

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.

TIHEN NOTES FROM 1876 WICHITA BEACON

Wichita Beacon

Wednesday, January 12, 1876

page

5. The attention of the County Board (of Commissioners) is called to the condition of the bridge across the mill race, north of the city, on the Newton road. It is reported to be in a very dangerous state.

The building that Fritz Snitzler has been fitting up, and situated just east of his restaurant, will be occupied by Charley Lemcke, and will be run under the name of the Apollo. The intermediate space between the eating house and saloon will be built up for a meat market, and will be occupied by Maddux and Scarf.

Fred Stackman will be found in the rooms lately occupied by Mr. Aley's shoe store, between Douglas Avenue and 1st Street on the west side of Main Street.

W. C. Weidner, road supervisor of the North district of Wichita Township, reports that the Augusta Road Bridge and the Hoover Bridge across Chisholm Creek are in first class condition.

Article about proposed Little Arkansas River Bridge, which is needed by those living between the rivers. The present bridge at the mouth of the Little Arkansas River is unsatisfactory. When the latter bridge can be approached, the river is fordable at all points, and when the water is up, the bridge can't be reached because of it. Article suggests the best location for the bridge would be on the section line between sections 17 and 8, known as Mrs. Everets' or Weidner's crossing. (Editor's note: In the July 13, 1876 issue of the *Eagle*, Everets is spelled "Evertt.") It is proposed to ask the county for \$400 or \$500 in aid for building the bridge. It is understood that Mr. Weidner has a large part of the pile timber required on the ground and that the grading of the approaches would be done by those living in the neighborhood.

Wednesday, January 19, 1876

page

2. Report of Kansas population figures by the State Board of Agriculture. Origin broken

down by state and foreign countries.

Total population: 526,253

Total white population: 506,668

Total colored population: 19,588

Total white native: 443,005

Total foreign born: 62,663

5. Mr. James G. Hope is about to erect two bricks on the vacant lots between the Green Front and Aley's new building, a solid block on the avenue from Main Street to Market Street.

The two brick yards burnt this season and put in buildings upwards of 1,000,000 bricks.

Dr. Fabrique has fitted up in a comfortable and cozy style, the room formerly occupied by W. S. Jenkins.

Wednesday, January 26, 1876

page

5. Article about the cattle trade this season. Details.

Wednesday, February 2, 1876

page

5. Notice of a meeting of the Democratic voters of Sedgwick County at Eagle Hall on Tuesday, February 22nd. Names of signers listed including Ben W. Aldrich, H. W. Vigus, D. L. Green, N. A. English, F. A. Sowers, M. Zimmerly, John Fisher, and a number of others.

Matthews and Aley will probably occupy their new rooms on the avenue (Douglas Avenue) this week.

Houck Brothers finished moving into their commodious store room on the avenue (Douglas Avenue) last week.

Mr. Stackman, not being able to obtain brick is putting up a stone building. We understand that stone can be obtained in any quantity desired.

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, up to date, has shipped 998 car loads of wheat, or about 400,000 bushels. This does not include what has been shipped in the shape of flour.

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad has been completed to Neperto, Colorado.

Wednesday, February 9, 1876**page**

5. Statistics for Sedgwick County for 1875 as reported by the State Board of Agriculture. County organized in 1870; population in 1870 was 1,075, in 1874 was 8,310. Other statistical details.
8. Report of city finances for quarter ending October 1st, 1875. Details.

Wednesday, April 5, 1876**page**

2. Advertisement with drawing of New York Store of Morris Kohn and Company.
4. Advertisement for the Wichita House, formerly the American House, corner of Douglas Avenue and Lawrence Avenue, C. G. Thompson and G. H. Hilliard, proprietors.
5. Article about Wichita's prospects as a cattle shipping point this year. Details.

Wednesday, April 12, 1876**page**

8. Article acknowledging the Eagle's large, illustrated special Centennial edition of 8,000 to 10,000 copies.

Wednesday, April 19, 1876**page**

5. The water mill on Chisholm Creek east of town will be ready to grind by the 1st of May. They have put in \$5000 worth of machinery.

Article about the Hays Brothers large hide and fur business. Details.

Ed Jewett, of Pueblo, Colorado, came back to Wichita last week, and returned to Pueblo yesterday.

Wednesday, April 26, 1876**page**

4. Note from the *Wellington Press*: "The Oxford mill is a success. The water power is the best in the state, and the facilities for manufacturing flour are first class. The mill, since its completion, has been in operation both day and night."
5. Great complaint is made of the conditions of the South Augusta Road, near Sam Hoover's place east of Chisholm Creek, which is said to be almost impassable.

Charley Roberson has eight to ten men engaged on Kohn's new brick block on the south side of the avenue (Douglas Avenue), opposite the *Beacon* office. (Editor's note: The name Roberson is spelled "Robinson" in July 14, 1876 issue of the *Beacon*.)

Wednesday, May 10, 1876**page**

5. Mike Zimmerly is about ready to build on the lot just east of Aley's Boot and Shoe Store on Douglas Avenue. The building will be a one story brick, 23 by 60 feet.

Messrs. Braitsch and Schumacher have let the contract for the building of a one story brick, 23 by 60 feet, on the lot immediately west of Scheetz's grocery store, on Douglas Avenue.

An influx of boot-blacks and the demi-monde indicates a big drive this season.

Wednesday, May 24, 1876**page**

5. Kohn's new block will soon be ready for occupancy.

Professor Zimmerman is at work on a map of Sedgwick County, three by four feet in size, with the boundaries of every school district in the county outlined.

Brick are being furnished from Ed Hartle's brick yard. Mr. Hartle has burnt the first kiln this season. Specimens of the new brick can be seen in Kohn's new building on the avenue (Douglas Avenue).

Mr. Shellabarger, from Decatur, Illinois, and a member of the firm of Hargis, Imboden and Company and the senior of Shellabarger and Oliver, arrived in Wichita last week.

Statistics from the township of Sedgwick County, as reported by the returns of the township trustees. Greeley Township shows 88 houses and 88 families, with population of 329 in 1876, up 41 from 288 in 1875. Wichita Township has 94 houses and 99 families, with population of 456 in 1876, up 56 from 400 in 1875. Delano Township has 55 houses and 62 families, with population of 308, up 11 from 297 in 1875. Wichita city has 745 houses and 696 families, with population of 3,357. There are 380 horses, 91 mules, 223 milch cows, 168 other cattle, and 341 hogs. Other townships listed.

Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad directors were in Wichita last Thursday and met with representatives from Sumner, Cowley, Butler and Marion counties about possible extension of the Southwestern Branch to Arkansas City or building of a new branch down the Walnut Valley from Emporia, Cottonwood Falls, or Florence. Meetings held at Occidental Hotel. No decisions made.

Wednesday, May 31, 1876**page**

5. The Presbyterian Church will worship hereafter in Eagle Hall.

The roads leading out from the railroad to Chisholm Creek need attention. Some of them are in very bad condition, especially the one leading out from 1st Street.

We were mistaken in stating last week that the Messrs. Kohn were completing their block with brick furnished by Ed Hartle. The brick in question were supplied by J. W. Phillips, who has a large quantity of the same kind for sale at his yard above town.

In the course of two weeks or so there will be seven brick store rooms on the avenue (Douglas Avenue) between Main Street and Market Street ready for occupants. Mike Zimmerly will move his hardware stock in one, Mr. Braitsch will occupy one as a boot and shoe factory, and Mr. Schumacher will open a merchant tailor establishment in a third, on the north side of the avenue (Douglas Avenue). The four rooms on the south side will be respectively a real estate office, Steele and Levy's, a saloon, Bob Short's, and the eastern room, a saddle shop, C. M. Garrison's, and the fourth room will be occupied by McMillen's furniture store.

Lloyd B. Ferrell, of Council Grove, has bought the property on Main Street owned by M. Zimmerly, and is remodeling it, putting in a new front, and fixing it up for a first class fruit and confectionery store.

Marriage notice: On Thursday, May 18th at the residence of the bride's father, Preble County, Ohio, Mr. J. M. Allen, of Wichita, and Miss Mattie E. Lybrook, of the former place.

J. Oak Davidson is building a residence on Lawrence Avenue, where he proposes to reside hereafter.

Wednesday, June 7, 1876

page

5. Hereafter the passenger train will approach the depot on the main track on the west side instead of the east side as heretofore.

H. J. Reimers will remove his stock of books and stationery to one of the new bricks on the north side of Douglas Avenue, east of Main Street.

James R. Mead will soon begin work on a brick block on the northwest corner of 4th Avenue and Douglas Avenue. The block will be 51 foot front by 60 foot deep.

The proprietors of the City Mills have attached a steam condenser to their boilers and have dug a sluice way from the mill west to Topeka Avenue to carry off the waste water.

Mike Zimmerly removed his stock of hardware into his brick store room on the avenue (Douglas Avenue) last Friday.

Report of railroad car shipments from Wichita for the month of May. Details.

Wednesday, June 14, 1876

page

5. Mr. Woodman has broken ground for his new brick block on Main Street. He intends putting up three buildings in rapid succession, the whole constituting a block of 75 to 80 foot front. The first building will be two stories, 26 by 102 feet, with a pressed brick front. Charley Robinson and J. W. Phillips have the contract for the stone, brick work, and plastering. (Editor's note: The name Robinson is spelled "Roberson" in April 26, 1876 issue of the *Beacon*.)

N. Hartle has the contract for the construction of Mead's block of brick store rooms, on Douglas Avenue.

Report of meeting of the Presbyterian congregation last Tuesday in the Baptist Church. Report of building committee with plans for a new church. Details.

Wednesday, June 21, 1876

page

5. C. M. Garrison moved into his new building on Douglas Avenue last Thursday with his extensive stock of harness and saddlery.

We are rejoiced to announce to our farmers and grain men that Wichita will have by the first to the middle of August two elevators with a storage capacity of 35,000 to 40,000 bushels. Messrs. Russell and Furlong have their lumber on the ground and will immediately proceed to put up on the northwest corner of 5th Avenue and 1st Street an elevator with a storage capacity of 20,000 bushels and a handling capacity of 1000 bushels per hour. The main building will be 32 by 35 feet and 50 feet high with an addition on the south 26 by 26 feet for the power, which will be run by a four horsepower engine. Another addition on the east of the main building, 18 by 35 feet and 18 feet in height, will be made for a dumping room. Russell and Furlong are from Chicago. The elevator will be erected under the supervision of Mr. J. G. Reynolds of Peoria.

J. R. Mead's block on the northwest corner of 4th Avenue and Douglas Avenue is in progress of construction.

Steele and Levy are now permanently located in their new rooms in the Kohn Block.

Skinner and Phillips have removed their lumber yard from east of the railroad to the southeast corner of Topeka Avenue and Douglas Avenue, having purchased three lots through John E. Martin.

8. H. Schweiter will run an ice wagon this season. Orders taken at his residence on Market Street four doors north of the Baptist Church.

Lloyd B. Ferrell opened out his stock of confectionery and tobacco in Zimmerly's old stand, on Monday morning.

Wednesday, June 28, 1876

page

5. Mr. McDonald moved his half story frame building from above the Empire House to the first street across the railroad, near the avenue (Douglas Avenue).

W. A. Richey has moved with his family out to his claim, 18 miles west of the city.

Up to last Saturday evening, the Presbyterian Church had collected in cash and subscription \$2500 towards building the new church.

This week ground will be broken for the foundation for the new Presbyterian Church. The amount required for the proposed building is \$4000, of which \$2556 had been subscribed up to Monday morning.

Report of marriage on June 21st at Topeka of Mr. Cash Henderson and Miss Lou Markham.

Corner stone of the new Presbyterian Church at southeast corner of Lawrence Avenue and 1st Street is to be laid next Tuesday, July 4th. Details.

Wednesday, July 5, 1876**page**

5. John Braitsch moved into his new building, next door to the "Green Front" Grocery, on last Friday.

Reimers opened to the public on Saturday his new book store on the north side of the avenue (Douglas Avenue), just east of Mike Zimmerly's hardware room.

Wednesday, August 16, 1876**page**

5. Morris Kohn in building an addition to his residence on Topeka Avenue.

Mr. Westlake had steam up in the People's Elevator last Friday.

The number of persons of school age in Wichita for the year 1876: Males -- 382, females -- 325; total 707. Previous totals: 1873 -- 457; 1874 -- 503; 1875 -- 540.

8. A. N. Deming has his arrangements very nearly completed for the removal of the Empire House to the corner of Emporia Avenue and Douglas Avenue. C. J. Kempton has the contract for the removal and will commence as soon as he can get his heavy timbers. Mr. Deming has secured three lots on which to set it.

Wednesday, September 20, 1876**page**

5. Hartwig and Company have opened a handsome stock of groceries in Mead's brick block on Douglas Avenue.

The proposition of voting \$6000 in county bonds to buy the bridge over the Arkansas River, at the west end of Douglas Avenue, will be submitted to the voters by the board of commissioners at their next meeting in early October.

The Wichita Elevator sends out from 12 to 15 cars of wheat per day, for the Eastern markets.

8. Report of city finances for the quarter ending September 1st, 1876. Details.

Wednesday, October 18, 1876

page

5. The Chicago Store will remove to the new brick on the east side of Main Street, next door to Aldrich and Brown's Drug Store, as soon as the building is completed.

The fifth — and now comes in William Greiffenstein, and with a long drawn sigh, says "Another leetle poy." Mr. G. has been there before and is not so elated as he was the first time.

Work is being pushed forward on the Presbyterian Church building.

Mr. and Mrs. George Johnson, of Greeley Township, welcome the advent of a bouncing baby boy on the 11th instant.

On Friday, the Valley House had 250 arrivals, and of this number they kept 150 over night.

Wednesday, October 25, 1876

page

5. W. C. West is putting up a frame building 23 by 52 feet on Douglas Avenue, which will be occupied by Mrs. West and Mrs. Todd as a school building.

Wednesday, November 1, 1876

page

5. Article urging approval of bridge bonds at election November 7th.

Mr. H. B. Cullum, formerly receiver of the First National Bank of Topeka, has been appointed receiver of the First National Bank of Wichita.

Wednesday, November 8, 1876

page

4. Report of election yesterday. Says Tilden and Hendricks were elected President and Vice-President. Details.
5. Fisk and Juno, contractors, are buying up Mr. Finlay Ross' two story brick store room on the corner of 2nd Street and Main Street.

Mrs. West and Mrs. Todd on Wednesday occupied their new school room on the avenue (Douglas Avenue). The building, of two rooms, has a capacity of 80 scholars. Forty to 50 are now in attendance. Details.

Wednesday, November 15, 1876**page**

5. Detailed report of election results in Sedgwick County.

The bridge bond proposition failed to carry at the late election for want of the requisite three-fifths majority. The total was 1287 in favor and 1067 against the issue.

Wednesday, November 29, 1876**page**

5. Work will begin on the Empire House immediately to prepare it for business. The difficulty has been that it was left out of level by the party who had the contract for moving it. The proprietor, who resides in Philadelphia, has authorized Messrs. Carr and Deming to complete the work at his expense.

Mr. Goodyear, who bought the N. A. English residence, arrived in Wichita last week.

Fritz Schnitzler has bought the residence of Col. McClure and now occupies it with his family.

Wednesday, December 6, 1876**page**

5. In raising up and leveling the Empire House the plastering was broken to such an extent that it will be necessary to do the job over again.

Wednesday, December 13, 1876**page**

5. Richey Brothers are putting up a comfortable farm house on their place on the Nennescah River. The house is 14 by 24 feet with a 12 feet wing.

Report of annual meeting of the Presbyterian Church at Eagle Hall on Wednesday evening last week. Details. The church was organized on April 26th, 1870, but the charter was defective, so a second charter was later filed with the Secretary of State. On July 4th last the corner stone was laid for the new church at corner of 1st Street and Lawrence Avenue. The building is 35 by 60 feet, with a seating capacity of 400. The estimated cost is \$5000. The property consists of seven city lots, including the parsonage. Officers elected for the coming year named.

English and Shuman, last Monday week, began the foundation of another grain elevator, which is to be 38 by 60 feet, and 40 feet in height. Details. This will be Wichita's fifth elevator.

Wednesday, December 20, 1876**page**

5. John E. Martin sold Lot No. 66, north side of Douglas Avenue near the Bank Block, to J. H. Dagner for \$400.

The frame work of the roof of the Presbyterian Church building is about completed, and if weather continues favorable it will soon be roofed in.

Finlay Ross, of Gallian, Ohio, will open out a fully stocked, first-class furniture store on the corner of Main Street and First Street the last of this week or first of the next.

The Empire House has been attached at the suit of C. J. Kempton for \$1500. The work of repairing has been discontinued, to be renewed after the settlement by the court.

The foundation of the extension of the Methodist Church was laid last week, and on Monday last the carpenters began taking down the west or front end. With the extension and the addition of a gallery, the seating capacity will be approximately 600.

Messrs. Davidson and Brown began cutting up and packing hogs last Thursday. Their establishment is east of the railroad one square, between 1st Street and Douglas Avenue.

Advertisement for the Valley House says it has been enlarged to 100 feet in length and two stories high. Rate is 75 cents for bed and breakfast. North side of Douglas Avenue. A. Ray and Company, proprietors.

Ad for George Innes and Company, next door to post office.

Wednesday, December 27, 1876**page**

5. J. Oak Davidson has bought J. W. Maddux's property on corner of Market Street and 2nd Street and is putting up a house, which will be for rent.

Twenty-one frame houses have been put up in the past four months.

Contract let last week by J. H. Dagner for a business house 35 by 65 feet, two stories high, on the site of the Parlor Saloon. It is to be built of artificial stone, manufactured by the firm Larrabee and Colby. (Editor's note: The name Larrabee is spelled "Larabee" in the February 28, 1877 edition of the *Beacon*.)

Hargis and Imboden last week were laying a pipe along Topeka Avenue south of Douglas Avenue to carry the hot water from the City Mills farther down the Big Slough.

The Presbyterian Church will meet until further notice in the Baptist Church building.

Report of public schools for 3 months ending December 22nd, 1876. Number of seats is

334. Average attendance is 332. Details.

8. Note indicates that "Uncle Munger" has retired from the hotel management business.