

SELECTIONS FROM DR. EDWARD N. TIHEN'S NOTES FROM WICHITA NEWSPAPERS  
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*Please note: 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 or 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): Levitt, Henry Levitt, Henry's**

**Wichita Eagle**

**Wednesday, July 11, 1923**

page

5. Henry Levitt, who for the past five years has been associated with his father, B. M. Levitt, in the clothing business at 610 East Douglas, has purchased the Palace Clothing company, 420-422 East Douglas from Joseph Fractman, who has operated it the past seven years, for \$35,000 and took charge yesterday.

**Wichita Beacon**

**Friday, June 8, 1923**

page

8. Frank M. Dean, real estate dealer, is taking a 99 year lease on the three story building at 610-612 East Douglas from J. N. Haymaker, local attorney. Building is 50 by 140 feet. First floor occupied by B. M. Levitt Clothing Company and office of the Alton Hotel, which occupies the other two floors.

**Wichita Beacon**

**Wednesday, July 11, 1923**

page

2. The Palace Clothing Company, 420-422 East Douglas, has been purchased by Henry Levitt, formerly of Levitt's at 610 East Douglas, for \$35,000. It was purchased from Joseph B. Fractman, who has operated it for the last seven years. Mr. Levitt came to Wichita five years ago and entered the clothing business with his father, B. M. Levitt.

**Wichita Beacon**

**Sunday, September 9, 1923**

page

Magazine

3. Article about Henry's, Wichita's newest high class men and boy's store, opened two months ago by Henry Levitt at 420-422 East Douglas. Biography of Henry Levitt. Details.

**Wichita Beacon**

**Tuesday, September 29, 1925**

page

7. Note about the large new electric sign, 22 feet long and seven feet wide, on the front of Henry's Clothing Store, 420-422 East Douglas.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Thursday, August 5, 1926**

page

5. A ten year lease was signed yesterday by Henry Levitt for a 25 foot frontage at 416 East Douglas, including a two story brick building 25 by 120 feet, which was recently remodeled. Mrs. D. Gerson is owner of the property. The consideration for the ten years is approximately \$42,000. ¶ Mr. Levitt has a clothing store at 420-22 East Douglas and bought the new lease as an investment.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, July 7, 1929**

page

8. Henry's Clothing Company, 420-22 East Douglas, has closed a ten year lease on the entire building it occupies and will remodel the store including rebuilding the front at a cost of \$35,000 according to Henry Levitt, proprietor.

**Wichita Beacon**

**Tuesday, July 16, 1929**

page

7. Henry's Clothing Store, 422-24 East Douglas, is being remodeled and enlarged to double its previous size. Drawing.

**Wichita Beacon**

**Sunday, September 15, 1929**

page

14. Formal opening of enlarged and remodeled Henry's Clothing Store will be held tomorrow. Details.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, September 15, 1929**

page

12. Advertisement announces formal opening tomorrow of the enlarged Henry's clothing store at 420-22 East Douglas. Photograph.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, October 16, 1932**

page

13. Small photograph of Henry's Clothing store, 420-22 East Douglas.

**Wichita Beacon**

**Thursday, October 1, 1936**

page

15. Wichita bus drivers appeared this morning in an entirely new type of uniform. It includes an English type coat with Sam Brown belt, breeches, puttees, and shoes and is black in color. The new uniforms were provided by Henry's Clothing Company. Details. Photo of men in front of four buses.

**Wichita Beacon**

**Tuesday, January 31, 1939**

page

4. Report of death yesterday of Mrs. Rose Levitt, age 69, wife of Bernard Levitt, early day Wichita merchant. She came to Kansas over 45 years ago to marry him. Died at 436 North Terrace Drive. Survived by husband, four sons, Henry, William, Isadore, and Leo, all of the home address, Mrs. Edith Goldschmidt, of Wichita. Other relatives named. Obituary. Photograph.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, June 9, 1946**

page

5. Henry Levitt has completed the purchase of the Union Bus Terminal corner at Broadway and William for the erection of a new building to house Henry's Clothing Company as soon as building restrictions are relaxed and material becomes available. The site with 100 foot frontage on Broadway and 140 feet on William was secured by Henry's on a 99 year lease from the Progressive Building Company, of which Walter P. Innes is trustee. Details. Drawing (not as finally built).

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, November 30, 1947**

page

1. Announcement by Henry Levitt yesterday that work will begin immediately on a new modern stone building for Henry's at the northeast corner of Broadway and William on the site of the old Union bus station. Estimated cost is \$750,000. Location has 100 foot frontage on Broadway and 140 feet on William and was secured by Henry's more than a year ago on a 99 year lease from the Progressive Building Company, of which Walter P. Innes is trustee. Architects are Overend and Boucher. Exterior will be faced with terra cotta. Details. Drawing.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, May 16, 1948**

page

3. Photo of Henry's new store at Broadway and William under construction. Work started last week on the second floor.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, July 25, 1948**

page

Special 76th anniversary edition of the Eagle with special articles, etc.

14B. Photo of Henry's new store under construction.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, November 7, 1948**

page

7. The new Henry's store at Broadway and William will be opened November 15. Details.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, November 14, 1948**

page

1. Articles about grand opening of the Henry's new store at Broadway and William tomorrow evening, with history of Henry's, etc.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Tuesday, November 16, 1948**

page

5. Report of opening of the new Henry's store last evening. Details. Interior photos.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, April 18, 1954**

page

1. Henry's, Inc., yesterday announced plans to build a new store on southeast corner of Douglas and Oliver. Details. Architects: John M. Hickman and Arthur T. Woodman. Drawing.

7A. Henry's new suburban store at Oliver and Douglas is to be opened November 1. Details. Drawing.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, October 31, 1954**

page

Magazine

1B. Full page ad announcing opening of Henry's new Suburban store at Douglas and Oliver tomorrow. Drawing.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, July 22, 1956**

page

8A. Henry's announced that its suburban store at Douglas and Oliver will be expanded to the adjacent area now occupied by Oklahoma Tire and Supply Company, on which Henry's has taken a long term lease. Remodeling will begin about August 1 and the

project is expected to be completed by November 1. Architects for the exterior changes are John Hickman and Arthur Woodman, of Architects Associated. Details.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, September 2, 1956**

page

Magazine

1D. Construction of an addition to Henry's suburban store at Douglas and Oliver is underway and is expected to be completed by October 25. Architects are John Hickman and Arthur Woodman of Architects Associated. Drawing.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, October 21, 1956**

page

2B. New addition to Henry's Suburban store, Douglas and Oliver, is to be opened next Thursday. Details. Drawing.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Thursday, October 25, 1956**

page

Special section

8C. Report of opening today of new men's shop at Henry's Suburban store, Douglas and Oliver. Details and photos.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Saturday, January 8, 1966**

page

1. Henry's will start construction in mid-February on a new store in Twin Lakes Shopping Center. Details. Drawing.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Sunday, March 27, 1966**

page

1D. Building permit issued last week for construction of the new Henry's, Inc. Store at Twin Lakes Shopping Center. To cost estimated one million dollars.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Sunday, October 30, 1966**

page

1C. Henry's Inc's. new store in the Twin Lakes Shopping Center will be held Tuesday. Store cost two million dollars. Architects were Feagins and Kirsch. Details. Photo.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Tuesday, November 1, 1966**

page

3A. Full page ad announcing opening this evening of Henry's Twin Lakes store. Drawing.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Wednesday, November 2, 1966**

page

3A. Follow up report on opening of Henry's Twin Lakes store last evening. Details.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Thursday, February 23, 1967**

page

5A. The original home of Henry's, Inc., a two story building at 422 East Douglas, is being razed, and the site will be used for a parking lot. Last occupant was Stein's Clothing before fire over four years ago. Photo. Razing complete this week.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Friday, June 21, 1968**

page

1. Report of death yesterday of Henry Levitt, at his home at 7118 East Douglas, six days short of his 75th birthday. Founder and president of the three Henry's, Inc. stores. He was son of Bernard Levitt, an immigrant from Russia, who homesteaded first near Medicine Lodge, Kansas, then moved to Chiles, Kansas. Levitt was born in Chiles June 26, 1893. Family came to Wichita shortly after turn of century. Extensive further biography. Survived by widow, Gladys, three brothers, Leo B., Isadore, and William, all of Wichita, and a sister, Mrs. Samuel Goldschmidt, 810 Stratford. Photo. Entombment in Mission Chapel Mausoleum.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Tuesday, March 4, 1969**

page

5A. The Wichita State University Fieldhouse was renamed Henry Levitt Arena during the Wichita State University-Tulsa basketball game last evening. Field house was constructed in 1955. Levitt died June 20, 1968 at age 74. Details.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Sunday, July 5, 1970**

page

1E. Demolition of the top two floors of the Bissantz Building in 100 block of South Broadway has exposed the north interior of Henry's building, 124 South Broadway. The wall is to be refaced, matching it to the rest of the building. To be completed in about three months.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Sunday, October 22, 1972**

page

5B. Henry's clothing store is celebrating its 50th anniversary this week. Article gives

history of the firm. Photos of old store at 420-22 East Douglas and of the new store, opened in November 1948.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Sunday, May 11, 1975**

page

18A. Grand opening of Henry's new Towne East store is to be held today. The Towne East store will replace the Twin Corners store at Douglas and Oliver. Details. Photos.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Thursday, October 21, 1976**

page

7B. Report of death yesterday of William Levitt, 81, 5810 Blueridge, founder of Levitt Jewelry Company. Born in Louisburg, Kansas and came to Wichita in 1907. Founded Levitt Jewelry Company in 1918 at 306 East Douglas. Retired from the jewelry business in 1953 and founded a real estate development firm, Levitt Development, Inc., that built Eastgate Shopping Center and other projects. Survived by a daughter, Mrs. Bernard Kreitzer, Pasadena, California, two brothers, Isadore, vice-president of Henry's, Inc., and Lev B., president of Henry's, and a sister, Mrs. Sam Goldschmidt, all of Wichita. Photo. Entombment in Mission Chapel Mausoleum.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Monday, January 23, 1978**

page

1C. Report of death yesterday of Leo B. (Buddy) Levitt, 76, president of Henry's, Inc., of leukemia. He was one of four sons of Bernard Levitt, a Russian-born immigrant, and his wife, Rose. His father operated a clothing store in Chiles, in eastern Kansas, and then in Kansas City, Missouri. Leo was born in Kansas City and with his brothers worked at Levitt's Clothing Store, founded at 610 East Douglas when the family moved to Wichita soon after turn of the century. The store moved to 420 East Douglas in 1923 and was then named Henry's. Leo's brother, Henry, died in 1968 and Leo then became president of the company. Further biography. Survived by widow, Rochelle, a sister, Mrs. Edith Goldschmidt, and a brother, Isadore, both of Wichita. Entombment in Mission Chapel Mausoleum.