

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 1896 WICHITA BEACON

Wichita Beacon

Thursday, January 2, 1896

page

5. The street railway company is putting in a new switch at the corner of Topeka and Douglas.

The prospect well is down 700 feet.

Friday, January 3, 1896

page

1. Report of death this morning of George W. Clement at age 59. Born in New Hampshire February 22, 1836. Came to Wichita in 1885. Son George, Jr., died August 13, 1888 of an acute illness. Elected mayor in 1889. Survived by wife and two daughters (named). Had had a stroke in February 1895 and was ill since then.

Saturday, January 4, 1896

page

5. Hose house Number 4, on the West Side, was closed yesterday and all the apparatus was transferred to Hose house Number 1.

Monday, January 6, 1896

page

5. D. M. Dale, judge-elect, was sworn into office this morning as the district judge of Sedgwick County. Details.

Tuesday, January 7, 1896

page

5. Report of school board meeting yesterday. Pupils enrolled to date: 2,096 boys and 2,218 girls, total 4,314 compared with 4,294 in same month last year. High school enrollment 327.

Report of Judge Dale's first day in court. Details.

Wednesday, January 8, 1896**page**

5. Business men have agreed to form a new Wichita Commercial Club to replace both the old Board of Trade, which has not met for two years, and the Coronado Club. Details.

A. J. Sergeant, of this city, has leased the Occidental hotel.

Frank C. Wood, an old time Wichita man, and W. E. Jett, of Kingman, have formed a partnership under the firm name of Jett and Wood, to conduct a wholesale trade in groceries. Details.

8. The prospect well has reached 845 feet. Details.

Friday, January 10, 1896**page**

5. Article gives history of five wholesale grocery houses in Wichita — Wichita Wholesale Grocery Company established in January 1884., Aylesbury Mercantile Company, established in 1890 and moved in 1894 to larger quarters in the big Steinhauser building on corner of 3rd street and 5th avenue, Lehmann-Higginson Grocery Company, established in 1890, the J. T. Campbell Grocery Company, and the Joseph Casey wholesale house, just opened. Another is to be opened next month on north Topeka by Messrs. Jett and Wood. Details.

Tuesday, January 14, 1896**page**

3. At city council meeting yesterday Fire Chief Walden defended the closing of the hose house on the West Side and the one in the 4th Ward on the score of economy, saying nearly \$1,800 had been saved in four months thereby.

City council yesterday instructed city manager to remove the dam from Chisholm creek at the intersection of Lawrence avenue.

5. Report of organizational meeting of the new Commercial Club yesterday. Details.

Report of membership solicitation meeting of the new Commercial Club yesterday. Details.

J. W. Dale, of Clearwater, brother of Judge Dale, was a visitor in the city yesterday.

Wednesday, January 15, 1896**page**

5. There is a sign in front of a grocery house on north Market street which reads: "Bread, two loaves for 5¢."

Saturday, January 18, 1896

page

5. The Commercial Club of Wichita was officially organized last night in a meeting in the rooms of the Coronado Club, which it succeeds. Details.

Monday, January 20, 1896**page**

5. Mrs. Judge Dale went to Illinois today on account of the illness of her sister.

A final meeting Saturday evening marked the death of the Coronado club, which has been merged into the Commercial Club. ¶ Among the guests was Colonel Bachelder (sic) of Keene, New Hampshire, who controls the electric car system in this city. The colonel is a pleasant companion. ¶ Details.

Sunday, January 21, 1896**page**

5. F. W. Sweet, manager of the street car lines, is sick with tonsillitis.

Monday, January 22, 1896**page**

5. The waterworks are arranging to put in a duplex compound pump of 3 million gallons capacity and also a new boiler, making the full capacity of the plant 15 million gallons every 24 hours.

Monday, January 28, 1896**page**

1. Report of city council meeting yesterday.

Friday, January 31, 1896**page**

5. Article about the City hospital, at 1021 south 4th avenue, with details. They have just organized a training school for nurses there.

Wednesday, February 5, 1896**page**

5. The Souvenir of Wichita, published by T. B. Dilday, is just out. It is 9 by 11 inches and has 66 pages. Cost is 15¢.

Mr. Fred W. Sweet, superintendent of the street railway, is in the hospital.

Major Ewing, as receiver of the Wichita National bank, has taken charge of Griswold park and is about to lease it to a driving association and to the wheelman of Wichita.

Thursday, February 6, 1896**page**

5. It is reported that the Santa Fe reorganization scheme will involve the separation of the

Frisco from that system, which would redound to the benefit of this city.

Monday, February 10, 1896**page**

5. Griswold Park will be opened to the public. A driving club has rented the park of Major Ewing. A contract has been let for filling up the low places in the track and the levee along the river will be repaired. About a dozen electric lights will be put around the park and an amphitheater will be erected on the north side of the track next to the river.

Tuesday, February 11, 1896**page**

5. City council yesterday discussed request for permission to build a railroad switch track from south side of Douglas avenue across the avenue and along east side of Waco to a connection with the Missouri Pacific railroad. Details. Wanted by the Wichita Plumbing and Pump company.

Friday, February 14, 1896**page**

5. A bicycle club was organized last night and it will be known as the Wichita Wheelmen. Details.

Saturday, February 15, 1896**page**

5. The prospect well has reached 910 feet.
8. Ad for Dillday's Souvenir (of Wichita). Lists places it is on sale. Prices 15¢ each or two for 25¢.

Monday, February 17, 1896**page**

8. Full page of artistic ads of Wichita businesses.

Tuesday, February 20, 1896**page**

5. Masonic Grand Lodge meeting yesterday tentatively approved establishment of a Masonic Home, with site to be determined. Article says a property worth \$75-80,000 at corner of Seneca and Maple streets, on West Side of Wichita can now be purchased for as little as \$30,000. Details.

Friday, February 22, 1896**page**

5. The prospect well at 15th and Market has reached another salt water vein at 1050 feet. Details.

Monday, March 2, 1896

page

5. Report of death yesterday of Dr. Edward A. Whitlock, age 43. Came to Wichita in 1882. Survived by father, brother, wife, and four children.

Tuesday, March 3, 1896**page**

5. The street cars got to going about 9 o'clock this morning after plowing three or four inches of snow from the tracks with a few mule teams.

Wednesday, March 4, 1896**page**

5. Report of fire at midnight last night which destroyed the old elevator at 1st street and 5th avenue, the Royal and Todd elevator of years ago, which was currently being used as a place to kill and store poultry. Details (also known as the Zephyr mill).

City assessor Caldwell is preparing maps showing boundaries of the city as established by the city council and confirmed by the district court in April 1891. They show a number of favored individuals whose homes are in the city but not included in the corporate limits, including William Mathewson, Mr. Martinson, the Hutchinson twenty acre homestead west of the packing houses, and the Dixon property of forty acres on Kellogg street. Also excluded are the two great packing houses, the union stock yards, and the 120 acres belonging to the Robert Black estate.

Friday, March 13, 1896**page**

5. The Wichita Wheelmen have about completed arrangements with Major Ewing, receiver of the Wichita National bank, that would give them full control of Griswold park. The Driving association wanted the park, but the horsemen wanted it closed to the public, while Major Ewing desired that the public have access to it at all times. He feels that by closing the park to the public its value will be depreciated. Many people want the park to belong to the city, and when good times return the matter will probably be agitated. For that reason Major Ewing desires the public to have access to it, as the more people want it, the more there will be to favor it belonging to the city.

The street cars have had difficulty all day to keep the wheels moving. The salt car has been in requisition, and without its aid traffic would have long since been stopped.

Sunday, March 17, 1896**page**

5. The water company is building a new substantial brick building to house its new compound pumping engine with capacity of four million gallons per day.

Monday, March 18, 1896**page**

5. Article indicates that the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway, which is still in the hands

of a receiver, will now be operated as an independent road, separate from the Santa Fe, which is no longer in receivership.

Friday, March 21, 1896**page**

1. Tentative report that a two foot vein of coal has been found in the prospect well. Details.

Monday, March 24, 1896**page**

5. City council yesterday granted a five year franchise to the telephone company. Details.

Wednesday, March 26, 1896**page**

5. Two cars instead of one will run to the West Side during the conference next Tuesday. One car will leave the corner of Main and Douglas every 15 minutes.

Saturday, March 28, 1896**page**

1. Article with praise of Judge Dale. Details.

Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad has decided to remove its ticket office at corner of Main and Douglas, and hereafter the public will purchase tickets at the depot.

Thursday, April 2, 1896**page**

5. The prospect well drill entered some coal today at a depth of 1,340 feet. Well is at 15th and Market.

Monday, April 6, 1896**page**

5. A. C. Jobes, formerly cashier of the Kansas National bank of this city, is registered at the Manhattan from Kansas City.

Report of death this morning of Reverend Thomas Murdock, father of Colonel M. M. and R. P. Murdock of Wichita, and Benton Murdock, of Butler County, at Emporia. Was a native of Virginia.

Tuesday, April 7, 1896**page**

5. In the case of Edgar Harding versus George L. Rouse et al, the order of the district court was returned yesterday showing the sale of the Sedgwick block for \$65,000.

Wednesday, April 8, 1896**page**

3. Report of results of city election yesterday. Details.

5. The prospect well struck another large vein of salt water today at 1555 feet. Details. Well may have to be abandoned.

L. D. Skinner, formerly vice-president of the State National bank and who now resides in Chicago, is in the city.

Friday, April 10, 1896

page

5. The trustees of Fairmount Institute at a special meeting decided to make some changes in the institution's character. The term College is to be substituted for Institute in the corporate title, and the new corporation is to be empowered to confer all the academic honors and degrees of the full university. The number of trustees is also increased from 15 to 21. Names of trustees listed.

Article lauding the economics and efficiency of Judge Dale in first term of district court ("Here is Economy").

Saturday, April 11, 1896

page

5. Fifty-five lots in Mathewson's addition were sold at auction today under an execution against the defunct Savings Bank. The highest price obtained was \$48 and the lowest nine dollars for a single lot.

Sunday, April 14, 1896

page

5. New city council took office yesterday. Details. Annual report of Fire Marshal Walden included.

Monday, April 15, 1896

page

5. Final settlement of the Molly Burleigh estate was made by the court today, and A. A. Hyde, administrator, was discharged.

J. H. McKnight, who has purchased the Robert Black farm on east Douglas, will build a fine residence on the place.

The houses from the outside additions are still coming in, and almost every day one can be seen moving along some of the principal streets.

Tuesday, April 16, 1896

page

5. Real estate transfers yesterday amounted to \$76,147 including the deed to Edgar Harding for the Sedgwick block.
8. Report of excitement on north Main street last night over the closing of a "joint". Details.

Tuesday, April 28, 1896**page**

5. City council yesterday ordered re-opening of Hose house Number 4 on West Side and Hose house Number 3 at 4th avenue and 13th street on May 1.

Wednesday, April 29, 1896**page**

5. Fire Chief Walden says the hose houses on the West Side and at 13th street will be opened day after tomorrow.

Friday, May 1, 1896**page**

5. Miss Rea Woodman will assist Mrs. L. S. Carter in receiving tomorrow afternoon and evening.

Saturday, May 2, 1896**page**

5. The hose house on the West Side and the one on 4th avenue and 13th street are now open and fully equipped.

Monday, May 4, 1896**page**

5. A Topeka avenue electric car ran over a St. Bernard dog this morning.

Note about a baptism service by First Baptist church in Little River at 13th street bridge yesterday.

Tuesday, May 14, 1896**page**

5. Griswold park is being improved and fitted up by the Wichita Driving association. Details. Has a half mile track.

Sunday, May 18, 1896**page**

5. The 16th annual commencement of the high school will be held at the Auditorium Wednesday evening, May 20.

Monday, May 19, 1896**page**

5. Interview with Major Ewing, receiver of the Wichita National Bank, who says he would like to sell Griswold park for enough money to pay the claim of the bank against it.

Tuesday, May 20, 1896**page**

5. I. W. Gill has moved from the West Side to 241 north Emporia where he will be closer to

his business.

Friday, May 22, 1896**page**

5. The committee on location of the Masonic Home arrived in Wichita today. Details.

Monday, May 25, 1896**page**

5. The street car track leading to Riverside has been put in good shape preparatory for the camp meeting.
8. J. H. Tihen, rector of the Pro-Cathedral, received a dispatch yesterday stating that his father had died at his home, three miles from Jefferson City. The local priests here who were acquainted with Mr. Tihen say that he was a grand, good man.

Tuesday, May 26, 1896**page**

5. The holiness camp meeting will begin Thursday at Riverside park.

Tuesday, June 2, 1896**page**

5. Report of school board meeting yesterday. Annual report of Superintendent Dyer. Total enrollment 4,555, including 2,217 boys and 2,338 girls, a decrease of 82 from 4,637 last year. Average daily attendance 3,493 of average weekly enrollment for the year of 3,735. ¶ Annual enrollment at high school 336, including 140 boys and 196 girls. Number remaining at date of report 268. Complete list of teachers and individual salaries. Other details.

Wednesday, June 3, 1896**page**

5. The Masonic Home committee met at Topeka last night and decided to locate the Home at Wichita and to purchase the R. E. Lawrence property at the corner of Maple and Seneca streets, on the West Side. Details. Contributions totaling \$42,000 have been made by the various Masonic lodges of the state. Of this \$21,000 will be paid for the Lawrence property. Details.

Article reports close of a successful year at the Lewis Academy despite the financial and commercial depression everywhere. Details.

Thursday, June 4, 1896**page**

5. The ninth annual commencement exercises of the Lewis academy were held today at the First Presbyterian church. Eleven in graduating class. Details.

Monday, June 8, 1896

page

1. Notice that the new Bank of Commerce, of Wichita, capital stock \$25,000, will commence business at the southwest corner of Main and Douglas on Monday, June 15, 1896. A. C. Jobs, president. Directors listed. C. W. Carey, cashier.

Saturday, June 13, 1896**page**

5. The Stanton block at corner of Maple and Seneca is being torn down. It is a large brick building with 150 feet front.

Wednesday, June 17, 1896**page**

5. The Bank of Commerce began business Monday.

Saturday, June 20, 1896**page**

5. The Street Railway company have arranged to give band concerts on Sunday afternoon at Riverside park. They have built a new bandstand and arranged comfortable seats there. The car service will be perfect. Superintendent Fred Sweet says they may continue all summer.

Work will begin on the Auditorium galleries next week, making a place where 5,000 people can be seated. Contributors of one dollar each are asked to call and leave their dollars with Mr. Bitting.

Monday, June 22, 1896**page**

This issue is missing.

Wednesday, June 24, 1896**page**

5. The Auditorium fund drive for \$1,000 for completion of the galleries, has reached \$638. Details (names of one dollar contributors have been listed in *Beacon* over past couple weeks).

Thursday, June 25, 1896**page**

5. Report of a lawn fete given yesterday by the Order of the Eastern Star at the new Masonic Home. Over 2,000 people visited the home last night. One car after another left this side every few minutes for two hours, carrying people to the West Side. Details.

Friday, June 26, 1896**page**

5. In the case of Ewing, receiver, versus Griffenstein, Judge Dale set the sale aside yesterday.

The Sedgwick County Library, founded by Z. Tuttle, is located at 154 north Market street and is now open to the public.

Saturday, June 27, 1896**page**

8. By order of the United States Court, the St. Louis and San Francisco railway was sold today under foreclosure of the old mortgage by the Mercantile Trust company of New York. There was only one bidder, a committee of bondholders representing the organization committee, buying in the road for \$1,250,000, which was the upset price and is to be paid in cash.

Tuesday, June 30, 1896**page**

5. Article about the Wichita prospect well. Says work ceased about two months ago at 1,610 feet. Details.

Sunday, July 7, 1896**page**

5. Report of school board meeting yesterday with details of finances and retrenchment in their times of depression.

Monday, July 8, 1896**page**

5. The Gentleman's driving club are going to place electric lights in Griswold park, and a foot bridge will be put across the Little river so that people can reach the park by street railway.

Wednesday, July 10, 1896**page**

5. Report of death today of Harry L. Hill at his residence, 253 north Market, from injuries sustained in a fall three weeks ago. Born in West Virginia, came to farm in Pratt County, Kansas in 1879, and then to Wichita in 1880. Survived by wife, Emma, and three children (apparently not the same Harry Hill as the one which Harry street was named?).

Friday, July 17, 1896**page**

5. Work on the prospect well is to be resumed. Details.

Thursday, July 23, 1896**page**

5. There will be racing by electric light at Griswold park this evening.

Friday, July 24, 1896**page**

5. The Missouri Pacific depot at Colwich was struck by lightning and burned to the ground.

Tuesday, July 28, 1896**page**

5. City council yesterday, at request of the board, took the Masonic home grounds into the city. This will give the home fire protection.

Wednesday, July 29, 1896**page**

5. The Frisco railroad has rented the office at corner of Main and Douglas recently vacated by the Rock Island.

Saturday, August 1, 1896**page**

5. United States Court yesterday filed an order that places the Kansas Midland railway in the hands of a receiver. Proceedings were instituted by the Mercantile Trust company of New York because of failure to pay interest on a first mortgage bond executed April 20, 1887 and secured by a trust deed for the sum of \$1,608,000. L. Wolff was appointed as receiver.

Sunday, August 4, 1896**page**

5. A trolley party tonight will leave Main and Douglas at 8 p.m.

Tuesday, August 6, 1896**page**

5. The Santa Fe depot at Nickerson was destroyed by fire yesterday. Supposedly started by sparks from an engine.

Friday, August 8, 1896**page**

5. The Frisco people expect to be in their new office at corner of Main and Douglas by the 15th of this month.

Sunday, August 10, 1896**page**

5. A. L. Wolff, receiver, assumed charge and control of the Kansas Midland railway on August 1. Until further notice the St. Louis and San Francisco railroad company will continue to operate the Kansas Midland railway. Mr. P. W. Homan has been appointed general manager for the receiver, with headquarters at Wichita.

Saturday, August 15, 1896**page**

5. "Father Tihen while in Leavenworth last Sunday, talked at late mass to an immense congregation. Everyone was delighted with his rare eloquence and learning and many expressed the wish that Leavenworth might take him from Wichita."

Monday, August 17, 1896**page**

5. M. W. Levy has made final settlement in the probate court as administrator of the estate of Nathan Davis, worth about \$42,000.

Sunday, September 5, 1896**page**

5. The street car line on the West Side is being put in good condition to handle the crowd for the Masonic Home dedication next Thursday. The company has never yet failed to handle a big crowd here satisfactorily.

Wednesday, September 8, 1896**page**

5. Long article describing the Kansas Masonic Home, with details. To be dedicated Thursday.

Friday, September 9, 1896**page**

5. Report of program for Masonic Home dedication tomorrow.

Saturday, September 10, 1896**page**

5. Article about dedication of Masonic Home today. Drawing.

Thursday, September 22, 1896**page**

5. The street railway company are arranging to handle the crowd for the fair grounds in good shape.

Friday, September 23, 1896**page**

5. J. O. Davidson is down from Chicago on business and to visit the State Fair.

Monday, September 26, 1896**page**

5. Report of a collision of two street cars this morning on the Douglas avenue line east of Chisholm creek. Motoneers were Scott and Gates. Both were suspended by Superintendent Sweet pending investigation. Gates, in westbound car, apparently expected Scott to wait on the switch at Hydraulic avenue, but he did not do so. Car numbers not given. Both cars received some damage.

Saturday, October 3, 1896**page**

8. The fall term of Fairmount College will open Wednesday, September 9 (sic - this is ad, apparently old). Tuition in either college or academy classes is \$12, payable in advance.

Faculty listed.

Wednesday, October 7, 1896**page**

5. The fine residence of Robert E. Lawrence on north Topeka will be finished and ready for occupancy the first of next month.

Tuesday, October 12, 1896**page**

5. Long article about Wichita's first city directory, published in 1878, giving names of a number of people listed therein. Population then was claimed to be 4,209. Vote at election in spring of 1873 was 598 in 1874, 612; in 1875, 726; and in 1876, 919.

Wednesday, October 13, 1896**page**

5. "Fairmount Notes" says "a large number of special street car tickets have been issued, the proceeds of which are to be used in repairing the car track."

Report of city council meeting yesterday.

Thursday, October 14, 1896**page**

5. Edgar Harding, of Boston, owner of Sedgwick block and the Garfield university, is in the city.

Saturday, October 30, 1896**page**

8. Article about the Union mill, which opened for business on east Oak street in October 1895. J. E. Howard and associates are proprietors. Produces Peerless Princess brand flour and other brands. Details.

Wednesday, November 4, 1896**page**

1. Report of results of national election yesterday.

Saturday, November 6, 1896**page**

5. Report of Superintendent of Schools Dyer. Enrollment at close of first month of school is 3,687 compared with 3,893 last year, a decline of 206. High school has 336. Details.

Tuesday, November 16, 1896**page**

5. Report of suicide (by gunshot) of Henry Bolte Saturday. Details.

Sunday, November 21, 1896

page

5. The new Wells Fargo Express office at the Santa Fe depot is now completed and occupied by the office force.

A motion for appointment of a receiver for property of the old Citizens' Bank is being argued before Judge Dale today. The petitions allege that a large amount of property belonging to the bank was deeded to one O. G. Nims, a non-resident of Kansas, without consideration, and that Coler Sim, as agent of Nims, is collecting the rents and forwarding the amounts to Nims. The creditors claim that the transfer of property to Nims was fraudulent. The bank was liquidated several years ago and paid up its depositors in full. Details.

Tuesday, November 23, 1896**page**

5. Long followed article on Saturday's court hearing of petition for appointment of receiver for the defunct Citizens Bank. ¶ Title of suit is: "The Hinsdale Savings Bank versus the Citizens Bank of Wichita, the Keene Guaranty Saving Bank, The Nashua Savings Bank, The Keene Five Cents Savings Bank, The Cheshire Provident Institution, O. G. Nims, and Coler Sim." ¶ H. W. Lewis appointment as receiver by Judge Dale. ¶ Details ("Will Demand It").

Friday, December 3, 1896**page**

5. Mayor Ewing says the man who started that report that he would sell Griswold park for \$2,000 ought to be shot on the spot.

The water works are now pumping two to three million gallons of water a day, or about two-thirds of what is required during the warm summer months.

Saturday, December 4, 1896**page**

5. Report of *Beacon* reporter's interview of Colonel Marsh Murdock regarding events of Quantrill's raid on Lawrence, August 21, 1863. Details. Colonel Murdock says he intends to write his recollection of the events for the State Historical Society ("Has A Story").

Article with reminiscences of Wyatt Earp. Details.

Sunday, December 5, 1896**page**

8. The committee on buildings and grounds of the School Board are making arrangements to move a school house from 13th and Water streets to Fairmount. The building was formerly moved to its present location from Riverside addition.

Tuesday, December 7, 1896**page**

5. The citizens of Mt. Hope are rejoicing over the completion of the new \$5,000 school house. School began there last Monday.

Wednesday, December 8, 1896

page

5. Article of reminiscences of Quantrill's raid by John Spear. Details.

Wednesday, December 15, 1896

page

5. Article summarizing operations of the City Hospital. Details. The State pays the hospital \$75 a month, and the county pays three dollars a week for its patients. Private patients are charged three dollars to \$12 a week according to room and care.

Report of city council meeting yesterday which approved payment of \$50 per month to the City Hospital. Details.

Thursday, December 16, 1896

page

5. The Congregational church at Fairview avenue, between 14th and 15th streets, is being moved to Fairmount.

Friday, December 17, 1896

page

5. The Street Car Company is thinking of taking off one car on the College Hill line. This will give a 40 minute service to College Hill and ten minutes to Hydraulic avenue.

Friday, December 24, 1896

page

5. Laudatory comments about Judge Dave Dale in dismissal of a jury ("Pretty Plain Talk").

Thursday, December 30, 1896

page

5. Superintendent Sweet of the street railway is in Chicago on business connected with his road.

Friday, December 31, 1896

page

5. Report of death today of J. K. Sawyer (John K.), bridge contractor and ex-councilman, at his home, 1129 south Topeka. Born in Maine December 1831. Survived by one son and one daughter (named).

The lease on Griswold Park held by the Gentlemen's Driving club expired today and their fences were removed last night.