

Dr. Edward N. Tihen (1924-1991) was an avid reader and researcher of Wichita newspapers. His notes from Wichita newspapers -- the "Tihen Notes," as we call them -- provide an excellent starting point for further research. They present brief synopses of newspaper articles, identify the newspaper -- Eagle, Beacon or Eagle-Beacon -- in which the stories first appeared, and give exact references to the pages on which the articles are found. Microfilmed copies of these newspapers are available at the Wichita State University Libraries, the Wichita Public Library, or by inter-library loan from the Kansas State Historical Society.

Subject(s): Irish Population

Wichita Beacon

Thursday, August 2, 1888

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1. News received from New York this morning that the Rev. J. J. Hennessey, of St. John's Church of St. Louis, has been appointed as bishop of the diocese of Wichita to succeed the late Dr. O'Reilly, the first bishop, who died before his consecration. Father Hennessey was born in Ireland and brought to this country when two or three years of age. He is 39 and has been pastor of St. John's church, St. Louis, for the last eight years.

Tuesday, July 6, 1897

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5. Report of death today of J. J. McNamara, a leading dry goods merchant of Wichita, of appendicitis, at age 47. Born January 15, 1850 in Creagh, County Claire, Ireland and came to America at age 16 and to Newton, Kansas in the early 70s. Moved to Wichita in 1887 and engaged in business with A. S. Munson as Munson and McNamara's. He bought his partner's interest in the business two years ago and since then firm has been known as J. J. McNamara and Company. Survived by wife, Mary Louise, and four daughters. Had returned to Ireland to marry wife in 1883. Oldest daughter, Louise, is 13. Margaret is nine, Vivian is five, and Dorothea age six months. A. S. Munson now lives in California.

Monday, November 20, 1899

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6. Report of death yesterday of John B. Carey, ex-mayor of Wichita, at San Jose, California. Born in Ireland June 21, 1828. Came to United States as young man to Cleveland, Ohio, then Bloomington, Illinois, then Maroa (sic), Illinois until coming to Wichita in 1874, where he became a prominent lumber dealer. Married first wife, Miss Bennett, of Clinton, Illinois in 1858 and had three children, only one of which, William P. Carey, now of Chicago, is living. After death of first wife he married Miss Mary Elizabeth Myers, of Maron, Illinois, in 1865. She survives, as well as their six children, Charles W., Lulu M. Dawden, Edward, Joseph G., and Miss Elizabeth Carey (who is 17).

Wednesday, April 24, 1918

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9. Report of death yesterday evening of Wichita pioneer, Pat V. Healy, of an acute stroke of apoplexy, at his home, 725 South Emporia, at age 72. Born in 1846 in Limerick County, Ireland. Came to Wichita in 1876. Was in real estate business. Parents brought him to U.S. at age two, settling in Kentucky, and then Illinois. Survived by son, Frank, two brothers, E. J., of Wichita, and John A., of Chicago, and one sister, Mrs. Kate Gould, of Texas. Obituary. Photograph.

Tuesday, July 13, 1920

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1. Report of death at 2:45 a.m. today at St. Francis Hospital of Bishop John J. Hennessy, after a stroke of paralysis beginning at 9:00 p.m. last night, age 72. Born near Cloyne, County Cook, Ireland July 19, 1847. Came with parents to St. Louis as a child. Ordained as a priest in 1869. From 1880 to 1888 was rector of St. John's Church in St. Louis. Consecrated Bishop of Wichita November 30, 1888 in St. John's Church at St. Louis. Arrived in Wichita in December 1888. In 1893 he purchased the Mead property on Central Avenue as site for new cathedral. Date of his Golden Jubilee as a priest was November 28, 1919. Further obituary and photograph.

Friday, August 18, 1922

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2. Report of death Tuesday of Edward Higginson, secretary of Lehmann-Higginson Wholesale Grocery Company, at age 75. Born in Ireland October 31, 1846. To United States at age four and to Humboldt, Kansas in 1871 where he engaged in grocery business with G. E. Lehmann. The company moved to Wichita in 1890. Survived by wife, two sons, and one daughter (named).

Sunday, October 21, 1923

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Magazine

4. Report of visit of Sedgwick County's second sheriff, John Meagher, to Wichita last week. Was born in Ireland in 1843 and came to United States at age five and then to Salina, Kansas in 1867. Came to Wichita in 1868 after hauling a load of lumber here that was for the Munger House. Moved to Indian Territory in 1877 after serving as sheriff here for nearly two years. Had a twin brother, Mike Meagher, who settled at Caldwell and was killed there in winter of 1881. Historical details. He now divides his time between Soldiers Home at Leavenworth and the homes of his children.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, October 27, 1935**

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5. David D. Leahy is 77 today. Photograph with article. Came to United States at age 19 from Limerick, Ireland.

Wichita Eagle

Sunday, May 4, 1980**page**

- 1E. Report of celebration yesterday of the 100 year anniversary of St. Joseph Catholic Church at Ost (St. Joe), in southeast corner of Reno County. The parish and village officially named Ost, though state maps label it St. Joe, were started in 1879 with the settlement of 13 families, mostly of German, Polish, and Irish descent. The name Ost came from postal officials misspelling the family name Ast. Present resident Julius Ast lives across the street from the church and is a descendant of the initial settlers. Photo.