

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): Gliders

Wichita Beacon

Thursday, July 4, 1929

page

8. Report of organization of the Wichita Glider Club at meeting last evening. Eldon Cessna was elected president. Other officers named. Application to be made for a state charter.

Wichita Beacon

Thursday, December 19, 1929

page

4. A new glider, designed by Eldon Cessna, was finished yesterday at the Cessna factory and given its first tests for balance. Details.

Wichita Beacon

Wednesday, December 25, 1929

page

12. Photograph of Eldon Cessna's new glider in flight.

Wichita Beacon

Tuesday, March 25, 1930

page

3. Big glider show to be held Sunday under direction of Clyde V. Cessna. The new Cessna soaring glider was tested Sunday with great success by Eldon Cessna.

Wichita Beacon

Sunday, March 30, 1930

page

Magazine

5. Feature article about Wichita gliders with photographs.

Wichita Beacon

Monday, March 31, 1930

page

1. Report of glider show yesterday. Details.

Wichita Beacon**Saturday, April 12, 1930**

page

10. W. P. Moore, an Indian flier, generally known as Chief Thundercloud, was killed yesterday in the crash of his glider two miles south of Wichita on Meridian. The glider was built by the Ace Glider Company. Details. Photographs.

Wichita Beacon**Friday, April 18, 1930**

page

29. The Braley School of Flying has formed a glider school. Details.

Wichita Beacon**Sunday, May 11, 1930**

page

10. Article about the "Skysport" glider, designed by Ward Braley, and to be built by the Braley Glider Corporation. Details. Photograph.

Wichita Beacon**Sunday, July 6, 1930**

page

Magazine

30. Article about aviation in Wichita. Says within the past 90 days Wichita factories have turned out approximately 140 airplanes "that have been placed in surplus;" although recently aviation has been somewhat top heavy and rather "in the dodoes" as far as the manufacturing end is concerned. Wichita has ten active airplane manufacturing concerns, five of which are turning out products licensed by the government: Swallow, Stearman, Travel Air, Cessna, and Watkins. The others are Mooney, Buckley, Yellow Air Cab, Sullivan and Ace Manufacturing Companies. Three gliders are being made here -- Cessna Aircraft Company was a pioneer and reached a peak of one glider per day; the Skysport, manufactured by the Braley Glider Corporation, and Sullivan Aircraft has also turned out a glider. Output of planes in Wichita in previous years was 150 in 1926, 300 in 1927, 927 in 1928, and between 800 and 900 in 1929. Air routes through Wichita include Transcontinental Air Transport-Maddux, National Air Transport, Western Air Express, United States Airways, and Brower Air Services. About 500 passengers board and leave the airplanes here during the course of a month.

Wichita Beacon**Saturday, July 19, 1930**

page

1. S. Ward (Scrap) Braley, age 19, was killed last evening by the crash of his "Skysport" glider, which he designed and built, at the Braley School of Flying airport, southeast of Wichita. Ward had unusual ability in the construction end of aviation, and he designed the Beezle Bug biplane, four of which were built. Survived by parents, Mr. and Mrs.

Thomas Braley, three brothers, Ted, and nine (?) year old Jack, and one (?) sister Dorothy, 16 (?). Details. To be buried at Marion, Kansas. Wings apparently broke off at altitude of 100 feet when glider being towed by car for takeoff.

Wichita Eagle**Saturday, July 19, 1930**

page

1. S. Ward Braley, 18 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Tomas E. Braley, was killed yesterday in a glider accident.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, September 3, 1933**

page

17. Photograph of glider target with 12 foot wingspan being built by Stearman for United States Army. One hundred being built.

Wichita Eagle**Monday, June 25, 1934**

page

1. Article reports Jack Russell, 19, killed yesterday in glider crash at Travel Air field on East Central.

Wichita Beacon**Tuesday, April 7, 1942**

page

1. Cessna Aircraft Company has received a contract of more than \$20 million for the production of gliders, it was learned reliably today, and it will begin construction of a new plant at Hutchinson immediately, on a 110 acre tract east of the city and near the Hutchinson municipal airport. The new plant is to be completed within 30 days. Details.

Wichita Beacon**Sunday, May 17, 1942**

page

11. The Cessna Aircraft Company is now ready to embark on a large glider construction program, it was announced yesterday by Dwane Wallace, president. Equipment is already being moved into the company's new plant at Hutchinson, construction of which was started only 30 days ago. Details.

Wichita Beacon**Thursday, June 4, 1942**

page

1. Approximately ten weeks after the first announcement that the Cessna Aircraft Company would build a glider plant, the first of these gliders will come off the assembly line some time next week.

Wichita Beacon

Friday, September 11, 1942

page

30. Three Wichita aircraft plants, Boeing, Beech, and Cessna, are engaged in building large transport gliders carrying 15 fully equipped soldiers, the Army Air Forces announced officially today. Details.

Wichita Beacon

Sunday, November 15, 1942

page

- B-16. It was officially announced yesterday that Wichita's glider construction program has been cancelled, and Wichita aircraft producers are now returning their full efforts to the construction of aircraft. Details.

Wichita Eagle

Sunday, November 15, 1942

page

5. Article about the building of gliders by Wichita aircraft companies since last spring, and saying that the factories are now returning to aircraft production. Details.

Wichita Eagle

Sunday, August 26, 1945

page

15. Article summarizes at length the production by Boeing's Wichita plant. ¶ Includes total of 10,346 equivalent primary trainers, or 44 percent of all primary trainers, with 13 other plants combined producing the other 56 percent. ¶ A total of 1665 completed B-29s plus 125 equivalent B-29s in spare parts, making a total of 40 percent of the combined total of all four B-29 plants. ¶ Parts and assemblies for B-17s built at Boeing-Seattle. ¶ A total of 750 CG-4 gliders used in the invasion of Europe.