forming of the partnership of Knight & Gordon, the paper was changed from weekly to a daily and has remained so ever since. The Journal had the only associated press franchise between Helena and Bismarck at that time. January 1, 1884, a Cotrell steam power press was installed at the Journal plant. In 1884 the Stockgrowers Journal was started as a weekly and continued until December 1, 1901, when the two journals were merged under the present ownership of Gordon and Potter, the Stockgrowers Journal being a weekly edition-reprint of the daily. In 1886 the weekly issue was a large blanket sheet, nine-column, four-page paper measuring 22 by 29 3/2 inches. On August 22 of that year the Live Stock Reporter was added to the name of the paper and more space was devoted to the live stock interests. The back page was covered with the conspicuous "brand ads", a type of advertisement peculiar only to western sections where cattle owners advertise their brands. From 1885 to 1894, the weekly edition of the Yellowstone Journal came out on bright yellow paper and the combination of the back page with its stock advertisements and the bright yellow of the paper stock, made this sheet one of the most distinctive journalistic productions in the country. In 1901 W. Gordon became a co-publisher with Sam Gordon. The paper has been continued to the present by the Journal Publishing Company of Miles City with Sam Gordon as editor, H. G. Potter being the other member of the firm.

The Atlantis.

The Atlantis was started at Glendale December 16, 1879, by Legh H. Freeman of Butte, as a weekly five-column, eight-page sheet measuring 13 by 19 3/4 inches. Freeman, who was owner of the Frontier Index of Butte, ran the paper until 1881, when the publication of the Atlantis was ceased.

Dillon Tribune

The Sheridan Messenger was established in December 1879 by Hiram Brundage at Sheridan as a five-column four-page weekly measuring 14 by 21 inches. It was continued for fourteen months when it was merged in with the Dillon Tribune which had been first issued February 19, 1881, with H. Brundage as publisher and proprietor
and J. F. Kline local editor. In March 1883, Frank E. Foote, of New York, became
publisher of the Tribune under a lease of establishment from Brundage, who resumed
the publication in February 1884, the paper at this time being a six-column, four
page sheet measuring 15 by 12\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches. July 11, 1885, John Russel Wilson appeared
as editor of the Tribune. The Tribune Publishing Company was incorporated July 2,
1886, with B. F. White, H. Brundage and E. H. Brundage trustees, the management of
the plant going to E. H. Brundage, son of H. Brundage. A. B. Quinan assumed the
editorial duties of the Dillon Tribune on August 7, 1886, remaining until February
4, 1887, when Frank E. Foote returned to the paper as editor.

In the summer of 1887 the Dillon Tribune took over the Dillon Examiner.
The Examiner was a semi-weekly democratic publication started June 1, 1886 by Charles
S. Wright, who had purchased one half interest in the Butte Daily Free Press and
with Will Oakley, who owned the other half, moved the plant to Dillon to start the
Examiner. About September 1, 1886, Oakley withdrew and Wright continued the paper
until he disposed of his interest to The Tribune. In the spring of 1888 J. H. Wilson
returned to the Tribune, remaining over a year and retiring from the editorship on
July 12, 1889, when by a change in publishers, Charles W. Birchard became the editor.
About this time the paper was enlarged from a five-column quarto to a six-six column
quarto. Birchard was with the paper only about a year. W. W. Cheeley was local
editor about two years, and L. T. Jones did the local work for about a year following.
Will W. Simpson was local editor about seven years, resigning in March 1911. In
May 1911, George E. Secour of Oregon, became city editor, being followed by Emil
E. Rettig of Missouri in July 1912 who remained about a year and was followed on the
reportial staff by John Donohue and C. Page.

F. E. Foote, the present manager of the Dillon Tribune had been connected
with the paper continuously since 1883, most of the time in the capacity of business
manager and managing editor. In 1906, the Tribune Publishing Company as a corporation,
expired by limitation and Frank E. Foote and Ida M. Foote, his wife, who owned all
the stock, did not re-incorporate, but continued the business as a partnership,
using the name of the publishing company for business purposes. For the last ten
years the number of pages printed has run from eight to twelve, the paper having
always been all home print. As the pioneer paper of Beaverhead County, the Dillon
Tribune, under a long period of one management, which is still retained by Frank
E. Foote, has been one of the prominent papers of southern Montana.

Morning Capital

The Morning Capital was a daily paper first issued May 2, 1880, by Guy
X. Piatt, Lee Travis, H. C. Williams and William Shone. The Capital lived eight
months and died at the hands of the sheriff, succumbing on February 4, 1881. Guy
Piatt was later with the Helena Independent and the Butte Intermountain.

The River Press

Williams, Wright and Stevens first issued the River Press at Fort Benton
on October 27, 1880, as a five-column, eight-page sheet, 13\(\frac{3}{4}\) by 20 inches. H. C.
Williams was the editor, Thomas D. Wright, the Business manager and James E. Stevens,
the local editor and typographical man. July 13, 1881, H. C. Williams sold his
interest in the paper to Jerre Collins, who became editor and later purchased the
interests of T. D. Wright. July 6, 1882, the River Press became a daily and in 1884
switched from an independent to a republican sheet. July 8, 1885, the River Press
suffered a loss by fire and reduced editions came out for a period. After buying
the equipment of the Benton Record the paper resumed its old form and soon became
the leading journal of the northern section of Montana. It was a marvel of western
newspaper progressiveness which maintained supremacy under adverse circumstances.
Prosperity marked the course of the River Press at this time and in 1887 dividends
of 26 per cent were declared upon a capital stock of 10,000 dollars. July 1, 1887
Jerre Collins left the River Press going to the Great Falls Tribune. The River
Press Publishing Company now publishes a daily and weekly paper with H. K. Harber as
editor.

Butte Intermountain

The company which published the Butte Intermountain was formed in February
1881 with 20,000 dollars capital and it included the following leading mining and
mercantile men of Montana as its list of officers; W. E. Hall, president; C. T.
Meader, vice-president; C.S. Warren, secretary; H. A. DArcheul, treasurer and Lee
Mantle, manager. Chauncey Barbour was editor-in-chief and John B. Reed, city editor.
Among the first stockholders and originators of the Daily Intermountain were such
well known Montana pioneers as William N. Jack, William Thompson, Silas F. King, John D. Thomas, T. Mel Lowry, Patrick A. Largey and Henry Williams. The paper started as both a weekly and daily, the first issue being on March 21, 1881. The politics of the paper was Republican. The daily was a seven-column four-page sheet of 17 1/2 by 23 dimensions and the weekly a six-column eight page paper, measuring 15 1/2 by 21 1/2 inches. Not long after the organization and issue of the paper Mantle became its principal stockholder and later its sole owner. From its inception he had full charge of its business affairs and in general, directed its policy, giving it much time and attention until 1901, when he disposed of it.

In August 1881, Professor Frederick Lockley, formerly of the Salt Lake Tribune, became editor of the paper. January 1, 1882, subscription prices were quoted for the daily, semi-weekly and weekly Inter Mountain, this paper having taken the lead in placing itself within the popular reach by a reduction of the yearly weekly subscription price to three dollars. In 1884 John B. Read became editor, the following year Guy H. Piatt taking a place on the staff. In 1886 the daily had assumed blanket sheet proportions being an eight-column four-page sheet, measuring 19 by 26 2/3 inches.

January 19, 1895, James H. Monteath succeeded Lee Mantle as manager of the paper, Mantle going to Washington as senator from the state of Montana. October 22, 1897, M. A. Berger became manager of the Inter Mountain, remaining until March 29, 1902. Mantle had disposed of his interest in the paper in 1901, and Berger had been in his employ for about eleven years. During most of the twenty years that the Inter Mountain was under Lee Mantle's control it was in competition with exceptionally able newspapers that were backed by enormous wealth and great influence. Nevertheless its prestige and its circulation grew steadily and constantly through the years and had reached their highest point at the time its ownership was transferred.

John B. Read remained in editorial charge only a short time after Mantle's departure from the Inter Mountain, retiring in 1902 and being succeeded by R. W. Criswell who remained until the latter part of 1903. As an editorial writer Read had few equals and no superior in the state. In the later years of his incumbancy, when because of ill health he was compelled to place others in temporary editorial charge of the paper he utilized such men as Daniel J. Searles, Guy X. Pyatt, Frank M. Leanord,
and A. B. Keith. Read was brilliant, instructive, entertaining and witty, and possessed the rare gift of a gentle, humorous satire, which, while keenly effective, rarely wounded deeply. Added to these gifts and attainments, was a loyalty which nothing could swerve, a nature that was just, a heart overflowing with human sympathy and a soul filled with the loftiest ideals and noblest aspirations. From the period of 1903 until 1907 Jerry Murphy was editor. For six weeks in 1907, from February 13 to March 28, the publication of the Inter Mountain and of all other Butte and Anaconda papers, was suspended because of a strike of press men which was ordered to enforce a demand for an advanced scale of wages. Charles T. Shearer became editor and remained until January 1, 1913. J. H. Durston for many years editor of the Anaconda Standard, bought the Inter Mountain from the copper interests and the name was changed under his editorship to the Butte Post.
The Billings Daily Gazette was first issued May 11, 1885, being the result of a merger of three papers: the Billings Post, the Billings Herald and the Billings Daily Rustler. The Post was started at Coulson as a republican weekly in the spring of 1882 by A. K. Yerkes, who sold the paper the same year to J. D. Matheson. Under the management of Matheson it was a five-column, four page sheet measuring 12 1/2 by 20 inches, later being enlarged to an eight page sheet of the same dimensions. December 18, 1884, Walter Matheson acquired an interest in the Post and became manager of the paper. The last Post was issued April 30, 1885, just before the triple merger.

The Billings Herald was a democratic weekly started in June, 1882 by Bromley and Devine of Saint Paul. In the spring of 1833 Alexander Devine purchased Bromley's interest and started the Billings Daily Herald. During the summer of 1883 Devine formed a partnership with Matheson and they were joint editors and publishers. The daily was suspended on January 16, 1884, because of lack of advertising patronage, the weekly continuing. At the time of the Herald's last issue on May 2, 1885, the paper was under the ownership of Devine and McFarlin as editors and publishers and the paper was a seven-column, four-page sheet 17 3/4 by 23 1/6 inches in dimensions. The Billings Daily Rustler was started at Billings in November, 1884, having originated in Miles City by E. H. Becker the spring of that year. It was a strong competitor in a crowded field at the time of the amalgamation of the three Billings papers. The Herald and Post were first merged, later taking over the office and good will of the Rustler on a purchase. An Associated Press franchise was purchased and on May 2, 1885, the Herald and Post outfits were moved into the Rustler building, which five hours later burned, ruining the entire outfit. Borrowing a hand press from the Livingston Enterprise, the Gazette put out its early edition after the fire under adverse circumstances. July 23, 1885, the paper was increased to a six-column, eight-page sheet measuring 14 3/6 by 21 inches, being printed on a new cylinder steam press. In September, 1885, J. D. Matheson purchased the interests of Alex Devine and Charles S. McFarlin, becoming owners of most of the stock, with Walter Matheson and Sam F. Panton holding small interests.

In 1887 Matheson and Panton retired from the Gazette and the officers
included Edgar B. Camp, president and treasurer; Mary Camp, secretary; and J. P. Whelpey the local writer. In 1888 the daily suspended because of lack of financial patronage, the weekly continuing. September 13, 1888, E. H. Becker became editor and followed out the republican policies of the paper. December 19, 1889, the Gazette appeared in a new dress of Brevierv type, a Cransfield cylinder press having been installed. In December, 1890, H. L. Knight became associate editor, remaining until March, 1892. From November 12, 1891, until August 4, 1892, the Gazette was reduced from a six-column, eight-page sheet to a five-column paper, resuming the original form on a later date.

September 14, 1895, the weekly was increased to twelve pages and before the end of the year a sixteen page weekly was being published. The daily, which had been discontinued in 1888 was re-established in the summer of this year. In January, 1896, the semi-weekly Gazette was first issued. Tuesdays and Fridays being the days of publication.

After ten years of service on the Gazette, E. H. Becker, on January 21, 1898, relinquished editorial control to E. L. Boardman, who had been connected with the paper in an editorial capacity for nearly three years before 1897. Becker returned to the managership of the paper December 1, 1898, Boardman remaining in editorial charge. May 16, 1899, E. L. Boardman established himself as editor and publisher of the Gazette. From April 30, 1903, until three years later, the Daily Gazette, which had been maintained for nearly three years, was discontinued. It was however, resumed in 1904. January 1, 1907, Jean P. Decker became editor, E. H. Becker still being proprietor. November 30, 1910, F. J. Harkins became manager of the Gazette. W. W. Gail is the present editor of the Billings Gazette.

The Glendive Times.

The Glendive Times was first issued August 11, 1881 in the rear end of a log shack in Glendive by W. W. Mabee as a six-column, four-page sheet, measuring 15 3/2 by 23 3/4 inches. The paper was enlarged on April 6, 1882, to a seven-column four-page sheet of 17 2/3 by 23 3/4 dimensions. In the fall of 1882, Mabee purchased the Yellowstone Press which had started in the fall of 1882 by Blake and Burdick as a campaign sheet, Bert Blake being editor. The paper had continued only for a few months
when Mabee made the purchase and consolidated the Press into the Times. The Times assumed blanket sheet proportions on January 1, 1883, as an eight-column four page weekly measuring 18 1/4 by 23 1/2 inches and being an all-at-home production. April 1, 1885 John Allen purchased a half interest with W. W. Mabee and the Time Publishing Company was formed. The paper assumed more uniform size on September 13, 1885 when it was enlarged to six-columns, eight pages with 15 by 22 dimensions. The Times was suspended December 27, 1885, after an existence of over four years.

The Mineral Argus-Fergus County Argus

The Mineral Argus was first published at Maiden, August 9, 1883, by C. S. Fell and J. M. Vrooman under the firm name of Fell & Vrooman. The Argus was the pioneer paper of Central Montana, Fort Benton containing the nearest publication at the time of its establishment. August 6, 1885, it was changed from a five-column, eight-page paper, 12 1/2 by 19 3/4 inches to a six-column, four-page sheet of 15 by 21 1/2 dimensions, the latter being an all-at-home production. July 29, 1886, The Mineral Argus was last issued at Maiden and the plant was moved to Lewistown where on August 5, 1886, it appeared as the Fergus County Argus, enlarged to a seven-column, four-page sheet measuring 17 1/2 by 23 1/2 inches. In August 1888, the paper was again enlarged, this time to an eight-column, four-page blanket sheet, 17 3/4 by 25 3/4 inches.

September 4, 1890, Fell sold his interest to Vrooman because of political differences, and the paper which had been independent in politics became a republican weekly with John M. Vrooman editor and proprietor. Charles S. Fell, after severing his relations with J. M. Vrooman, was for a number of years associated with A. K. Yerkes in the publication of the Bozeman Chronicle. He was editor of the Cle Elum (Washington) Echo at the time of his death in 1911.

In May 1898, the paper was changed to a six-column, eight-page sheet of 15 by 21 1/2 dimensions and in December 1899 was enlarged to seven columns. June 27, 1900, Halsey R. Watson became business manager, remaining until November 1, 1907, when after nineteen years of continuous employment in the Argus office, he retired from the paper. Tom Stout became city editor of the Argus in November, 1904, a position which he held for two years, when forming a partnership with H. J. Kelley, they purchased the Lewistown Democrat of T. J. Johns, Stout subsequently becoming sole owner of the
Democrat. In October, 1912, E. T. Packard purchased the Argus from John M. Vrooman, who later associated with Butte H. Tipton in the Grass Range Review, the pioneer paper of eastern Fergus County. January 26, 1915, J. A. Gilluly bought the Argus from E. T. Packard, and is present proprietor and publisher of the paper.

Bozeman Chronicle.

The Bozeman Chronicle was established January 27, 1883, with Sam W. Langhorne as editor and A. K. Yerkes as business manager. The paper was printed on a Chicago Taylor press and until November 5, 1884, it was a nine-column, four-page sheet measuring 21 3/4 by 27 1/2 inches, when it was reduced to eight columns, four pages, measuring 19 1/2 by 25 1/2 inches. In December 1884, S. W. Langhorne sold out to A. W. Yerkes, who became publisher of the paper. April 14, 1886, the Chronicle was enlarged from already good proportions to the original nine-column sheet.

August 1, 1891, Charles S. Fell became a partner of A. W. Yerkes in the publication of the paper under the firm name of Yerkes & Fell. In February 1893, after many years as a nine-column, four-page blanket sheet, the Chronicle was changed to a six-column, eight-page sheet measuring 14 1/2 by 22 1/2 inches. October 19, 1899, Yerkes & Fell sold the Chronicle to David Marks, trustee of a new company, J. W. Kelly becoming editor and F. E. Hoss business manager.

The Chronicle Publishing Company was formed November 29, 1899. William M. Bole became the editor on August 8, 1900, Hoss still remaining as business manager until June 1, 1903, when he left to publish The Stockman and Farmer at Belgrade. H. H. Howard assumed the duties of business manager on April 12, 1905, and on January 1, 1906, James P. Bole became editor. The Bozeman Daily Chronicle was commenced December 4, 1911 and has continued to date under the ownership of James P. Bole and H. H. Howard. The Chronicle is also published as a weekly.

Livingston Tribune-Livingston Enterprise.

The Livingston Tribune was the pioneer paper at Livingston, starting February 3, 1883, with M. J. Mehan and C. A. Carson as publishers. June 26, 1883 Meehan, Dickinson & Eberman became proprietors. In 1884 the Tribune was a six-column, eight-page weekly, independent in politics. The Livingston Enterprise commenced publication June 4, 1883, being established by J. E. Wright and George H. Hendry as a daily. In '83, the Enterprise purchased the National Park Pioneer edited by W. D. Knight, the
latter having started June 24, 1883, as a seven-column folio, independent in politics. In September 1884, Wright and Hendry bought the Livingston Tribune plant and November 1885, they suspended the daily. In October 1885, J. E. Hendry disposed of his interests to George H. Wright. In June 1892, the paper was enlarged to an eight-page sheet. April 29, 1899, George H. Wright sold his interest in the Enterprise to B. F. Hoover who assumed the editorship with J. S. Stuff associate editor. Hoover died after a few months, on August 24, 1899, and after running with Alex Livingston as publisher for a month, the paper became the property of a syndicate of citizens. June 4, 1901, Frank Wright published the paper. There was no change in the ownership of the Enterprise between 1901 and 1914, it being owned by Frank Wright during that period. He sold the publication to the Livingston Publishing Company, which was formed May 4, 1914, as a merger of the Enterprise and the Post. The Post was established in April 1889, by J. D. Whelpy. It was sold by him in 1890 to George Alderson who continued it as a democratic paper until 1900, when on his death it was taken over by his son, A. M. Alderson, who changed it from a weekly to a daily. In 1907 it was leased by James Mallery, who in 1911 relinquished the lease to Alvin Clegg, the latter running it for a year when he got into financial straits and for a while the paper was operated by the First State Bank. Bliss and Darroch then bought it and later Johns and Darroch operated it under a partnership agreement. In 1914 the Post became the weekly issued by the Livingston Publishing Company, the Enterprise continuing as a daily. Frank Wright retired at the time of the merger and Winston V. Morrow became editor and Jerome Locke president and business manager. Morrow retired in the spring of 1915, being succeeded by Roy Gerner as editor.
The Townsend Tranchant

The Townsend Tranchant was established in the fall of 1883 by J. E. Stevens as a weekly publication, after Stevens had raised about 900 dollars in subscriptions from Townsend business men. In 1885 Van H. Fisk bought a half interest in the Tranchant. November 18, 1886, the firm of Stevens & Fisk was formally dissolved and Van H. Fisk purchased J. E. Stevens interest in the paper. September 26, 1888, the paper was reduced from a blanket sheet of eight columns, four pages, measuring 19\(\frac{2}{3}\) by 25\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches, to a six-column, four-page paper of 14\(\frac{1}{2}\) by 21\(\frac{1}{2}\) dimensions. On January 23, 1890, owing to the illness of Van H. Fisk, the Tranchant was discontinued.

It was followed at Townsend by the Townsend Messenger, with which paper was connected James Kerley, John R. Stout, G. G. Watt, and Charles H. Eaton, the latter publishing the Forum in January 1900. The Townsend Star purchased the Forum on January 19, 1901, remaining as the sole Townsend newspaper. The Townsend Star was organized on April 24, 1897, by Hatch & Campbell and it was operated until 1898 by them, when it was sold to Averhill & Gehrett and continued by them until the spring of 1901, when the entire business came into the hands of T. N. Averhill, its present owner.

Great Falls Tribune.

The Sun River Sun started at Sun River as a weekly independent sheet, the first issue being on February 14, 1884. The first copy of the Sun was printed on white satin and was sold at public auction on the evening of February 13, at the close of the performance of the Fort Shaw Comedy Company. R. S. Ford was the purchaser, a sum of 75 dollars being received for the original copy, which was put on sale one day before the official publication date of the paper. David B. Hall was the editor and Will Hanks business manager of the new enterprise. The paper remained at Sun River a little over a year, when on April 30, 1885, the last issue of the Sun was printed at Sun River, the plant being moved to Great Falls and the name being changed to the Great Falls Tribune with Will Hanks, publisher. The first issue of the Great Falls Tribune appeared May 14, 1885, as a seven-column, four-page weekly measuring 17\(\frac{1}{2}\) by 23\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches, being the same size as the Sun.

April 3, 1886, the Tribune passed into the hands of a stock company known
as the Tribune Publishing Company with Will Hanks president and business manager; R. O. Chower, vice president; and Charles M. Webster, secretary and treasurer, the latter serving as editor. In May 1887 both a daily and semi-weekly paper were commenced. The daily started May 16, and the semi-weekly May 18, 1887. Charles M. Webster retired at this time and his place was filled by Walter M. O'Dwyer, a New York journalist who for a time had been editor of the Two Republics in the City of Mexico. June 30, 1887, Jerre Collins, editor of the Fort Benton River Press, purchased the Great Falls Tribune, retaining Will Hanks in charge as manager and W. M. O'Dwyer as editor for a brief period, later assuming personal charge of the paper.

June 11, 1888, the semi-weekly was enlarged from a six-column, four-page sheet of $14\frac{2}{3}$ by $21\frac{1}{2}$ dimensions to a seven-column, four-page sheet, measuring $17\frac{1}{2}$ by $23\frac{3}{4}$ inches. April 12, 1890, the paper was again increased being enlarged to an eight-column, four-page sheet, measuring $9\frac{5}{8}$ by $25\frac{3}{4}$ inches. In February 1891, the semi-weekly was discontinued and the daily and weekly published, the weekly being a six-column, eight-page paper of $14\frac{2}{3}$ by $25\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Jerre Collins retired from the editorship on January 1, 1892, after nearly five years service on the Tribune, disposing of his interests to a syndicate of Great Falls citizens. R. W. Cooley became the new editor and manager and was later succeeded by J. A. MacKnight. When R. W. Cooley left the Tribune it passed into the hands of the First National Bank of Great Falls, and was under contract by R. E. Gray until the summer of 1894. The paper was then taken over for a time by the interests that were pushing the claims of Anaconda in the capital contest, which was then on. After the capital campaign the paper was purchased by W. M. Bole and O. S. Warden in January, 1895, and in March 1895, it was incorporated under the name of "The Tribune." May 12, 1900, W. M. Bole and O. S. Warden disposed of their newspaper property and good will to W. A. Clark of Butte, W. M. Bole retiring from the editorial chair but the business and office force remaining the same. October 8, 1904, the Tribune became the property of W. G. Conrad, W. G. Eggleston of Helena being put in editorial charge and O.S. Warden remaining as manager. In April 1905, the controlling ownership of the paper was again returned to W. M. Bole and O. S. Warden.

The ownership of the Tribune is now held by three stock interests; L. S. Bole, W. M. Bole, and O. S. Warden, W. M. Bole continuing as editor and O. S. Warden as business manager. The Tribune is issued daily, being the leading paper of northern Montana.
Glendive Independent.

The Glendive Independent was established June 14, 1884, by J. R. Widmeyer at Glendive as a weekly publication. This paper is the oldest weekly general newspaper published continuously in the state under one management. The Rocky Mountain Husbandman of Great Falls, which is strictly a farmer's paper, has existed since November 25, 1875, under one management, that of R. N. Sutherlin.

The Independent was changed on December 24, 1887, from a five-column, eight-page sheet, measuring 12½ by 19½ inches, to a seven-column, four-page paper of 17 by 23 1/4 dimensions. In June 1905, the paper was enlarged to a six-column, eight-page sheet, 14½ by 21½, and on May 21, 1912, the Independent was again enlarged to a seven-column, eight-page sheet, measuring 16½ by 23 inches. In 1914 a new model lynotype and a perfecting press was added to the equipment and the subsequent editions of the Independent have made the former issues appear puny in consequence. Of late years the city editor, Forrest Gaines, has raised the plane of the Independent to one of the best general weeklies in the state, his editorials giving the paper more than a local reputation.

The Independent is one of the pioneer papers in the state. As a weekly publication it stands historically in a class by itself. Since 1884 it has been published by the same man in the same place. It has its "ups and downs" the same as has any paper of more than passing age, but has seemed to weather the storms in good style. Its publication has been regular and its changes few, and while its history does not consume much space in print, the Independent must be considered one of the important papers of the state.

Daily Montanian.

The Daily Montanian was first issued January 7, 1885, by the Montana Publishing Company of Helena. The firm was composed of S. A. Robertson, R. Pelky and Fred Carter; S. A. Robertson being managing editor and Thomas Worthington serving as local editor. The paper was a six-column, four-page sheet measuring 15½ by 21 inches, and enjoyed only a short life, being discontinued before August 1885.

Anaconda Review.

The Anaconda Gazette was first issued by John S. Mills on May 10, 1885.
The paper was printed at Deer Lodge for about two months when the plant was moved to Anaconda and the name changed to the Anaconda Review. On August 7, 1885, Leonard Brothers purchased the paper. L. O. Leonard was formerly of the Ogden Pilot and Frank M. Leonard of the Saint Paul Pioneer Press, the Council Bluffs (Iowa) Nonpareil and the New Orleans Times-Democrat. July 1, 1886, the firm of Leonard Brothers was dissolved by mutual consent, Frank M. Leonard selling his interest to L. O. Leonard, who became editor and proprietor. The paper at this time was a blanket sheet, eight columns, four pages, measuring 19 1/2 by 24 1/2 inches.

The Review continued as a weekly until June 12, 1894, when the last issue appeared at Anaconda. The paper became the official organ of the American Railway Union of the state and appeared June 19 in the same form and size and under the same ownership, as the Railway Review, being published at Butte. December 13, 1894, the name was changed to the Mining and Railway Review. November 19, 1897, L. O. Leonard took a railway position and Robert G. Bailey became manager, remaining until August 18, 1898, when the paper ceased.

The Daily Town Talk

The Daily Town Talk was first published in Butte June 8, 1885, by the Town Talk Publishing Company with Harry Rivers manager. William E. Davidson and Lambert Molinelli were the other members of the firm. The Town Talk was first issued from the Miner office as a six-column, four-page sheet of 15 1/2 by 20 measurements, being increased on July 3, 1885, to a seven-column, four-page paper, 17 1/4 by 23 3/4. William E. Davidson became business manager on July 21, 1885.

On August 15, 1885, an early morning fire of supposedly incendiary origin destroyed the Town Talk and laid the office in ruins. On the next day a diminutive sheet of three columns, four pages, measuring 7 1/4 by 10 1/2 appeared; being issued until September 2 as that size and then assuming the old form. At the date of the fire the old firm dissolved and the new firm composed of R. M. Cobban, Will Oakley, William E. Davidson and Lambert Molinelli, was formed. Oakley had previously been connected with the Elko (Nevada) Independent, the Tuscarora Mining Review, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Dillon Tribune and the Butte Miner.

December 11, 1885, Lambert Molinelli and W. E. Davidson severed their connection with the paper and R. M. Cobban and Will Oakley remained as proprietors.
The last issue of the Daily Town Talk was on February 27, 1886, the name of the paper being changed to the Daily Free Press. The paper existed under this name until June 1886, when the plant was moved to Dillon for the Examiner equipment.

Walkerville News

The Walkerville News was established at Walkerville, a suburb of Butte, in October 1884. H. H. Watts & Company were the publishers bringing out the paper semi-weekly. After running the paper six months H. H. Watts & Company retired from the field and Davidson Brothers, William E. and Joseph H., became publishers and proprietors of the paper. The latter part of August 1885, J. H. Davidson retired from the paper and William E. Davidson became the sole proprietor, continuing until January 1886, when the News expired.

Jefferson County Enterprise - Boulder City Sentinel

The Jefferson County Enterprise was established at Boulder in June 1885, as a six-column folio of independent tendencies, Platt Burr being the editor. It was short-lived and after ceasing publication was revived in the fall of 1885 as the Boulder City Sentinel, later being changed to the Jefferson County Sentinel and under the latter name being edited by S. A. Robertson, who on September 23, 1897, employed C. B. Robertson as assistant editor. The paper ceased publication June 29, 1898.

The Rising Sun

The Rising Sun was first issued on August 13, 1885, as a seven-column, six-page independent weekly, measuring 17½ by 23 1/4 inches, with H. E. Lawrence editor and proprietor. Lawrence for seven years had been publisher of the News at Northfield, Minnesota and later was foreman of The Butte Miner. On May 18, 1887, owing to the death of all four children and the ill health of himself and wife, Lawrence sold the paper to what became the Sun River Publishing Company, and S. M. Corson became the editor. January 1, 1889, S. M. Corson became the publisher, remaining with the paper until February 6, 1890, when he disposed of his interests to A. W. DeLeary, who succeeded him as publisher. December 26, 1894, DeLeary retired from the management which was taken up by Charles Albert Bull and Samuel T. Getts. Getts was first the editor and later also became manager of the Rising Sun, assuming full control of the paper June 26, 1895. Getts ran the paper until December 30, 1896, when the publication of the Rising Sun ceased.
Centerville Journal.

The Centerville Journal was an eight-column weekly started in the fall of 1885 by W. J. Penrose and was devoted to mining news.

Choteau Calumet.

The Choteau Calumet was first issued at Choteau on December 18, 1885, by the Choteau Publishing Company, as a five-column, eight-page democratic weekly of \(13\frac{1}{2}\) by \(20\frac{1}{2}\) measurements. W. H. Buck was the manager and the equipment was thoroughly up-to-date, a Hoe Cylinder Press and stereotype department having been installed at the outset. On October 28, 1886, the paper was reduced to four pages, continuing as such until June 29, 1889, when the publication of the Calumet stopped.

Philipsburg Mail.

The Philipsburg Mail was first issued in January 1887 as a republican weekly. Lombard and McCoy were the proprietors, issuing their paper from the unpretentious surroundings of a cow shed. It was a five-column, four-page sheet measuring \(12\frac{1}{2}\) by \(19\frac{1}{2}\) inches. Lombard remained only a short time, selling out to Mark H. Bryan. May 5, 1887, the Mail was enlarged to a six-column, four-page paper of 15 by 21 dimensions, and on December 1, 1887, the paper became a seven column, four page sheet, measuring \(17\frac{1}{2}\) by 23 inches. May 3, 1888, the paper became a six-column, four-page semi-weekly with Mark H. Bryan assuming editorial charge and Charles McCoy, local editor. July 19, 1888, Thomas C. Congdon purchased the one-third interest owned by Charles G. McCoy and the firm became Bryan Brothers & Congdon, with M. H. Bryan, Jo X Bryan and T. C. Congdon as members, and M. H. Bryan still editor.

The Mail Publishing Company was formed on September 6, 1894. T. C. Condon retired from the Mail on July 8, 1898, after ten years of service, selling his interest to Lawrence Hauck, the firm becoming Bryan Brothers and Hauck, dissolving however on August 2, 1902, when Hauck bought the interests of the Bryan brothers and became sole proprietor. Lawrence Hauck is the present owner.

Northwest Tribune

The Northwest Tribune was first issued at Stevensville in the spring of 1887 by Nat Y. Hoss and Lon R. Hoss, assisted by a local stock company. It was a seven-column folio and independent in politics. In 1893 J. R. Faulds became editor and publisher. He has maintained the paper since that time to this, since 1904 having been sole proprietor. The Tribune has been issued every Friday, with the exception of the years 1894 and 1895.
Silver State Publishing Company and took possession of the paper and plant. Percy Raban of Great Falls was put in charge as editor with H. H. Zenor, business manager. In a short time A. D. Hoss the veteran editor was given the editorial tripod and he continued in the chair until January 1, 1911, when the present owner and editor, Joseph Smith II, formerly editor of the Madisonian of Virginia City, purchased the paper and plant and changed the politics of the paper back to democratic.

Anaconda Standard.

The Anaconda Standard is the youngest of the great dailies of Montana. First published September 4, 1889, at Anaconda it has proven an asset to the journalistic sphere of the state. Because of its nearness to Butte, and its method of covering the field in the big mining city, this paper has always been regarded in the same light with the Butte dailies, in reality covering two local fields. Since its beginning it has been a seven-column paper of 20 by 31\(\frac{1}{2}\) dimensions varying in the number of pages, at present averaging 14 to 16 pages to the regular daily edition.

J. H. Durston was the editor of the Standard from its beginning until 1912, when he was followed by Charles H. Eggleston, the present editor. For a number of years the Standard employed "Trowbridge" as cartoonist and their exclusive service from his pen was equal to that of any paper in the country. Under the present management the Standard bears a metropolitan appearance and is among the leading papers of the northwest.