

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): Silex Brick Company

Wichita Beacon

Friday, May 27, 1904

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8. The Silex Brick company has started building its plant at the foot of Orme street on the east bank of the Arkansas river. A high fill has been made and a spur of the Wichita and Western built north 1,240 feet where the company can set cars to load brick or sand. A large sand dredge has been at work several weeks pumping sand from the bed of the river. The machinery building will be 60 by 80 feet, but additional sheds and trackage will cover a space 266 by 100 feet. ¶ The company hopes to be ready for business by the middle of July. The brick is composed only of lime and sand in such proportions as to make them hard and durable. By a scientific process a bond is formed between the lime and sand that makes the brick harder and more serviceable than ordinary clay brick. No burning is required. The company will start with a capacity of 20,000 brick every ten hours. Total cost of the plant and the sand dredge is nearly \$60,000.

Wichita Beacon

Tuesday, June 28, 1904

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8. Article about a large steel cylinder which was unloaded yesterday for the new Silex Brick company plant at Wichita and Orme streets. Details.

Wichita Eagle

Wednesday, September 14, 1904

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6. The brick plant being built by the Jackson-Walker Coal and Material company on the Wichita and Western tracks near the Arkansas river will be operated under the name of the Wichita Silex Brick company. ¶ The plant will cost \$45,000 and will have a capacity of 40,000 brick per day.

Wichita Beacon

Thursday, September 15, 1904

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6. Contract has been let for the superstructure of the new St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal

church, and work will begin on it at once. Contractor is W. M. Pirtle. Cost of walls and roof to be \$8,600. Basement and foundation are already completed. Walls to be of the new Wichita white Silex brick and trimmed in Carthage cut stone.

Wichita Eagle**Tuesday, October 11, 1904****page**

5. Work has again been begun on the St. Paul's Methodist church at Lawrence and 13th streets. The contract for the superstructure has been let to W. M. Pirtle. The body of the building will be of Silex brick, which is a local product and something new in the construction of buildings in Wichita. Carthage limestone will be used for the trimmings. It is hoped to have the building enclosed by spring.

Wichita Eagle**Wednesday, November 16, 1904****page**

5. Cornerstone of St. Paul's Methodist church at corner of Lawrence avenue and 13th is to be laid Sunday afternoon. Work has been in progress on the church for nearly a year. To cost about \$50,000. Built of Silex brick with Carthage limestone trimming.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, March 12, 1905****page**

14. Article about buildings to be constructed in Wichita this spring. Says the Bissantz-Schweiter building is almost completed as is the Cone-Cornell building on South Lawrence. Brick work on the two story Davidson building, of Silex brick, is nearing construction. Work on the Barnes building will start in late June or early July.

Wichita Eagle**Wednesday, March 15, 1905****page**

6. The C. L. Davidson block being constructed on East Douglas is being increased to three stories from the planned two stories. It is of Silex brick, a pure white in color. Cost about \$20,000.

Wichita Eagle**Thursday, March 30, 1905****page**

5. Work has started on a two story building at 125 North Emporia avenue for the Western Lithograph company. It is being built of Wichita Silex brick, and will cost about \$10,000. ¶ This is the first season the new Silex brick has been used.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, May 7, 1905**

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8. Description of Wichita Silex Brick company plant on east bank of Arkansas river at Orme street.

Wichita Eagle**Saturday, June 3, 1905****page**

5. The new St. Paul's church is ready for its roof to be constructed. The side walls are completed and the entrance will soon be finished. Nearly all of the large blocks to be used in the columns have been received. The exterior is of Silex brick with trimmings of Carthage limestone.

Wichita Beacon**Monday, October 3, 1910****page**

6. A. O. Rorabaugh has bought the residence of Mrs. R. P. Murdock on Park Place for \$18,000, and will take possession November 1. Mr. Rorabaugh now lives at 1215 North Emporia. The Murdock house is built of Silex white brick, trimmed with Carthage stone. It was built about four years ago. U. G. Charles was the architect. Photograph.