

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 interlibrary loan from the Kansas State Historical Society.

Subject(s): Alligators in Riverside Park zoo

Wichita Beacon

Tuesday, June 13, 1911

page

3. Four alligators arrived yesterday for the Riverside park zoo. They were recently purchased by Cecil Cox, park superintendent. ¶ Another improvement now being made at South Riverside park is dredging of the channel on the east bank of the river and making a nice sand beach for swimming at that point.

Wichita Eagle

Thursday, September 11, 1913

page

2. At the Central Riverside zoo the alligators have been provided with a new galvanized tank which is connected with the sanitary sewer. New quarters will be built for the coyotes, swifts, and wolves. The building constructed for a concession booth has been remodeled and converted into a rest room.

Wichita Eagle

Tuesday, May 28, 1918

page

5. Riverside park alligators have been taken from the zoo house to their pit. ¶ The open air theater's site has been changed from the old location east of the log cabin to the old street car grounds opposite the bath house, and the seating capacity has been enlarged. The showing of pictures will start Wednesday.

Wichita Eagle

Monday, May 16, 1921

page

5. The alligators at Riverside park are just starting to resume eating after their winter hibernation. They spend most of their time basking in the sun on the little island that has been constructed for them.

Wichita Beacon

Sunday, April 9, 1922

page

2. The six alligators at Riverside Zoo were moved from winter quarters in the animal house yesterday to the outdoor tank.

Wichita Eagle

Saturday, April 20, 1940

page

10. Photo of alligators at Riverside Park zoo being moved out of winter quarters. Article with details.

Wichita Eagle

Sunday, May 10, 1953

page

- 4B. Photos showing moving of the alligators at the Central Riverside Park zoo to their summer quarters yesterday. Oldest one has been there since 1919.

Wichita Eagle

Saturday, October 5, 1957

page

- 5A. Article about the three alligators in Riverside Park Zoo, Grandpa, Lady, and One-Eye, which were moved to their winter quarters yesterday. The largest, Grandpa, weighed 403½ pounds, One-Eye 352½ pounds, and Lady 226 pounds. The earliest records, in 1917, show weights of about 100 pounds at that time. Details. Photos.

WE-Beacon

Saturday, May 17, 1969

page

- 5A. Report of move yesterday of Riverside Park Zoo's three alligators to their summer quarters. The reptiles were acquired by Wichita in 1909 and are named One-Eye, Grandpa, and Lady.