Wichita Beacon  
Wednesday, January 3, 1894  
page 4. Contract awarded Saturday by joint action of city council and county commissioners for
the making of new plats of the city to enable correct assessments to be made. Contract
given to R. H. Munvedello, an employe in the city engineer’s office, at price of four dollars
for each quarter section, not to exceed 90 quarter sections. ¶ The present city assessor,
Doug Caldwell, has always claimed that much tax was lost by reason of the impossibility
to make assessment on correct descriptions from the imperfect plats now in use, while his
predecessor, W. F. Green, said in an interview last summer that he could take the plats in
the office and correctly assess every foot of property inside of the city limits.

Thursday, January 4, 1894  
page 3. The second copy of the high school Messenger has been distributed.

Thursday, January 11, 1894  
page 3. The annual report of the Wichita public schools has been issued. It lists all the high school
graduates from the year 1879.

Saturday, January 13, 1894  
page 4. R. H. Munvedello is at work on the new plats of the city for the use of the assessor.

Thursday, January 18, 1894  
page 4. M. W. Levy returned this morning from St. Louis.

Saturday, January 20, 1894  
page 4. Article describes the Salvation Army “soup house” where indigent people are fed at no
charge.
Monday, January 22, 1894
page 4. M. W. Levy is much improved in health since his recent trip to St. Louis.

Tuesday, January 23, 1894
page 3. Article reports on current activities of former Wichita newspapermen.

Monday, January 29, 1894
page 4. Judge Reed sustained the injunction against assessing property owners for repairing Douglas avenue. Apparently the $67,000 cost will have to be borne by the city at large.

Tuesday, January 30, 1894
page 4. Article reports Mayor Cox as very critical of above court decision and saying the city will fight it. Details.

Thursday, February 1, 1894
page 4. F. W. Sweet, superintendent of the electric railway, was up at Central Avenue Park, or what Mr. Griswold intends to call Lincoln Park, yesterday, looking it over and listening to Mr. Griswold’s proposition to have a street railway line built down Central from Main street to the park. ¶ “That is the finest natural park I ever saw and when a low dam is put in the river it will be a lovely place” he said this morning. ¶ “These are hard times to make costly improvements. Our company would not hesitate to lay a track to the park at once if we had plenty of money. But there is the difficulty. We have made a proposition to lay a track and run cars to the park if Mr. Griswold will pay half the expenses, and then we would pay him back his money out of the first earnings of the road. ¶ “I do not know whether he can do that as he intends to spend a good deal of money on the park. I have not figured on the expense yet but the proposed line will cost from $4,000 to $6,000. What we ought to do is take up the present line to Riverside from the old power house to Main street and lay it across the river to this new park and then up Central avenue to Main street. There could be only one objection to that, so far as the interest of the company is concerned, and that is that it would be rather far from our show ground. I cannot yet tell what we will do until the matter has been further considered.”

Monday, February 5, 1894
page 4. Frank Oliver, receiver of the Woodman estate, this morning sold some of the real estate belonging to the late William C. Woodman. Details.

Thursday, February 8, 1894
page 4. The third number of the high school Messenger is out.
Miss Rea Woodman and her class from Fairmount attended the performance given by Dr. Flint at the opera house last evening.

**Friday, February 9, 1894**
3. The Salvation Army soup house has been operating for some time at 117 South Lawrence avenue and 3,000 meals have been served. They are now appealing to the public for assistance. Details.

**Saturday, February 10, 1894**
3. Long list of recent parties and social gatherings with lists of names of people attending them.

4. It has been the custom for the Leader Publishing company of Wichita to get out a city directory yearly. Last year, however, they failed to do so, but will issue another one some time in April of this year. Canvassers are now at work.

**Monday, February 12, 1894**
3. Another article with details about the Salvation Army soup dispensary at 117 South Lawrence.

4. Finlay Ross has placed a handsome 50 foot sign across the front of his double store.

**Tuesday, February 13, 1894**
4. Article about delays in mail trains owing to snow and bad weather. Details.

**Wednesday, February 14, 1894**

**Saturday, February 17, 1894**
3. Another long list parties and people attending them.

**Thursday, February 22, 1894**
4. Article about the Men’s Christian Shelter Home at 1113 South Lawrence which provides beds and three meals per day with religious services morning and evening. The institution depends on donations and has been crowded to full capacity ever since the cold weather commenced.

**Friday, February 23, 1894**
Report of collision at 9:20 yesterday evening between a Santa Fe freight train and Missouri Pacific passenger train at the intersection of the two roads at 18th and Emporia. Details. No serious injuries.

Saturday, February 24, 1894

List of the parties and club meetings with people attending them.

Mrs. J. R. Mead died this morning in St. Joseph, her old home town. She came to Wichita as Lucy Inman with her sister, Mrs. William Mathewson, in 1869 and married J. R. Mead in 1872.

Monday, February 26, 1894

Prominent merchants are out over the city today asking for subscriptions to the proposed new auditorium and they are meeting with success. Details.

Thursday, March 1, 1894

C. W. Bitting is still hard at work on the auditorium subscriptions and is meeting with great success. Today he has been going around among the lawyers and doctors asking them to take one share each, and only one or two refused. In this manner $450 was raised today.

Saturday, March 3, 1894

The will of the late Robert Black was filed for probate today. Details. The estate is one of the largest in Sedgwick County.

Tuesday, March 6, 1894

The men’s “Shelter Home” under management of John W. Hopkins, located on South Lawrence avenue, will close its doors for the summer on March 8. It opened on January 8 and during that time the manager received $95.30 in cash and paid out $90.90, leaving a cash balance of $4.40. One thousand four hundred and forty-one meal tickets were issued, at average cost of seven cents per meal, and 961 were lodged. The cost of $90.90 included coal, beds, and help. The place will be reopened about November 1.

Monday, March 12, 1894

Article discusses proposed sites for the new auditorium. One mentioned is the “property on North Main known as the old street car company’s stable.”

Tuesday, March 13, 1894
At city council meeting yesterday: “Amidon wanted some action taken upon a claim Proudfoot and Bird had against the city and it was referred.”

City council yesterday: a group of women proposed an ordinance against any form of obscenity in Wichita. Details.

Wednesday, March 14, 1894

Shareholders of the new auditorium building met at the city building last night and formed an organization to do business. Bids for the location of the building will be received by Thomas G. Fitch at the Citizens bank until Monday evening, and the location should be decided next Tuesday. A committee was appointed (names listed) to recommend the site for the building.

Friday, March 16, 1894

Article says the “Push” Ticket won all the Republican ward primaries. Details.

Tuesday, March 20, 1894

The directors of the new auditorium met yesterday and elected the following officers: President, C. W. Bitting; vice-president, F. L. Richter; secretary, Thomas G. Fitch; treasurer, Frank W. Oliver. About half the money subscribed has been paid in, but the other half are hanging back. The committee say that nothing will be done about location until all the money has been paid in.

Wednesday, March 21, 1894

J. O. Davidson arrived here from Chicago and will stay in Wichita a few days.

Several possible locations for the new auditorium were discussed in meeting last evening. One of four mentioned is 175 by 140 feet at corner of 4th avenue and 1st street. No decision taken.

Thursday, March 22, 1894

Article with interview of member of the women’s group for prohibition of obscenity in Wichita. Details.

Monday, March 26, 1894

Article reports the contract between the Dolds and the city of Wichita has been misplaced and can’t be found. Details.
**Tuesday, March 27, 1894**

4. The Dold contract has been found in the safe of the law firm of Smyth and Douglass. The *Beacon* is probing to try and find out why the Dold plant has not been operating recently, and yesterday it resumed operation and buying of hogs after months of idleness. Details.

City council yesterday: The judiciary committee then took up Proudfoot and Bird’s claim against the city for over $600 and compromised on $466.78 providing a Mr. E. M. Dowd (sic), who furnished stone for the city building, be allowed a counter claim against Proudfoot and Bird of $245.

**Wednesday, March 28, 1894**

4. Interview with attorney Smyth discussing his reasons for not releasing the Dold and Whittaker contracts to the secretary of the Board of Trade. Says the contracts are between Jacob Dold and Sons and individuals named therein who were major subscribers to the project. The contract did not directly involve the Board of Trade or the city of Wichita. Details.

Auditorium committee met at city building last evening. Of the $5,000 subscribed, $2,640 has been collected, leaving about $2,300 still due. ¶ The piece of property 125 by 140 feet at southwest corner of 4th avenue and 1st street was selected as the site for the building. The property can be bought outright for $2,500, with three payments of $833.33 each, the first in three years, the second in four years, and the last in five years, with mortgage to be secured on the property bearing interest at seven percent.

**Thursday, March 29, 1894**

4. Article reports the Dold contract has been given to the president of the Board of Trade. Details.

**Saturday, March 31, 1894**


**Tuesday, April 3, 1894**

4. The receiver of the Whittaker packing plant, which cost a quarter of a million dollars, M. W. Levy, through his attorney, W. E. Stanley, this morning sold the property at auction on the west steps of the county court house to Francis Whittaker and Sons Packing Company of St. Louis for $50,000. The company’s local representative, Arthur Faulkner, vice-president of the citizens’ bank, did the bidding for them and said that the company is a corporation formed under the laws of Illinois and representing St. Louis capital and that it intends to operate the plant in Wichita. Details.
Wednesday, April 4, 1894
page
4. The new auditorium construction will begin shortly according to plans of Architect Terry, although the building will be put up without a stage until an additional $1,500 is forthcoming from the subscribers.

The Lewis street bridge over the Arkansas river is sadly in need of repairs.

Thursday, April 5, 1894
page
4. The Fairmount Institute has the promise of enough money to run the school provided the people of Wichita will furnish the building and provide dormitories. Subscriptions are now being solicited, with gratifying results.

Monday, April 9, 1894
page
4. The Wichita Wholesale Grocer company broke ground Saturday evening for their new building at southwest corner of 5th avenue and William street. Building to have 75 foot front on 5th avenue and 120 feet on William street and will be four stories high with basement. Floor space is to be 45,000 square feet, about 10,000 more than the company now has in its large building on South Market street. Men are at work excavating for the building today.

Today workmen are tearing down the old Douglas Avenue house, which was partially destroyed by fire some time ago.

Tuesday, April 10, 1894
page
4. New city council members took office yesterday. Details.

Wednesday, April 11, 1894
page
4. The pupils of the Wichita University will give a complimentary recital next Friday evening.

Saturday, April 14, 1894
page
4. Contract was awarded this morning to William Borden of this city for construction of the new auditorium according to the plans of architect C. W. Terry. Building will be 116 by 138 feet and over 76 feet high at the pinnacle. A large center dancing space on the first floor will be 80 by 96 feet. Cost is about $5,000 without the stage, which will be added later. Work should start Monday and construction will take about 35 days.

Thursday, April 19, 1894
page
4. A small force of men are at work at corner of 1st street and 4th avenue getting the ground
ready for the building of the new auditorium.

Monday, April 23, 1894

George Rouse, Jr. went to St. Louis yesterday to complete the arrangement for the sale of the Sedgwick block to J. T. McCasland. The new proprietor will assume charge next month.

Some of the machinery at the electric railway plant at the 10th street station got out of order this morning and no cars were in operation until 11 o’clock.

Tuesday, April 24, 1894

Dr. Tihen, of Andale, a brother of Father Tihen of this city, will be married to Miss Watson of that place. Father Tihen is entertaining his brother, of Jefferson City, who came to attend the wedding.

The foundation for the new auditorium is about half in.

Wednesday, April 25, 1894

For several days past the street car service has been rather irregular because of something that is out of order with the machinery at the power house. One day this week the cars did not get started until noon, and this morning the service was irregular. The company state that they will soon have everything in good running order again.

Thursday, April 26, 1894

A new platform is being laid at the Santa Fe depot.

Monday, April 30, 1894

George L. Rouse, Jr., returned from St. Louis last evening, where he consummated the sale of the Sedgwick block to Mr. McCausland of that city. Transfer of the property to the new owner will be made about August 1.

Tuesday, May 1, 1894

M. W. Levy and wife left for St. Louis today via the Missouri Pacific. Mr. Levy’s health is not good and he will consult an eminent specialist while away.

E. McDodds, formerly a well known business man of this city, has returned from Washington, D. C., after a three years residence east. He has come back to stay.

Wednesday, May 2, 1894
Thursday, May 3, 1894

Men are at work putting in a dam across the Little river just beyond the intersection of 3rd and James streets. The river is narrowest at this point. The dam will be 50 feet long and blocks of concrete taken from Douglas avenue will be laid on either side of the piling. It will raise the water two feet at the mouth of Little river and according to estimate of city engineer this will raise it two inches at 13th street.

The photographer visited Fairmount Institute yesterday and obtained a picture of the school, pupils and teachers.

Fairmount has a senior class which numbers ten.

Saturday, May 5, 1894

The Whittaker Packing plant in Wichita now belongs to the Francis Whittaker and Sons Packing company. The deed was recorded this afternoon by Honorable W. E. Stanley.

Commencement of Wichita university will be held Friday evening, May 11.

Monday, May 7, 1894

Article reports the State National Bank suspended business this morning. Details. President of the bank is L. D. Skinner, with residence on North Topeka (i.e., Lee-Skinner house). ¶ Says the Kansas National Bank was established in 1880. The institution prospered and in 1886 it was merged into the State National Bank, with Ben Lombard, Jr. as president and L. D. Skinner, cashier. On 30th of last January L. D. Skinner was elected president of the bank and Gay Lombard cashier. Several prominent Wichita businessmen are connected with the bank (names listed).

Tuesday, May 8, 1894

Long article discussing reactions to the failed State National Bank.

Board of education meeting yesterday: Number of pupils enrolled in public schools is 4,954. ¶ Discussion of need to reduce expenses in the present hard times. ¶ Wichita has 21 school buildings with total of 105 principals and teachers, including city superintendent. The high school has a principal and eight assistants. The Normal school has a principal and two assistants. There are 19 grade buildings with 19 principals and 71 teachers. There is a city superintendent and three supervisors, in drawing, penmanship, and music. Other salaried persons are the school board’s secretary, treasurer, librarian, superintendent of buildings and grounds, and board of city examiners. ¶ Total expenditures for the year
just ending will be about $80,000, of which $68,500 will have gone for salaries, $4,500
for repairing of buildings, $3,600 for supplies, $2,000 for fuel, and $2,000 for printing,
insurance, rent, and miscellaneous. President Powell calls for a reduction in expenditures
of $20,000 for the coming year.

Wednesday, May 9, 1894

M. W. Levy, receiver of the Whittaker Packing plant, returned home last evening from St.
Louis. He says the Whittaker plant plans to re-open in one month. Details.

Thursday, May 10, 1894

The sixth annual commencement exercises of Wichita university will take place tomorrow
afternoon and evening at the University on College Hill.

Friday, May 11, 1894

Street car Number 11, with motorman McPheters, was struck by a Santa Fe freight train
at the crossing at 21st street at noon today and completely demolished. A few people
injured but apparently not seriously. Details.

Saturday, May 12, 1894

Articles about failed State National Bank. Apparently Sedgwick County had about
$28,449 on deposit in the bank. Details.

Monday, May 14, 1894

More articles about the State National Bank.

The dam at 3rd street has made a wonderful improvement in the Little river. There is now
good boating from 3rd to 13th streets. A large crowd of people visited Griswold park
yesterday.

Wednesday, May 16, 1894

Article lists stockholders, assets, and liabilities of the failed State National Bank.

Friday, May 18, 1894

Article about bicycle races at Griswold park last evening.

Wednesday, May 23, 1894

Workmen are busy day and night on the new auditorium building. On Friday the traveling
men’s convention convenes in Wichita and they hope to occupy this building.

Saturday, May 26, 1894
page 4.

Workmen labored all day yesterday on the auditorium building and it was ready for occupancy last evening for the traveling men’s ball, although the building is by no means complete as yet. Tonight the organization will hold a banquet there. Details.

The auditorium committee have adopted a type of chair for the auditorium and are asking citizens to buy them. The chairs can be obtained for their wholesale price of 55 cents each.

Wednesday, May 30, 1894
page 4.

Interview with M. W. Levy who praises the improvements Mr. Griswold has made in his park and also the benefits of the dam in the Little river. “The Little river now looks like it did in former years when it was considered such a pretty stream.” Mr. Levy also indicates Mr. Griswold had much to do in launching the plan for building the new auditorium.

Thursday, May 31, 1894
page 4.

Superintendent O’Neill of the Electric railway company left for the east this morning.

Griswold park is lighted by electric lights, four lights being in operation last night.

The street car company disposed of six of its old horse cars to parties in Sherman, Texas.

A street force is tearing up the brick between the old street tracks on 1st street between Market and Main and relaying them. Since the cars quit running on this route the middle of the road has worn down badly and needed repairs.

Saturday, June 2, 1894
page 4.

The first annual commencement exercises of Fairmount Institute will take place the second week in June. Details.

The fourth annual commencement of the city Normal school took place last evening at the YMCA auditorium. Details.

Tuesday, June 5, 1894
page 4.

Report of Board of Education meeting yesterday with recommended lowering of salaries for coming year. Elementary teacher salaries are $35-50 per month. High school teachers $75-88. Details.
Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Levy left over the Missouri Pacific yesterday for the east.

**Wednesday, June 6, 1894**

4. Commencement exercises of Lewis academy are to be held tomorrow. Details.

**Friday, June 8, 1894**

4. A benefit entertainment will be given at the auditorium next Friday night by the Wichita Musical club to raise funds to help pay for chairs and completion of the as yet unfinished auditorium.

The Frisco addition, a 25 acre tract of land, sold last Tuesday to Harry Hill, of Wichita, for $3,500.

**Monday, June 11, 1894**

4. Workmen are once more busy tearing down the old Douglas Avenue house.

The formal opening of the auditorium will take place Friday evening.

**Tuesday, June 12, 1894**

4. City council yesterday instructed city engineer to draw a map showing the present boundaries of the river and the necessary channels for the protection of the city.

City council committee appointed to report on condition of hose house Number 2 yesterday reported that it was in bad condition.

At city council yesterday recommendation of Captain Harris that the approaches to the 17th street bridge be strengthened, was adopted.

**Wednesday, June 13, 1894**

4. The big river was very high last night, with crowds of people watching it. “It is higher now than I ever saw it except in 1877,” said Doc Black, who has lived on the river for years. “In 1883 it was about as high, but never since then. In 1877 we had the flood.”

Article reports that machinery, etc. for making yeast was moved yesterday from the Royal Spice Mills of Farnum and Company into the old watch factory on the West Side, which will be used to turn out “Spray Yeast.” A visit to the watch factory by a reporter showed that the big building loomed up magnificently among the shade trees, and between the building and the main part of the city was a wheat field in which a harvester drawn by four horses was cutting the ripe grain. Messrs. Farnum and Brewer said they will open up on the second floor of the building and occupy the rest of it as needed. Some small
rooms on the ground floor have been occupied by a family taking care of the building, and they were upset at being abruptly ordered to leave it.

**Thursday, June 14, 1894**

page 4. A new floor is being laid on the Douglas avenue bridge and it will be closed to teams for two or three days.

**Friday, June 15, 1894**

page 4. The Mutual Telephone Company, chartered some time ago, is being organized today by Wichita business men. The franchise for the Missouri and Kansas Telephone company has expired, and they have received six months notice from the city council as required by law. The Mutual Telephone company will probably apply for a franchise to the city council. Details.

**Saturday, June 16, 1894**

page 4. The auditorium was formally opened yesterday evening under the auspices of the Wichita Musical club. Details.

G. H. Smith, conductor of the street car company, while taking fares on one of the Riverside summer cars this afternoon fell from the platform along the side, was knocked off by one of the center poles, and received a painful cut on the head and a badly bruised shoulder.

The old settlers are meeting in Riverside park today.

**Monday, June 18, 1894**

page 4. At one of the picnics in Griswold park last week seven gallons of ice cream was made away with in 35 minutes after it had been unloaded from Frizell’s wagon.

Jim Oliver’s dam at the mouth of the Little river withstood the flood, but the water cut a channel around between the dam and Jones’ island.

**Tuesday, June 19, 1894**

page 4. School board yesterday ordered the Fairmount school moved to some suitable building in Logan addition.

**Wednesday, June 20, 1894**

page 4. The Wichita Wholesale Grocery building at corner of William and 5th avenue is rapidly nearing completion.
Thursday, June 21, 1894

Work of laying the new floor in the Douglas avenue bridge is about completed. The merchants of West Douglas avenue are anxious for it to be finished, as shutting off travel over the bridge has cut off the cream of their trade.

The Rock Island will run trains to Haysville every 40 minutes on July 4 for the grand picnic in the walnut grove there.

Friday, June 22, 1894

The street cars after this evening will run only to 15th street on North Topeka avenue. This will inconvenience packing house and stock yard people, but Mr. Sweet says that some of the owners of small tracts of land over which the company were obliged to get the right of way are holding the company up so badly that the line above 15th street does not pay. For right of way across one block of ground the company is paying $20 a month and giving 11 passes. Mr. Sweet says the company refuses to submit any longer.

Saturday, June 23, 1894

The Big and Little rivers are on a rampage with very high water. Details.

Cellars are full up in Griffenstein’s addition with the high water.

Article reports that Thomas G. Fitch has been appointed postmaster of Wichita by President Cleveland. ¶ Thomas Gear Fitch was born April 9, 1860 in Maine. His parents moved to Chicago, where he lived until age 15, when they moved to El Dorado for a short time, returning to Chicago. He attended city schools in Chicago and afterwards graduated from the law school at Ann Arbor, Michigan. He practiced law for a short time in Chicago, and in September 1886 came to Wichita and worked for the Davidson Investment company. The next year he married Miss Lizzie Gahogen and built a house in Riverside, where they now live. ¶ Mr. Fitch afterward became manager of the Electric railway of Wichita, which position he held until he resigned a year and a half ago. ¶ He is a Jeffersonian democrat.

Tuesday, June 26, 1894

City council yesterday received petition from property owners on Topeka avenue above 15th street praying that the street be opened from 15th street to the packing house. Referred to judiciary committee.

City council yesterday ordered city engineer to report cost of necessary repairs to 17th street bridge.

A. S. Parks will move to 721 North Topeka avenue July 1st.
Wednesday, June 27, 1894
page 4. Mayor Cox has named the committee who shall ascertain the cost of boring for gas. Committee members named.

Friday, June 29, 1894
page 4. Cyrus A. Leland, attorney of El Dorado, Kansas, has been appointed receiver of the State National Bank at Wichita. Details.

Saturday, June 30, 1894
page 4. Article about the Wichita Indian tribe quoting the editor of the El Reno Globe in a recent article. ¶ “The Wichitas are one of the smallest tribes in the territory. Their history is similar to that of other tribes. Through with their wild life, they were first settled in Kansas, then in Texas, afterwards in the lower part of the territory, and now on their present reservation, 40 miles southwest of this city.” ¶ Article describes a recent visit to Anadarko and the fields and houses of the tribe. ¶ “The Wichitas make a kind of grass house which is peculiar to them. The one which we entered is one of the largest in the tribe. It is circular in form perhaps 30 feet in diameter, and something more in height. There are two doors, placed on opposite sides of the house. The grass covering is a thatch of some ten inches in thickness, placed evenly on a strong frame bound together with thongs of rawhide and vines gathered from the woods. The light comes in at the doors and through a hole in the roof, where the smoke makes its escape. They would make admirable winter houses, and yet they only use them as residences in the summer. The cloth tepee, located in some well protected canyon, constitutes the winter home.”

Monday, July 2, 1894
page 4. Preparations are progressing at Riverside park for the 4th of July celebration. The dancing platform now being built will be illuminated by the electric light. The track is being put in first class order.

Tuesday, July 3, 1894
page 4. Article about delinquent taxes on property bought during the boom and taken into the city and taxed as city property, but now unimproved and being used only as corn fields. Details.

At school board meeting yesterday a committee from Fairmount urged the removal of the Burton school building to Fairmount, which has no school building of its own. Only one room of the Burton building is in use, with only 25 or 30 pupils, while Fairmount school has 150 scholars below 8th grade. Referred to building and grounds committee, with power to act.
The Wichita Tennis club will have a tournament tomorrow at their grounds at corner of 11th and Topeka.

Friday, July 6, 1894

Citizens of the Fairmount school district will meet at the store, corner of 15th and Humboldt streets, Saturday, July 8, 1894 at 7:00 p.m. to vote on the location of the school house now ordered by the board to be removed from the Burton Car Works.

Monday, July 9, 1894

Article about a suit filed against E. H. Witherell, who resides in the house built by Oak Davidson in Riverside. Suit alleges misrepresentation of some property in Missouri.

Thursday, July 12, 1894

The suit against Mr. Witherell was dismissed yesterday. Details.

First Methodist Episcopal Sunday school held picnic at Griswold park yesterday with a large attendance. Details.

Monday, July 16, 1894

A canvass for subscriptions will be made this week in an effort to put the finances of the YMCA in proper condition.

Thursday, July 19, 1894

Some weeks ago the North Topeka avenue electric street railway stopped running beyond 15th street because of excess cost of obtaining right-of-way across some lots. Today operation to the stock yards was resumed, the railway company having purchased a lot across which their track runs.

Tuesday, July 24, 1894

Article says the unfinished three story brick building on South Market street is to be completed. It had been mortgaged to the Davidson Investment company by the owners before completion. Then the Davidson company failed and a receiver was appointed, who has at last succeeded in getting matters in shape so it can be completed.

Wednesday, July 25, 1894

Article about complaints of creditors of the Woodman estate regarding disposal of the property. Details.
Report of a meeting last evening to discuss the future of Fairmount institute — whether it should be developed into a college, with cooperation of the citizens, or should continue as an academy. The entire debt is $12,000. The American Education society, of Boston, will continue to provide some financial aid. A stirring talk full of enthusiasm was made by M. W. Levy. Details.

The new Wichita city directory published by the Leader company, the first since 1892, is out.

Tuesday, July 31, 1894

Thomas G. Fitch will take charge of the Wichita post office this evening from E. B. Jewett. Article discusses previous Wichita postmasters, starting with Milo B. Kellogg on February 17, 1869. Details.

Tuesday, August 7, 1894

The Coronado club will meet this evening at their rooms in the Sedgwick block.

The soliciting committee of Fairmount Institute is meeting with encouragement, and one of the large unfinished rooms of the building is to be plastered and made ready for the commercial department at once.

Wednesday, August 8, 1894

Two electric cars on the Riverside track collided near Pine street last night and were seriously damaged. There was only one passenger on each car and they were uninjured. The motorneers were George McPheeters and Frank Clark, both injured but not seriously.

Saturday, August 11, 1894

The Salvation Army will meet for two days at Riverside park.

Monday, August 13, 1894

Report of the failure of the Wichita National Bank today. Sedgwick County has a balance of about $11,300 on deposit there. President M. W. Levy is in Kansas City trying to raise money, but apparently was unsuccessful, so the bank did not open this morning. History of the bank: The Wichita Savings bank was incorporated July 1, 1872 with capital of $100,000. The president was A. N. Clark; vice-president Sol H. Kohn; and secretary and cashier, A. A. Hyde. On April 20, 1875, Sol Kohn, became president and A. N. Clark, vice-president. In 1879, the bank became annexed to the Wichita bank of Kohn Brothers and Company, composed of S. H. and M. Kohn and M. W. Levy. On January 1, 1883 the bank began business as the Wichita National. Its capital was $250,000. Its officers were: Sol H. Kohn, president; A. W. Oliver, vice-president; M. W. Levy, cashier, and C. A.
Wednesday, August 15, 1894

Interview with Mayor Cox this morning during which he said he was informed that owing to the death of Mr. Griswold’s mother, necessitating his presence in Ohio, he was offering to sell the city his park at what it cost him, which was less than $7,000. Mayor Cox feels this offer should be seriously considered.

Saturday, August 18, 1894

Fairmount institute will open September 5. Professor Isely, a graduate of Ottawa university and Harvard college, will act as associate principal and will teach mathematics and the natural sciences.

Monday, August 20, 1894

Report is confirmed that Russell Harding, superintendent of the Missouri Pacific Railroad for Wichita, is leaving to take a new job as superintendent with the Northern Pacific in Minneapolis, effective August 22. A. H. Webb, division superintendent under Harding, will become superintendent in Harding’s place. W. E. Tracey, road master under Harding, has been promoted to fill Webb’s old position.

Wednesday, August 22, 1894

Mr. Russell Harding and his wife left today for their new home in the Dakotas, but before leaving he was presented last evening with a gold watch by his Missouri Pacific employes at his home at 1231 North Waco. Details.

Friday, August 24, 1894

William Smith, of Riverside, has moved to the corner of 13th and Wichita streets.

Note lists Fairmount faculty, including Miss H. Rea Woodman.

Tuesday, August 28, 1894

Note says Sullivan’s dam is a popular place for lovers to go. In boom days when Alamo was a populous suburb, it boasted some 20 young couples who frequently selected Sullivan’s dam as the place for their parties, and of the 20 couples about 16 became engaged in the romantic surroundings there and 12 of the 16 were married in the same surroundings.

Friday, August 31, 1894
4. The third floor of the YMCA is being fitted up for the use of the Commercial College.

The Wichita Wholesale Grocery Company is today “at home” in its splendid new building a block south of Douglas avenue and across the tracks from the Santa Fe depot. Details. The building is a tribute to the architectural skill of Mr. W. S. Corbett.

Saturday, September 1, 1894
4. The Wichita University will commence its school term September 12.

Monday, September 3, 1894

This morning the Philadelphia store, owned and operated by A. Katz, failed and was closed by mortgagees. Details.

The fall term of the Lewis academy began today.

Tuesday, September 4, 1894
4. A special election is being held today for the purpose of voting bonds for prospecting for coal, oil, gas, or salt in the city.

Wednesday, September 5, 1894
4. The vote yesterday on bonds for prospecting for coal, oil, gas, or salt carried by 645 for to 199 against.

Thursday, September 6, 1894
4. Russell Harding reports from Larimore, South Dakota, his headquarters, that he has entered upon his duties in his new position as superintendent of the Dakota division of the Great Northern Railroad.

Monday, September 10, 1894
4. At school board meeting Saturday there was debate over the question of opening the Levy school this year. It was decided to have the pupils of that school meet at the Harry street school to be counted.

Tuesday, September 11, 1894
4. At city council meeting last evening a petition from property owners on South 4th avenue
was read, demanding the abatement of the houses of prostitution that abound on that avenue. “The nuisance stinks to Heaven” was the closing sentence of the petition. The matter was referred to the police and prison committee.

City council yesterday accepted the proposition of R. H. Mundevello to furnish sectional maps of the city for $450 for use by the assessor.

City council yesterday ordered the street railway company to remove their unused track on Kellogg street and to put in crossings at the street intersections on the line between the Wichita university and East Douglas.

City council yesterday ordered Hose house Number 2 moved temporarily to a building on North Main opposite the court house.

**Thursday, September 13, 1894**

4. Pleasure boats on the Little river will be removed from Griswold park to their old place at the Pine street bridge.

Ground was broken this morning for the new building to be erected by the Western Newspaper Union at the corner of Emporia avenue and 1st street Building will have frontage of 50 feet depth of 140 feet and be two stories high.

**Tuesday, September 18, 1894**

4. John Exton addressed the city council meeting yesterday on the bawdy house nuisance on South 4th avenue. He stated that the spread of these houses had worked a great hardship to the property owners of that street. He stated that several respectable families on South 4th were almost run out by the number of these dens, and that shameless females, half nude, paraded up and down the avenue every night, putting decent people to shame.

M. W. Levy returned from the east today. He had hoped to complete plans for resumption of operation of the bank, but a few local depositors have been unwilling to sign the necessary agreement, so it appears likely the bank will go into the hands of a permanent receiver.

Fairmount institute has an enrollment of over 60 students.

**Wednesday, September 26, 1894**

4. A large cold storage warehouse is being erected on 10th street just west of the Missouri Pacific tracks. Building is to be 30 by 70 feet and three stories high.

**Thursday, September 27, 1894**
4. Change from eight to six column paper with eight pages instead of four.

Monday, October 1, 1894

4. The State Fair opened today at the fair grounds. Details.

George Blackwelder, of St. Louis, is in the city.

8. The post office department in Washington, D.C., has changed the name of El Dorado to Eldorado and of Clear Water to Clearwater.

Tuesday, October 2, 1894

4. Report of a cyclone that did some damage in Wichita at about 5:45 p.m. yesterday. Details. It lifted off the south end of the roof of the Missouri Pacific Railroad’s 12th street depot. During the height of the storm lightning struck the old street car barn at 15th and Mead avenue and the structure was entirely consumed by fire. Two old motor engines were destroyed in this fire.

Mr. L. D. Skinner was injured this morning. He has been packing up preparatory to moving to Chicago and in taking down a heavy oil painting the picture fell and struck his foot, bruising it painfully.

The rooms in the YMCA building occupied by the Western School of Elocution and Oratory have been remodeled.

Wednesday, October 3, 1894

4. A large force of men are at work on the new Galusha block at corner of 1st and Emporia.

Thursday, October 4, 1894

4. The balloon ascension at the fair yesterday was a great success. The aeronaut dropped from the clouds in his parachute and the balloon remained up for nearly half an hour.

J. Oak Davidson, of Chicago, is in the city on business and pleasure.

Friday, October 5, 1894

4. The Wichita Chemical Cold Storage company has been incorporated to transact a general produce business and to store fruits and other commodities. The directors are George M. Dickson, James Allison, and D. M. Kirkbridge of Wichita, H. B. Cole, of Salt Lake City, and W. E. Hossett, of St. Louis. The capital stock is $30,000. The company is now erecting their building out near the Missouri Pacific 12th street depot, and excavation for the cellar is about complete.
Monday, October 8, 1894
page 4. The state fair at Wichita last week is said to have made a profit. Details.

The street car company did its best to accommodate the visitors to the fair last week, and right well they succeeded. Not a single mishap was recorded. The motormen and conductors were accommodating, and everybody was pleased. “Everybody did not use the street cars to get to the fair grounds,” said Superintendent O’Neill, “but we collected over 40,000 fares.”

Wednesday, October 17, 1894
page 5. Large ad for Farnum and Company, makers of Spray Yeast, with cut of their factory in the old watch factory building. Farnum and Company are also proprietors of the Royal Spice Mills. Office is at 112 South Emporia.

Thursday, October 18, 1894
page 4. Last evening there was a fire in the cupola of the old Stewart Iron Works, now the Moore Brothers’ stone works.

Saturday, October 20, 1894
page 4. Work of organizing a rescue home for repentant and fallen women is going on. A meeting will be held tomorrow. A petition is being circulated for financial support to rent for one year the property at corner of 10th street and North 4th avenue, the rental thereon being $15 per month.

Monday, October 22, 1894
page 4. Report of meeting Saturday to organize the proposed Rescue Home for women. Details.

Tuesday, October 23, 1894
page 4. City council yesterday accepted George L. Pratt’s bid for repairing Maple street and 2nd street bridges and the 2nd street bridge over Chisholm creek.

City council yesterday ordered the police department to remove all houses of prostitution from the business portions of the city.

Wednesday, October 24, 1894
page 4. The Wayside Home association, which one year ago was forced by financial hardship to close the doors of its institution and to pay off an indebtedness of $75 out of the board’s
own pockets, is supporting the new Rescue Home for workmen and on Monday, October 22, turned over to the new establishment the house furnishings, etc., still in their possession. The Rescue Home is to be opened immediately on the corner of 10th street and North 4th avenue.

Thursday, October 25, 1894

Article about suits against board of trade and prominent merchants and business men for past-due notes arising from loans made during the boom times. Suits are being brought by the principal banks which collectively hold about $40,000 of this paper. ¶ During the latter part of the boom the Burton car works and the packing houses were given large sums of money to locate here. Much of the donations were in lots and plots of ground at that time valuable. Individual donations were paid with these lots or with notes, and these notes were endorsed in many cases by the board of trade and afterwards the banks advanced the money. Since that time many of the people who gave the notes have financially collapsed and the property given as collateral has so depreciated the value as to be about worthless. ¶ The suits are trying to make the members of the board of trade individually liable, or treat the board as a company organized for gain, when it is asserted that it is only a sort of trade congress of business men. ¶ At the last meeting it was undecided under what charter the board was working. Some contended that it was under an 1887 charter while other declared that there was no 1887 charter. Captain Dickson than wrote Secretary of State Osborn for a copy of the different board of trade charters and today learned that a charter had been issued in 1878 to “The Board of Trade of Wichita, Kansas.” In 1880 a new charter was issued to “The board of Trade of Wichita.” No charter was issued in 1887, so the board are now working under the 1880 charter, which provided a capital stock of $20,000 in 200 shares of $100 each.

Edgar Harding, of Boston, owner of the Garfield university building, is in the city.

If the houses that have been moved in from the outlying portions of the city to more central locations had been newly built instead of being moved, the city would have been given credit for having had a regular building boom.

Monday, October 29, 1894

The Western Newspaper union will move into their new building on corner of 1st and Emporia next month. This company prints one side of 2,600 country newspapers and will handle about 175 from Wichita.

Thursday, November 1, 1894

Judge Reed, of the district court, yesterday reduced the amount of M. W. Levy’s fee for acting the past few years as receiver of the Whittaker plant from the $20,000 asked by Mr. Levy to $10,000, saying he felt the sum asked was too much. Details.
Friday, November 2, 1894
page
5. It is said that George L. Rouse, Jr., and family, are soon to leave for St. Louis, with the intention of making that city their permanent home.

Wednesday, November 7, 1894
page
5. Report of results of elections yesterday. Republicans were strong winners. Populists were poorly organized. Details.

Wednesday, November 14, 1894
page
5. Article about the status of the failed Wichita banks. Says a new bank, called the Exchange National, is likely to be started up soon, possibly on the old Wichita National corner.

Article about changed in the arrangements of service windows, etc., in the post office building. Details.

Saturday, November 17, 1894
page
5. M. J. Oliver on behalf of members of the board of trade yesterday filed suit against the Jacob Dold packing company for $200,000 damages, alleging breach of contract. Dolds said to have signed contract on November 8, 1887 to build and operate a plant to slaughter 1,000 hogs daily and were then given $50,000 worth of real estate and $150,000 cash. However for four years and nine months they have failed to operate the packing house here.

Saturday, November 24, 1894
page
5. The Coronado club are considering a proposition from M. W. Levy to lease his residence for a club house.

M. W. Levy’s furniture is being packed preparatory to the departure of the family to St. Louis.

This afternoon a football game is being played at the fair grounds between the Lewis academy and the Winfield “Kickers.”

Next Saturday the Western Newspaper Union will commence packing up at Winfield preparatory to moving to their nearly completed new building in Wichita at corner of 1st and Emporia, 50 by 140 foot two story brick, built at cost of over $9,000. Details.

Tuesday, November 27, 1894
page
5. Article reports the Whittaker packing plant is resuming operations. Details.
Wednesday, November 28, 1894
page 5. The Coronado club has leased the handsome residence of M. W. Levy, corner Topeka avenue and 1st street, as a club house for the term of two years. They will take possession early in December.

The silver jubilee of Bishop John J. Hennessey is being celebrated today. Details.

Thursday, November 29, 1894
page 5. Article about the city normal school, which has been organized since 1890. Details. Since then it has graduated about 48 pupils, most of whom are now teaching in the city schools.

Friday, November 30, 1894
page 5. M. W. Levy left Wichita last night, accompanied to the depot by a large number of friends, for St. Louis, where he will permanently reside. He has accepted the position of general agent of the New York Life Insurance company. He came here in 1872 and went into the real estate business with Jim Steele, and since then his life has been an open book to all the people. In his 12 years as cashier of the Wichita National bank, and after that as its president, Mr. Levy made a host of friends in this city and all over the southwest, who will wish him unbounded success in his new home and new business.

Monday, December 3, 1894
page 5. The machinery is being installed today in the new Western Newspaper Union building.

Thursday, December 6, 1894
page 5. Article about current status of Wichita’s failed banks. Details.

The Coronado club is moving into its new home, corner of 1st and Topeka, today.

Tuesday, December 11, 1894
page 5. Reverend J. F. von Herrlich, who has been in New York for the past few months, has been very successful is raising money for the completion of St. John’s Episcopal church building. As a result the church will be closed for the next six weeks and at the end of that time it will be complete in every detail according to the original plans.

Friday, December 14, 1894
page 5. The receivers of the Santa Fe have filed petition in the United States circuit court at Topeka asking cancellation of the contract with the Wichita and Western Railroad in which the Santa Fe and St. Louis and San Francisco leased and agreed to operate the Wichita and
Western for a period of years.

**Tuesday, December 18, 1894**

The old shoe factory in Logan addition has been purchased by William Polk. It will be torn down and the material used in construction of the new business block on North Main.

**Thursday, December 20, 1894**

The Wichita Electric Railway company are receiving heavy shipments of bridge timber to be used in the construction of a fine new street car bridge on Douglas avenue over the Arkansas river, for the accommodation of the West Side line. Work on the new structure will begin by Saturday or next Monday. This will be welcome to West Side patrons, as they have for some time known that the old bridge was unsafe. Manager O’Neil says the new bridge will be a very heavy and substantial affair.

Schwartz Brothers are putting in a new coal yard on West Douglas avenue between Water and Wichita streets.

**Monday, December 24, 1894**

This morning the street car company began work on its new bridge over the Arkansas river. A force of over 15 men will rush the work to completion. While the bridge is torn up two cars will make quarter of an hour trips from the river to the Garfield university.

**Thursday, December 27, 1894**

The street car company is experiencing some trouble in keeping the tracks clear of drifts on its suburban lines. The salt car is in constant use and an extra force of men is employed in shoveling snow.

Union services will be held at the First Presbyterian church tonight instead of the Auditorium. The Auditorium management is putting in heaters in the immense building.

**Friday, December 28, 1894**

Yesterday the comptroller of the treasury granted the application for the charter of the new Exchange National bank.

Yesterday evening’s west bound Missouri Pacific passenger train struck a snow bank at Towanda and the engine was derailed. The train laid in the drift all day.