TIHEN NOTES FROM 1939 WICHITA BEACON

Wichita Beacon
Sunday, January 1, 1939
page
3. Advertisement with map of Yellow Cab Company 15 cent fare zone.

Sunday, January 1, 1939
page
Magazine
10. Chronology of major events in Wichita in 1938.

13. Building permits in Wichita in 1938 totaled nearly $3,400,000, an increase of over $1,000,000.

Tuesday, January 3, 1939
page
16. The Clapp Mortgage Company has been newly organized and granted a state charter and took over the business of the First Trust Company, in the Northern Building on January 1st. Officers are same as those of the latter company and include Marc C. Clapp and R. D. W. Clapp. Details.

Saturday, January 7, 1939
page
10. The last run of the Missouri Pacific’s Sunflower between Wichita and Hutchinson will be made when the train leaves Hutchinson at 5:30 p.m. today for the last time. Henceforth the train will operate only between Wichita and St. Louis. Officials say the portion between Wichita and Hutchinson has been losing about $1000 monthly.

Friday, January 13, 1939
page
1. Ground was broken this morning for a new theater to be erected at 607-609 East Douglas. To be 50 by 100 feet and seat over 600 persons. Details.

Sunday, January 15, 1939
1. Photograph of first of 250 Lockheed Hudson bombers being shipped to England, which stopped in Wichita last night on account of stormy weather and will leave for New York today. Plane has Royal Air Force markings but carries No. N 7205.


Saturday, January 21, 1939

1. Report of forced landing at sea of Imperial Airways flying boat Cavalier between New York and Bermuda.

Tuesday, January 24, 1939

1. Hearing started in Washington today before Civil Aeronautics Authority examiner on applications of Braniff Airways and Continental Airlines for the new air mail route between Wichita and Pueblo. Details.

Friday, January 27, 1939

1. Report of death today of Homer T. Harden, 56, after a long illness. He was recorder of the Midian Shrine Temple and formerly a well know photographer. Born in Lebanon, Indiana March 176, 1882, the son of Alden Wakefield Harden and Mary Ellen Harden. Graduated from Wichita High School in 1900 and became associated with his father in the photography business in 1907. Sold out the business in 1928 and began his work for the Masonic organization. Had been in Wichita 54 years. Survived by his sister, Mrs. Joseph L. Kirk, 154 North Bluff. Burial at Maple Grove. Photograph.

Saturday, January 28, 1939

10. Sale of the property of the Arkansas Valley Interurban Railway Company at public auction on March 27 at the west door of the Sedgwick County Courthouse was ordered today by United States District Court Judge Richard J. Hopkins, who found the company to be “hopelessly insolvent.” Minimum valuation placed at $183,000 and minimum bid of $75,000 required. If this amount is not bid, the trustees are to obtain offers for portions of the assets.

Monday, January 30, 1939


Tuesday, January 31, 1939

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

Wednesday, February 1, 1939


Thursday, February 2, 1939

Gross revenue of the Wichita Transportation Company in 1938 amounted to 485,340.85 according to the company’s report filed with City Manager Bert C. Wells. Of this amount the city of Wichita is paid $6280.11 as a franchise for the company to operate. The franchise tax is based on one percent of the first $200,000, one and a half percent of the next $200,000, and two percent for any amount above this. The report shows $75,333.09 was taken in on cash fares, $403,642.50 on token sales, $2156.59 of miscellaneous revenue, and station and care privileges (sic) $3886.67. Operating expenses were $447,329.31, while interest on the investment amounted to $21,726.56. The total investment, the report shows, is $404,332.60. The company ended the year with a profit of $16,284.98.

Sunday, February 5, 1939


Photograph of the new Sears, Roebuck and Company building at William and Market which is nearing completion and will be occupied later this month. Article with details.
Sunday, February 5, 1939
page
Special Section
Douglas Avenue merchants, with articles, advertisements, etc.
1. Photograph on East Douglas.

4. Photograph of Hillside and Douglas.

Monday, February 6, 1939
page
7. Advertisement announcing formal opening tomorrow of Gentry’s Cafeteria at 113 West Douglas.

Sunday, February 12, 1939
page
16. The Arnold Auto Company, 314-324 South Market, has been appointed distributor for Nash motor cars in Wichita, it was announced yesterday. Details.

Monday, February 13, 1939
page
13. Building of the first concrete runway at the municipal airport is more than one-fourth completed. Details.

Tuesday, February 14, 1939
page
13. Beech Aircraft Corporation announced today that it has received a contract to build ten biplanes for the army air corps. To be powered with 400 horsepower Pratt and Whitney Wasp Junior engines.

Thursday, February 16, 1939
page
17. Ground to be broken in next few weeks for the new nurses home at Wesley Hospital. Plans and specifications are now being completed. Drawing.

Sunday, February 19, 1939
page
6. A seven mile section of Highway 42 is to be paved, with contracting beginning immediately. The section extends from Douglas and Edwards Streets in Wichita southwest to Schulte, Kansas.

16. Photograph of front entrance of a Wichita bus. Last number in bus number is 3. Lettered Wichita Transportation Corporation. Twin Coach?

C-12. Photograph of new Sears, Roebuck building with sign in place. Details. To be opened soon.
Wednesday, February 22, 1939
Special Section

Thursday, February 23, 1939
19. The new Pan American Airway 74 passenger clipper for trans-Atlantic service arrival at Galveston, Texas yesterday from San Diego and took of this morning for Baltimore.

Saturday, February 25, 1939

Sunday, February 26, 1939
8. Photograph of framework of new University of Wichita library building, which is under construction and will be completed about the middle of the year.

Tuesday, February 28, 1939
3. Contract let by city commission yesterday to the Layne-Western Company, of Kansas City, for 25 wells to be drilled near Halstead for Wichita’s new soft water system. Cost $127,764. Details.

4. Photograph of snow scene this morning at the ornamental arch over Belmont Avenue at Douglas Avenue.

Wednesday, March 1, 1939
9. Photograph of the home of a new Wichita business, The Macaroni Manufacturers, Inc., 115-17 South St. Francis, which will open for business about March 15. Article with details.

Thursday, March 2, 1939
1. Continental Airlines, Inc. has been named in Washington as the probable operator of the Wichita to Pueblo air mail route. A chamber of commerce committee is working on a Wichita to Tulsa connection. Details.

20. A new fire truck purchased by the city from the American and France Engine Company of Elmira, New York was shipped from the factory today and will reach here the first of the week. It will go to the West Side fire station No. 4. Cost is $10,138. Further details
Friday, March 3, 1939

Standish Hall, trustee, has asked the Sedgwick District Court to order the sale of the Commodore Hotel. Details.

Saturday, March 4, 1939

A new movie theater is to be erected at 115, 119, and 121 East William, between the Wichita Eagle building and the Wichita police station, with front of 72 feet and depth of 140 feet. Two small buildings on the site occupied by the Klondike Cafe and the A. J. Busch shoe repair shop are to be razed, and work should start on the new building within a month. It is being constructed by the Midland Building Company of Wichita and will be leased to T. H. Slowthower, who will operate the theater. Cost of building estimated at $35,000. Plans drawn by Lorentz Schmidt, Wichita architect. Seating capacity will be 900.

Sunday, March 5, 1939

Another article about the new theater (above), this time identified as the Sandra Theater, with drawing. Says it is to be ready for occupancy by June 15. This article gives seating capacity as 700. Details.

Sunday, March 5, 1939

Article by O. C. Emery about the early history of Wichita, saying the first permanent settler was Jesse Chisholm, who built a small log house on the bank of the creek named for him. This was in 1865, so article claims Wichita will be 75 years old next year. Says next permanent settler was Henry W. Vigus, who came early in 1867 and operated the first hostelry, the Buckhorn Tavern. The first homestead claim in the present site of Wichita was taken by E. P. Waterman in February 1868, and D. S. Munger, homesteaded in May of that year. Many other details. Lumber used in first several years for houses and other buildings was hauled from Emporia, mostly by ox-teams. (“City of Wichita Will be 75 Years Old Next Year”)

Sunday, March 12, 1939

Article says the remodeled Caldwell-Murdock Building is featured in a full page illustration of its modernization in the January issue of Buildings and Building Management magazine. Details.
11. Braniff Airways will open a modern ticket office tomorrow at 208 South Broadway in the Allis Hotel Building. Details.

**Wednesday, March 15, 1939**

**page**

15. The new twin-motored Stearman X-100 bomber flew from Wichita to Wright Field at Dayton, Ohio yesterday for tests by army officials. Details. Photograph.

**Thursday, March 16, 1939**

**page**

6. Contract let yesterday to Cleon A. Whitney, local jeweler, for the silver service set to be presented to the *USS Wichita*. The set will be received here within 30 days and will cost approximately $3000. The Salem pattern was selected. It will be manufactured at Providence, Rhode Island. Details. The city appropriated $2500 for the service set.

**Sunday, March 19, 1939**

**page**

8. Photographs of entrance of Caldwell, Murdock Building before and after modernization. Article with details.

**Monday, March 20, 1939**

**page**

1. The legislature has passed the administration’s bill to abolish the use of sales tax tokens in Kansas and has sent it to Governor Ratner for signature. Details.

**Friday, March 24, 1939**

**page**

7. Report of death yesterday of Amos Grable, age 73, Sedgwick County resident for 67 years and employee of the Wichita Transportation Company for 42 years. Resided at 1608 Jackson. Born in Creston, Iowa. His family moved to near Goddard, Kansas in 1872. He moved to Wichita as a young man and was on the police force for several years before he began work on the street cars in 1892. Later he operated cars on the Fairmount-Orient run for many years. Survived by three daughters, Mrs. John Wilburn, 519 South Elizabeth, Mrs. Harry Angle of Eldorado, Kansas, and Mrs. Lester Davis, of Salt Lake City, and by five sons, Ralph, 116 West 12th Street, Frank and Virgil, both of Alhambra, California, Walter, of Los Angles, and Perry, of San Diego, California.