TIHEN NOTES FROM 1966 WICHITA EAGLE-BEACON

Wichita Eagle-Beacon
Saturday, January 1, 1966
page 5A. Sedgwick County issued a record 162,501 automobile tags during 1965, an increase of 6059 over the 156,442 issued in 1964.

Sunday, January 2, 1966
page 1B. Article about new steel YWCA building at 27th and Hillside which will open later this month. It replaces the old Mary E. Talbert branch at 816 North Water owned by the YWCA for many years, and which was sold in 1964 to raise money for the new building. Photo.

5E. Ad offering for sale the old Stanley residence at 1145 West 13th Street. Photo. “Under $60,000.”

Wednesday, January 5, 1966
page 5A. Photo of new storage type of parking meter, of which 167 are now being installed in downtown Wichita.

Thursday, January 6, 1966
page 1. Crestview Country Club has purchased a site east of Wichita for construction of a new golf course and clubhouse complex. The 638 acre parcel of land was purchased from Mrs. C. H. Hoult for $925 an acre, and the club also holds an option on the additional two acres upon which Mrs. Hoult’s home is located, at 13602 East Central, which may be purchased for $50,000, bringing the total cost for the full 640 acre section to $640,000. The land is between Central and 13th and between 127th East and 143rd East. Negotiations are under way for sale of the present Crestview property for use by Wichita State University.

Friday, January 7, 1966
Photo of Main Street of Andale.

The near $1.5 million Osteopathic Hospital in west Wichita is about 90 percent complete. Opening is expected in mid-March. Details. Photo.

Saturday, January 8, 1966

Henry’s will start construction in mid-February on a new store in Twin Lakes Shopping Center. Details. Drawing.

Article about increasing use of vehicles by mail carriers in Wichita. Of 258 carrier routes in Wichita, 103, or 40 percent, currently use vehicles. Details.

Bids were opened yesterday for the construction of the new YWCA building at 350 North Market. Details.

Sunday, January 9, 1966

City Commission will be asked Tuesday to approve renaming McKinley Park, 15th and Ohio, to Emerson McAdams Park. The Board of Park Commissioners approved the change of name last month. McAdams, a former city policeman, served 27 years as director of McKinley Park. He died October 20 at 52. Photo.

Report of death of Herman A. Doll, 81, of 901 North West, a resident of Wichita for 75 years, who died Friday. Born in Kankakee, Illinois and came here in 1888. Survivors include his widow, Marie, and a sister, Mrs. Minnie Parrott, of Wichita.

Wednesday, January 12, 1966

Wichita’s long-unsettled bus dilemma has reached a climax. A decision whether the city government will take over the local bus system or greatly increase its subsidy to Rapid Transit Lines will be made soon. A meeting will be held Thursday between City Manager Russell McClure and Bernard E. Calkins, of Rapid Transit Lines, and his attorney, H. E. (Pat) Healy to discuss the problem. Rapid Transit officials say that despite the city subsidy of about $35,000 a year, the firm is losing money. Details.

Wichita is to lose six of its Rapid Transit Dreamliners, which are leased by the local firm from Rapid Transit Lines Inc., of Houston, Texas, which is in receivership. A federal court judge has authorized sale of 302 buses by the Houston firm to satisfy a judgement. H. E. (Pat) Healy, attorney for Rapid Transit Lines of Wichita said yesterday that two of the six buses will be sent to Houston today. It is anticipated the other four buses will be delivered to Houston by January 24.

Friday, January 14, 1966
5A. New Sedgwick County fire station No. 6 at 63rd South and Rock Road, near Derby, was opened yesterday (photo), and station No. 5 at Andale Road and U.S. Highway 54 will be opened in about two weeks. Each is a 50 by 56 foot one story building with stalls for two vehicles. These are the first new county fire stations since the four larger original stations were built in 1955: No. 1, 553 North Webb Road; No. 2, 200 East 53rd North; No. 3, 410 South Tyler Road; and No. 4, 6151 South Broadway.

Sunday, January 16, 1966
1D. Building permit issued last week for first phase of construction of Sweetbriar Gardens Shopping Center at 21st and Amidon. Details.

Macy’s Missouri-Kansas Division, owners of Innes store, last week announced plans for a one million dollar plus self-parking garage on the southwest corner of Market and William. Construction is to be completed in mid-October by Coonrod, Walz and Vollmer Construction Company.


Friday, January 21, 1966
1. Rapid Transit Lines owner Bernard E. Calkins was allowed yesterday by U.S. District Court in Houston, Texas to keep 22 buses in Wichita for one dollar a month until March 10. The Wichita Rapid Transit Lines had been instructed by receiver of the Houston Rapid Transit Lines on January 7 to have 29 buses including six Dreamliners in Houston by January 10. The notice did not reach Wichita until January 8 and it was impossible to get the buses to Houston by January 10. Five of the Dreamliners are now in Houston and one is in Oklahoma City, where it broke down. One other bus has been returned to Houston, leaving 22 here. The court has now said that the sixth Dreamliner must be in Houston by February 3.

Sunday, January 23, 1966
10A. Aerial photo of the new Coleman Junior High School, now nearing completion. Building to be completed in March and opened in September.
1C. Feature article about early day Kansas built automobiles including the Jones Six. Shows photo of a Jones Six built in Wichita in 1916 (Kansas license 1916 No. 30818) and owned for the past 15 years by Mr. and Mrs. Bud Redmond, of Wichita, who bought it from a former Jones dealer at Scott City who had taken the car as a trade-in years before. Article says J. J. Jones died in a Halstead hospital October 22, 1944.

Tuesday, January 25, 1966

5A. Contracts were let yesterday for construction of the new YWCA building for $757,838. General contractor is Coonrod, Walz, and Vollmer Construction Company.

Wednesday, January 26, 1966

1. Article about ten million dollars in expansion plans by Cessna Aircraft Company this year. Details.

4A. Drawing of proposed new Civic Center building.

6A. Report of ground breaking yesterday for new Civic Center.

Sunday, January 30, 1966

6E. Long article about the Oaklawn Improvement District, built in the early 1950s to meet emergency housing needs during the Korean War. Details.

9F. Report of death yesterday at Seal Beach, California, of former Wichita resident and property manager, Richard E. Black, 81. Survived by widow, Gladys, and two sons, Charles N. and Malcolm C., both of Wichita. Photo.

Sunday, February 6, 1966

1D. The days of the Riverside boathouse are numbered. It is to be razed as part of the Park Plaza Urban Renewal project. Photo. Long article about plans for the Park Plaza Urban Renewal project. Details.

Monday, February 7, 1966


Tuesday, February 8, 1966

1. Suit filed yesterday in Federal District Court against Rapid Transit Lines Inc. for $38,675 for back rent of the firm’s bus garage and adjacent parking lot. The suit was filed by the property owners (named). The property is located at 1101 East Central and since 1960
has been rented to the bus firm for $1000 a month. The plaintiffs claim Rapid Transit has not paid 34 months rent, or $34,000, plus six percent interest, for a total of $38,675. Rapid Transit owner Bernard E. Calkins has proposed several options for future bus service in Wichita:
(1) That the city buy and operate a public bus transportation system itself.
(2) That the city find another private bus firm to operate here.
(3) That the city buy equipment and lease it back to Rapid Transit or some other bus firm. Further details.

Thursday, February 10, 1966

page
1. Bernard E. Calkins, Wichita, has sold Rapid Transit Lines Inc., Houston, Texas, to National City Lines Inc., Tampa, Florida, for $7.727 million. Details. Will not affect the Wichita transit situation. The 22 buses in Wichita leased from Houston to transport school children will remain here until end of the school year.

Sunday, February 13, 1966

page
7F. The City Commission last week approved a request from Lear Jet Corporation to issue a third series of industrial revenue bonds for $2.05 million to finance expansion projects. Details.

Plans have been revealed for a six million dollar apartment and shopping complex, to be built east of the Little Arkansas River on 21st Street. Located on an 18 acre site will be the River Bend Shopping Center being built by W. F. Farha, and the Twin River Apartments, being built by Jad A. Wolf. Hanney and Sanders are architects for the shopping center. Continental Construction Company of Lawrence designed the apartments. First phase of construction is expected to be completed by July 1. A total of 278 units will be built in four phases. Details.

Wednesday, February 16, 1966

page
1. Marcellus M. Murdock observed his 83rd birthday Monday and was honored yesterday with medallion struck in honor of his 68 years in newspaper journalism. Long article with biographical details. Photo with nephew, Britt Brown.

6A. Sedgwick County’s Farm Family of the Year was honored yesterday. The Philip R. Dosien family, Bentley, was the 14th family to be thus honored by the Wichita Chamber of Commerce and the Agricultural Extension Council. Dosien raises wheat and milo on 740 acres of rented land. The Dosiens have two children, Tony, 11, and Nancy, 8. Details. Photo.

Thursday, February 17, 1966

page
1C. Feature article about three supervised YWCA homes for girls in Wichita: Esther Hall, 1002 South Broadway, Price Hall, 532 North Broadway, and Elizabeth Seton Hall, 320 East Central. Photo of Seton Hall. Details.

Friday, February 18, 1966
page
1. A 20 year transportation plan with a $110 million price tag was approved yesterday by the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Commission. Details.

Saturday, February 19, 1966
page
1. Wichita soon may be without night, weekend, and holiday bus service. This possibility was announced yesterday by Bernard E. Calkins, owner of Rapid Transit Lines Inc. He says “I have been pumping $6000 to $10,000 of my own money into the business every month, just to keep it on the streets, and I just can’t continue to do this.” This is occurring even with an annual $35,000 subsidy to the bus company from the city. A contract signed in April calls for the city to refund Rapid Transit’s state gasoline taxes and provide garage space, in return for which Calkins promised to provide unaltered bus service through July 31. Details.

Monday, February 21, 1966
page
5A. Report of dedication yesterday of the new north wing at Booth Memorial Hospital. Including remodeling of present facilities, the project cost $50,000. Details.

Thursday, February 24, 1966
page
5A. Wichita city officials have begun contracting other bus firms concerning possible takeover of the city’s bus franchise. This is being done with permission of Bernard E. Calkins, owner of Rapid Transit Lines Inc. Details.

Friday, February 25, 1966
page

Sunday, February 27, 1966
page
6E. Kingsbrooke, the second phase of the Ritchie Lake Apartments, will be completed April 1. It is similar in architecture to the first phase Manor House. Details. Drawing.

coming to Wichita he was a rancher and first Buick car dealer in the El Dorado area. In 1917 he entered the automobile finance business with Will G. Price, Sr. Survivors include his widow, Daisy, a son, E. L. (Roy), Jr., Wichita, and a sister, Mrs. E. V. Yingling, Sr., Wichita. Burial in Old Mission Cemetery.

**Tuesday, March 1, 1966**

1. By late Monday, 1966 license plates for Rapid Transit Lines Inc.’s 79 buses, including 48 school buses, had not been purchased. Before Bernard Calkins can buy tags for his 31 regular buses, 27 Dreamliners and four back up buses for peak hours, he will have to pay $8854 in 1964 and 1965 property taxes. Since he did not own the 48 school buses on January 1, 1965, he will not have to pay property taxes on them to get tags. His total tag bill is about $4200. Details.

5A. Contract approved yesterday by Wichita Park Board for a 170 car addition to the parking lot at Municipal Airport, to cost $26,429. The parking lot addition will be at the north end of the curved parking area north of the terminal building. Construction to take about 36 working days.

9B. The former Wichita Art Association building at 401 North Belmont has been sold to Mr. and Mrs. Bernard H. Kastens and will be remodeled and used as a residence. The Art Association had owned the property, formerly the L. R. Hurd home, since 1942. Another part of the property, the former Culver residence, located north of the school, at 424 North Broadview (?), was sold about six months ago to Mr. and Mrs. Howard K. Pierce, who moved into the home last November. Mrs. Pierce is the daughter of Wichita artist C. A. Seward, one of the Art Association’s founders.

**Friday, March 4, 1966**

1. Bernard Calkins has purchased the 1966 license tags for his 50 school buses for about $2000 and has promised to purchase new tags Friday for his other 29 buses. Details.


**Monday, March 7, 1966**

6A. Article with history of the Hutcherson Branch of Wichita YMCA. Founded in December 1908. In September 1916 property was purchased at Central and Water and it was known as the Water Street YMCA. It officially joined the Wichita YMCA as a branch in 1927. Move was made in 1941 to the present site, 1221 Cleveland. On February 3, 1942 the name was changed to the W. L. Hutcherson Branch. A $35000 gymnasium building addition was dedicated November 18, 1951. Further details. Photo.
Tuesday, March 8, 1966
page 6A. The Skinner Elementary school, 1630 East 21st, now abandoned, will be sold at public auction March 16 to make way for a segment of the I-35 West Canal Route. Photos.

Thursday, March 10, 1966
page 5A. City officials sat that they will know by the end of the month whether a new bus operator will come to town or whether the city will have to buy and arrange for operation of its own buses. In another letter to city commissioners Rapid Transit Lines owner Bernard Calkins has threatened that unless the city of Wichita undertakes to purchase his equipment, he is considering removing his 27 buses from Wichita by June 10, 1966 for delivery to and use in another city. Calkins last month told the city he is losing about $8000 a month on the current operation. Details.

Saturday, March 12, 1966
page 1B. Midway Rambler Inc., now at 1325 East Douglas, yesterday announced plans to build a showroom and service center in the 1000 block of East Douglas, to cost over $300,000. Completion is set for late summer or early fall. Details.

Sunday, March 13, 1966
page 2A. Wichita State University learned yesterday that it has been awarded a $150,000 grant from the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare for an addition to the north end of McKinley Hall. This will be the second addition to the building, the first having been made at the south end in 1964. Details.

16A. Report of death yesterday of Miss Mabel I. Clarkson, 67, of 425 South Bleckley, retired school teacher. Survivors include a sister, Miss Mildred Clarkson, of the home. Burial at Forest Park Cemetery, Anthony.

1B. Map showing suggested sites for new zoo. Long article with details.

1D. Construction of the Fairmount Towers dormitory at 21st and Hillside is about one-third complete.

Wichita’s fifth MacDonald’s (sic) Drive-In at 1811 North Hillside opened in November 1965.

Tuesday, March 15, 1966
page 6A. The water tower located at Crestway and Murdock is being dismantled. It has been purchased from the city of Wichita by the El Paso Water Company, of Derby, and will be moved to Derby. It is a 120 foot tower with capacity of 300,000 (gallons ?). Photo.
Wednesday, March 16, 1966
page
1. First article in a series about Boeing-Wichita by James E. Skinner, Eagle aviation writer.

Thursday, March 17, 1966
page
1. Second article about Boeing-Wichita.


Friday, March 18, 1966
page
1. Third article about Boeing-Wichita.

Saturday, March 19, 1966
page
1. Fourth article about Boeing-Wichita.

Sunday, March 20, 1966
page
1. Fifth article about Boeing-Wichita.

1B. Drawing of first plan for new Civic Cultural Center auditorium (not as finally built). Article with details.

1D. Remodeling of Sutton Place, William and Market, is 75 percent complete. Expected to be completed by July.

Bids to be opened March 22 for a $475,000 dormitory at Sacred Heart College. A $713,000 science building now under construction on the campus is about 60 percent complete. Architects for both are Hanney and Sanders.

The Hub, a men’s store at 504 East Douglas, will move to 327 East Douglas about May 1, to a building now occupied by Cannon Shoe Company.

Tuesday, March 22, 1966
page
14B. Seventh article about Boeing-Wichita.

Wednesday, March 23, 1966
page
6A. Eighth article about Boeing-Wichita.
Thursday, March 24, 1966
page 5A. Owners of the Topeka Transportation Company, Inc. have been looking at the bus system here, but want more information before making any proposal to take over the system here. Details.

Saturday, March 26, 1966

Sunday, March 27, 1966
page 1. A $1.6 million civil suit charging the city of Wichita with “fraud and misrepresentation” has been filed in United States District Court by Rapid Transit Lines Inc. Details.

1D. Building permit issued last week for construction of the new Henry’s, Inc. Store at Twin Lakes Shopping Center. To cost estimated one million dollars.

Building permit issued for first phase of a $300,000 shopping center at 9340 West Central.

8E. Report of death yesterday of Philip K. Lewis, 81, of Hemet, California, former Wichitan, and son of Wichita pioneer Colonel Hiram W. Lewis. Left Wichita in 1915 to go to Phoenix, Arizona. Went to California about ten years ago. Survived by his widow, Marie, a daughter, Mrs. E. C. Blood, Wichita, two brothers, Hiram W. Lewis, of Wichita, and Frederick Lewis, of St. Petersburg, Florida, and a sister, Mrs. Katherine Meechem, Palo Alto, California.

Monday, March 28, 1966
page 4B. Thirteenth article about Boeing-Wichita.

Tuesday, March 29, 1966
page 5A. A special consultant from Birmingham, Alabama, is studying the Wichita bus system. Details.

11A. Fourteenth article about Boeing-Wichita.

Thursday, March 31, 1966
page
2A. Rapid Transit Lines general manager Paul B. Holmes, here about ten months, charged
with writing bad check for bus line. Details.

3A. Missouri Pacific’s former Colorado Eagle trains, numbers 11 and 12, will be discontinued
this weekend. Details.

5B. Sixteenth article about Boeing-Wichita.

Friday, April 1, 1966

1. An urban transit consultant from Birmingham, Alabama, Don S. James, recommended
yesterday that the city should buy and operate its own bus system because a new private
operator would only lose money and be forced to quit within a few years. Details.

Saturday, April 2, 1966

5A. Further article about the bus franchise problem. Details.

8A-9A. Two page ad announcing open house and dedication ceremonies at the new Osteopathic
Hospital, McLean and Central, Saturday and Sunday. Details. Photos. Follow up article
April 3 on page 5A.

Sunday, April 3, 1966

8C. Building permit issued last week for the seven unit Amidon Shopping Center at 2700
block of North Amidon. Details.

Building permit issued last week for an 11245 square foot Otasco Store at 230 East 21st.

Construction of the new United Savings and Loan Association building at 135 North
Main is expected to be completed by early summer, according to owner Drew Noble. To
cost $250,000. Details. Drawing.

Floair Inc. will move from Newton Municipal Airport to Wichita Municipal Airport by
November 1. Details.

A $5000 remodeling project is under way at the Sunset Theater, 1401 East Harry. Work
was begun March 21 and will be completed by April 5. Details.

1H-16H. Special Section about the new R. H. Garvey Building and other Garvey enterprises.
History. Photos.

Tuesday, April 5, 1966
Continental Airlines introduced the new Douglas DC-9 to Wichita yesterday on a special pre-inaugural flight. It is not scheduled to start regular service through here for two months. The plane was the first of 12 to be purchased by Continental and was delivered February 16. The new schedule with these planes takes effect June 11. Details. Photo shows the plane to be N8961.

Wednesday, April 6, 1966


Thursday, April 7, 1966

Paving of Woodlawn from Kellogg to Douglas will begin today after nearly five years of arguing about payment of the costs, between Eastborough, Wichita, and Sedgwick County. Details. To be reopened June 7.

Friday, April 8, 1966

Article about Wichita coin collector Charles G. Casey, 4761 Krueger. Details. Photo.

Work began this week on a 14,000 foot, 20 span bridge for the Canal Route, which will carry the expressway over K 15, the Santa Fe Railway, and the drainage canal. Details.


Sunday, April 10, 1966

Administrative offices of the Catholic diocese of Wichita will begin operating Monday from the new chancery building at 424 North Broadway. Details.

Announcement of plans for remodeling and expansion of Trinity Methodist Church, 1409 Maple. Griffith and Bonham are architects. Details. Drawing. Work to start early this summer.

The new city library is about 70 percent complete.

Wednesday, April 13, 1966
1. A city wide vote to decide whether Wichita will buy its own bus equipment is planned for June 7. Rapid Transit owner Bernard E. Calkins has told the City Commission that he is losing money on his bus system here and plans to cease his private bus operation August 1. Details.

2A. John S. Stevens was elected mayor of Wichita by City Commission yesterday. Details.

3A. Ground breaking ceremonies were held yesterday for the new $475,000 residence hall at Sacred Heart College. Details. The college’s new $655,000 science hall was begun in July 1965 and will be ready for classes this fall. Photo.

Friday, April 15, 1966

1. Ten Rapid Transit Dreamliners will be sold soon to permit the bus firm to meet operating expenses until August 1. Rapid Transit attorney H. E. “Pat” Healy said the city and Rapid Transit have agreed to terminate the company’s ten year franchise August 1. It was to have run to 1970. Details.

Sunday, April 17, 1966

1B. Feature article about the old Wichita University at 3700 East Lincoln. History. Says Bishop Hennessy paid $5000 to the Dutch Reformed Church for the building in 1901. The structure and land had once been valued at more than $55,000. The school operated from 1886 until the financial panic of 1893. The school was built in what was known as the University Hill addition. Harry and Emma Hill, who lived nearby, agreed to help the school if a building costing at least $25,000 were built. A man named Fees gave the school part of the site for $1. There were 24 rooms in the building with an elaborate chapel. The building was destroyed by fire Sunday, September 7, 1913. The closest water supply was on Hillside. A new convent was opened on the site in 1915. Details. Photo.

1C. Announcement made last week by Bond Baking Company, 823 East Central, for a $195,000 addition to the present building. To be started in 90 to 120 days.

A commercial building under construction at 3320 East Kellogg will house Midas Muffler Shop and two other firms. Details. Drawing.

Monday, April 18, 1966

5A. Report of dedication yesterday of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic School, 944 South St. Francis, built at cost of $170,000. Details.
1. Board of Education yesterday awarded contract for Wichita school bus service to Jones and Sons Inc. for $191,015 annually for three years. Details.

Consultant Don S. James is preparing report for city commission on city’s mass transit bus service. Details.

Wednesday, April 20, 1966

1. City commission has confirmed June 7 as date for a city-wide vote on whether the city should go into the bus business. Details.

Thursday, April 21, 1966

11B. Report of death yesterday of Miss Anna M. Claassen, 68, lifelong Newton resident. Survived by three brothers and one sister (named).

Sunday, April 24, 1966

10E. Construction of the $1.5 million Western Heights Shopping Center at Central and Ridge Road will begin within the next couple of months and is to be completed in six months. Details.

Announcement of plans to build two K-Mart discount department stores, one on East Kellogg and one on West Kellogg, at cost of two million dollars each. Construction will start in about 60 days, with completion in about six months. Details.

Tuesday, April 26, 1966

1. Transit consultant, Don James, of Birmingham, Alabama, has made his report to City Manager Russell McClure and has advised broad changes in the city’s bus system including halting of all Sunday service, discontinuing night service after 6:15 except on Thursdays, purchase of 35 new 35 passenger buses instead of 45 passenger buses, reduction of routes from 22 to 17, etc. Details.

10A. The first scheduled DC-9 began operating through Wichita yesterday on Trans World Airlines. The flight operates between Wichita, and Kansas City and Chicago. Details.

Wednesday, April 27, 1966

5B. Bernard Calkins disagrees with transit consultant recommendations and says his company is now operating 11 of the smaller buses without significant savings. Details.

Sunday, May 1, 1966
5A. City Manager Russell McClure will seek authority from the City Commission Tuesday for a federal grant to partially finance the cost of buses and facilities for a city owned transit system. A federal grant would provide up to two-thirds of the cost of such a bus system. Wichitans will decide in a city-wide vote June 7 whether the city should take over operations of the bus system. Details.

2G. Report of progress in construction of Clifton Place Apartments, in 200 block of South Clifton between Oakland Avenue and English Street. Architect is Willis Chambers. To be ready for occupancy October 1. Details. Drawing.

Building permit issued for construction of first phase of one million dollar Stratford House Apartment Complex in 1400 block of North Clarence, and facing McLean Boulevard. Construction to start in about ten days and be completed in late September. Details. Drawing.

3G. Full page ad announcing grand opening of Blair House apartments, 888 Hydraulic. Drawing.

6G. Aerial photo of Prairie Homestead retirement complex at 1605 May, being built by American Baptist churches. Exterior of buildings is essentially complete. Expected to be finished in June.

12G. Full page ad for Manor House and Kingsbrook Garden apartments at Ritchie Lake.

Saturday, May 7, 1966

5A. Work on the Edgemoor Park swimming pool at 9th and Edgemoor is expected to be completed by May 24, and opening of the pool is scheduled for June 4. Photo.

Sunday, May 8, 1966

1D. The new front on Carl Barrier Jewelers, 139 North Broadway, will be completed this week. It is a $20,000 remodeling project. Details.

8E. Article gives history of the West Wichita branch of the YMCA. Between 1951 and 1954 it was located on the second floor of the old fire station Number 4 at 112 South Seneca. Photo.

Tuesday, May 10, 1966

Thursday, May 12, 1966

Two bridges have been recently completed in Sedgwick County, a $39,000 structure on South Hydraulic crossing Cowskin Creek a few miles north of the Sumner County line, and a $14,600 bridge in the first mile west of Greenwich Road on 55th Street South. Photo. A contract is to be let soon on a 900 foot span on Bentley Road across the Arkansas River. Details.

Construction of the new Wichita Public Library is about 75 percent completed.

Report of a survey by the Junior Chamber of Commerce of community attitudes about public transportation. Details.

1D. The new exterior of the old KFH Building, now called Sutton Place, is almost finished. Photo -- new exterior appears complete.

Saturday, May 14, 1966

Report of move of Riverside Park alligators to summer quarters yesterday. Has been occurring since 1932. Details. Photo.

Monday, May 16, 1966

Special advertising section for Quiring Monument Company and Funeral Home, with history and photos. Started in 1911.

Thursday, May 19, 1966

Bentley and Mount Hope high schools are holding their final graduation exercises next week. Bentley will become a part of the Halstead High School next fall and Mount Hope will become a part of the Burrton United District 369. The Mount Hope school will become a Junior High School for the district.

The new 140,000 square foot assembly building addition at Cessna Wallace Plant, adjoining Wichita’s Municipal Airport, is about 95 percent complete and will be in use by end of next month. Photo.

Saturday, May 21, 1966

Report of death yesterday at Columbus, Ohio, of Edgar Waldo (Billy) Ingram, who co-founded the White Castle system of hamburger diners, at age 85. A real estate and insurance agent at the time, he teamed up with Walter L. Anderson, a fry cook who owned several street car diners, to procure the land for the first White Castle at 110 West 1st. This was in the year 1920, and the first White Castle was opened there in March 1921. In 1933 Ingram purchased the controlling interest from Anderson and moved the

16A. Most of page gives questions and answers about problems of Wichita bus systems, as relating to referendum vote on June 7. Details.

Sunday, May 22, 1966
page 8G. Building permit issued last week to Orrell, Ward and O’Neal Insurance Company to construct a 60 by 160 foot office building at 200 West Murdock.

Building permit issued for a 5640 square foot restaurant building at 2700 West 13th Street.

Tuesday, May 24, 1966
page 7A. The 60 year old Harvey County Courthouse was demolished by a wrecking ball yesterday.
Details.

Thursday, May 26, 1966
page 1. The Kansas State Bank board of directors yesterday authorized purchase of the Wichita Plaza Building from its Texas developers, Preston Reynolds, Jr., and Walter A. Ahlschlager, Jr., both of Dallas. The building cost $9.5 million to erect in 1960. Purchase price not disclosed. Details. The building was completed in the fall of 1962 after two years of construction.

Saturday, May 28, 1966
page 1. Article says there is little public interest in the June 7 referendum on the fate of Wichita’s bus system. Details.

Sunday, May 29, 1966
page 5B. Announcement of plans for construction of a two million dollar luxury apartment complex, the Eastborough Arms, on a seven acre site north side of East Kellogg between Eastborough and the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge. Construction to start in mid-June and be completed December 1. Details.

The Patricia Stevens Career College is moving to larger quarters at 3216 East Douglas. Details.
Building permit issued to Midway Rambler, Inc., 1335 East Douglas, for construction of two new buildings, a 117 by 70 foot sales and office building at 1010 East Douglas and a 73 by 50 foot parts and service building at 114 North Wabash, at cost of about $300,000. Both are now under construction and completion is expected by September 1.

Monday, May 30, 1966

page 12C. A 450 foot steel radio tower was completed yesterday at 6400 North Hillside for Station KCMB-FM.

Friday, June 3, 1966

page 1. Cost of the public schools in Wichita will pass the $40 million mark for the 1966-67 school year, an increase of nearly four million dollars over the current year. Details.

Saturday, June 4, 1966

page 1. Long article reviewing history of Wichita’s public transportation (many errors of detail in the article). Says during the peak year of World War II the Wichita Transportation Company reported profits of nearly four million dollars on five cent flares. After the war, the number of bus passengers dropped to 22 million in 1946 and 19 million in 1947. Fares were increased to 20 cents but revenue was only one million dollars. Details.

Civil Aeronautics Board examiner yesterday recommended new air service through Wichita from New Orleans to the Pacific Northwest, to be operated by Braniff and Continental Air Lines. Details.

5A. The new public swimming pool at 9th and Edgemoor will open today. Details.

Sunday, June 5, 1966

page 1. Rapid Transit Lines has denied a report in the Wichita Beacon that it has lost its franchise to operate bus service in the city of Wichita but acknowledges the company received a letter on May 24 indicating the company might lose its franchise because of eight violations of the franchise provisions. Details. The ten year bus franchise runs through June 4, 1970.

Monday, June 6, 1966

page 7A. Full page ad announcing opening today of the new Firestone store at 5725 East Kellogg. Photo.

8A. C. Merritt Winsby, 650 Stratford, former owner of the Wichita Bus Company, which had the city’s bus franchise from 1957 to 1960, is in favor of a “yes” vote in Tuesday’s referendum to decide the fate of Wichita’s mass transportation. Details.
Lengthy discussion of the referendum vote tomorrow on fate of Wichita’s bus system. Details.

5B. List of Wichita polling places. Ours is Ward V, Precinct 40.

Tuesday, June 7, 1966

5A. The city was notified yesterday by owners of the property bounded by Central, 3rd, Wabash, and Ohio, on which a Rapid Transit Lines bus garage is located, that it must vacate the property by August 1. The property, part of an estate held by several persons, has been sold. Details.

6A. Sedgwick County Probate Judge Clark V. Owens filed yesterday for the Republican nomination for a second term in office. He was appointed in May 1963 by Governor John Anderson to fill vacancy when Judge James Riddel was appointed to District Court, and was then elected to a full term in 1964. Photo.

Wednesday, June 8, 1966

1. The bus referendum in Wichita yesterday which would authorize direct city government involvement in a mass transportation system, was passed by an unofficial tally of 13354 “Yes” votes to 9670 “No” votes, a margin of 3684. Details.

6C-8C. Official publication of legal description of boundaries of wards and precincts in Wichita and Sedgwick County.

Thursday, June 9, 1966

1. Article about rent payment woes of Rapid Transit Lines, with suit being heard in United States District Court. Details. Article states that the defendant (Rapid Transit Lines) has not paid any rent for 34 of 59 months. Present owners of the property are named.

Report of severe tornado destruction yesterday in Topeka.

10A. Work on the new Public Library is 81 percent completed. Construction is expected to be finished by October 1. Board yesterday approved a $73,330 bid for carpeting. Details. Photo shows exterior complete.

Friday, June 10, 1966

5A. The land occupied by the Rapid Transit Lines bus garage and the Wichita Fire Department training facilities has been purchased by Advance Products Company, maker of educational aids and accessories, William D. DeVore, president. The company purchased the entire block bounded by Central, 3rd, Wabash, and Ohio. The city has been given until August 1 to vacate the building. Details. Photo.
Sunday, June 12, 1966

page 5A. Continental Airlines inaugurated pure jet service to Wichita yesterday with a DC-9 flight. Details.

10A. Article reports on the decline in the number of one-room schools in Kansas from 1008 in 1959 to 173 in September 1965. On July 1st, what had been 1848 separate school districts in 1963 will become 306 unified districts. In 1940-41 Kansas had 7241 operating school districts. Unification came in earnest in 1964 with passage of legislation to preface closing of many schools. Details.

7B. Full page ad for Brown’s Grill (West), 7150 West Harry, which opened its doors six weeks ago. Photos.

9E. Article about a new camper’s cabin at Camp Bide-A-Wee, which will open its doors today. The new cabin, the eighth on the 11 acre campsite at 1600 West 61st Street North, was constructed during May by the Martin K. Eby Company as a gift to the camp and the YWCA. Camp Bide-A-Wee, the oldest camp in Sedgwick County, has been in continuous operation since 1912 when the R. E. D.-B. P.W. Club presented the first parcel of land on the east bank of the Little Arkansas River to the YWCA. Details. Photos. Map of the camp Bide-A-Wee site. (Editor’s note: Upon checking the YWCA Archives, we found that B. P.W. stands for Business and Professional Women.)

Building permit issued for a ten family apartment complex to be built in the 2900 block of North Amidon, to cost $120,000. Work has started and is to be completed by November 1.

Western Uniform and Towel Service, Inc. today announced plans to build a $180,000 addition to expand its facilities at 1707 North Mosley. Work is to be completed by September 1. Architects are Wendell B. Parks and Sons. Details. Drawing.

Tuesday, June 14, 1966

page 1. Bruce Jones, who with sons Mike and Steve will take over school bus routes this fall from Rapid Transit Lines Inc., plans to hire more women school bus drivers. Details. His contract calls for 48 buses. He expects to have 50 here between August 5 and August 10, all 66 passenger vehicles. The contract calls for no buses older than 1961 models. All those delivered here will be 1966 models.

Wednesday, June 15, 1966

page 5A. Two city bridges opened to traffic Monday: one over the Little Arkansas River at 21st Street, and one over the Arkansas River at Hydraulic. The 21st Street bridge replaces an older timber bridge and cost $175,000. The Hydraulic bridge will serve as a two lane
southbound span, and the existing bridge over the Arkansas at Hydraulic will provide for two lane northbound traffic. Cost is estimated at $150,000.

The Rapid Transit Lines may appeal a summary judgment against it by Judge Wesley E. Brown in United States District Court, released yesterday. Rapid Transit Lines was ordered to pay $34,000 plus interest in back rent on its bus garage facilities at 1101 East Central. The rental dispute dates back to 1929 when the city condemned the property for use as a public produce market. The market later was closed, and heirs of the original owner filed suit claiming that title to the property should revert to them since the land was no longer used for the public purpose for which it had been condemned. Details.

Thursday, June 16, 1966

Announcement made yesterday that city officials have agreed to a plan for a St. Louis, Missouri bus company to take over bus operations here next month. Under the plan, American Transit Corporation of St. Louis would buy 67 buses from the current franchise holder, Rapid Transit Lines Inc. and would begin operating the Rapid Transit Lines buses on a revised schedule starting July 1. When the city buys new buses, expected some time this fall, American Transit would relinquish the Rapid Transit Lines buses and operate the new buses on a schedule agreed upon by the city. Twenty-seven of the Rapid Transit buses are the 45 passenger air-conditioned Dreamliners. Twenty-three are school buses used to transport students, and 17 others are older non-air conditioned buses. Calkins said 30 new school buses he owns here would be sold to some one other than American Transit. Calkins said he would wind up losing at least half a million dollars in Wichita. In May the city applied for a federal grant of $760,325 to finance two-thirds of the total estimated project cost of $1,140,487. The funds would be used to buy 70 buses, finance the construction of garage facilities, buy land and shop tools and office equipment.

Friday, June 17, 1966

Sale of the Wichita Plaza Building to Kansas State Bank was completed yesterday. Details.

Saturday, June 18, 1966

The possibility still exists that Wichita State University might acquire 130 acres of Crestview Country Club land immediately east of the campus. Details.

Article about possible donation or purchase of 2.65 acre land site on south side of U.S. 54, 13 miles west of the airport, as site for B-47 memorial. Details.

Sunday, June 19, 1966

Wichita’s new Coleman Junior High School will open in September with enrollment of 1148 or more. Twelve hundred fifty has been set as maximum enrollment for the school.
Construction is virtually complete on the four pod structure at 1544 North Governeour Road. Building cost was $1,820,000. Details. Photo.

Monday, June 20, 1966

3A. Report of dedication yesterday of the new $400,000 wing at the First Church of the Nazarene, 1400 East Kellogg. The new wing was built on the site of the old church sanctuary. Details.


Tuesday, June 21, 1966

5A. A report on a St. Louis transit firm’s proposal to take over Wichita city bus operations will be presented to City Commission Tuesday. The proposal involves two phases: First from July 1 through December 31, 1966 using equipment it would purchase from current operator Rapid Transit Lines, if city would furnish a transit garage and reimburse the company for net buses during the six months up to $3000 per month. Second beginning January 1, 1967 would include a five year franchise agreement with option to renew it for another five years. City would buy a fleet of buses and lease them to American Transit and would provide garage facilities. Company would be allowed six percent profit. Details.

14A. Report of death yesterday of Mrs. Clara M. Wulfmeyer, of 2710 East Douglas, resident of Wichita since 1885 and daughter of pioneer hardware merchant here. Born in St. Louis, husband, Emil L., was partner in Wulfmeyer Brothers tailoring firm and died in 1934. Survived by a son, E. Lawrence, Wichita, and two sisters (named) -- one is Miss Nettie Schumacher, Wichita. Photo. Burial in Maple Grove Cemetery.

Wednesday, June 22, 1966

1. City Commission yesterday voted to refund $11,680.90 in state fuel taxes to Rapid Transit Lines Inc. if the bus company would drop a $1.6 million law suit against the city [and] give up any rights it might have which would delay operation of city buses by a new firm, American Transit Corporation of St. Louis. Details.

Thursday, June 23, 1966

5A. City is considering as temporary bus garage facility for American Transit Corporation, use of a recently constructed building on east edge of the city just south of Forest Hills. The
building and a yard for parking are south of East Douglas and west of Webb Road on city-owned property that once was a site for wartime housing. Details. Photo.

16C. New 21st Street bridge over Little Arkansas River will be formally opened today with a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony. The bridge is adjacent to the site of the old Jesse Chisolm Trading Post, which was located where the corner of 20th and Porter now is. Bridge construction began six months ago. It replaces a timber bridge believed to have been built in 1929.


Friday, June 24, 1966

1B. Report of death Wednesday of Edgar B. Smith, 69, of 2925 East Douglas, pioneer Wichita photographer. Born in Wichita and lived most of his life here. Started in the photographic business while in High School when he went to work for Homer Harden in 1916 as an apprentice photographer. Operated a studio at 1103 East Douglas for 35 years, and moved his studio to the present East Douglas address in 1960. His primary interest was in aviation photography. His collection of photographs of early Wichita-produced aircraft is believed to be one of the most complete in existence. Survived by his widow, Mildred, a son, Jerold, Los Angeles, a step-daughter, Mrs. Greta Goodrich, Denver, Colorado, and two grand-children. Entombment in Highland Cemetery Mausoleum.

Saturday, June 25, 1966

5A. Two contracts are to be signed next week to permit American Transit Corporation to take over Wichita bus operations July 1. Details.


Wednesday, June 29, 1966

page

1. City and county commissions reached and agreement yesterday to hold a three million dollar bond referendum on November 8 to finance a new zoo. Details.

5A. Contract between city and American Transit Corporation of St. Louis agreed on yesterday for the company to take over Wichita bus operations on Friday, July 1. Details.

Thursday, June 30, 1966

page

Friday, July 1, 1966

1. Sale of Rapid Transit Inc. assets to American Transit Corporation of St. Louis was consummated yesterday evening after several days of negotiation. Signing of the sales agreement was followed by the signing of a six month contract between the city and Wichita Transit Inc., the newly created Kansas corporation owned and operated by American Transit of St. Louis. About 6:00 a.m. today drivers will roll their silver and blue vehicles out of the bus garage on East Central. Everything will be the same for the drivers and riders, but they will be riding in buses owned by the Wichita Transit Inc. Vice-president of Wichita Transit and the parent company, American Transit, P. J. Giacoma said his company would begin operating Friday morning on the existing schedules and routes. The buses soon will take on the colors of other American Transit subsidiary operations -- dark green, light green and white. The company hopes to start the repainting within five days. Involved in the sale are 63 of Rapid Transit’s buses, 27 of which are Dreamliners Drivers and other personnel will be retained under the new ownership. A manager from St. Louis, Earl Dreasher, will remain here and oversee the operation until another person is appointed permanently, Giacoma said.

Sunday, July 3, 1966

1B. Feature article about Wichita’s new convention hall and its interior layout. Drawings. Details.

Monday, July 4, 1966

2C. Full page article about Wichita Municipal Airport with photos, including aerial photos of runways.

22C. Article about Marcellus Murdock’s interest in aviation. Now 83 and still flies a Beechcraft Bonanza regularly. He was taught to fly by Monty Barnes in an OX5 Travel Air in 1928 or 29 and received his pilot’s license -- No. 5964 -- in April 1929 at age 46. Details. Photo.

Friday, July 8, 1966

1. Article about a sailplane being modified in Wichita by Dave Blanton of Javelin Aircraft Company for James R. Bede, of Cleveland, Ohio, who was a former student at Wichita State University and who hopes to fly it around the world nonstop. Details. Frame of the sailplane is a Schweizer 2-32 constructed by the Schweizer Aircraft Corporation, Elmira, New York. A 210 horse power Continental engine will be added to the nose of the plane. Photo on page 3A.

15A. Report of death of Hugh Collier, 75, Mount Hope, a retired farmer, on Thursday. Survivors include three brothers, W. A., Mount Hope; Harold, Gila Bend, Arizona; and
George, Topeka, and three sisters, Mrs. Bernice Brooks and Mrs. Vera Pike (Joyce Dosien’s mother?), both of Eureka; and Mrs. Margaret Barnes, Nunn, Colorado.

Sunday, July 10, 1966

1D. First occupants will begin moving into apartments at Prairie Homestead August 1. Details. Photos.

7E. Report of death of Mrs. Margaret Louise Nickel, 49, Friday, in a car accident near Bellevue, Washington. Was the wife of Dr. Kenneth L. Nickel, head of the education department at Wichita State University. Born at Lawrence, Kansas. Came here as a child and graduated from North High School in 1934 and Wichita State University (sic) in 1938. Survived by three sons, (named), her mother, Mrs. E. E. Tippin, Sr., two brothers, Richard, Whittier California, Dr. E. E., Jr., Wichita, and a sister, Mrs. Mary Jones, Wichita. [Editor’s note: Wichita State University came into existence in 1964, and, before that, the school was known as the University of Wichita (1926-1964) and Fairmount College (1895-1926)].

Friday, July 15, 1966

5A. Earl Dreasher, acting manager of Wichita Transit Inc., confirmed yesterday that some bus service and route changes will go into effect August 1. He declined to give details. Parts and coolant to repair air conditioners on the Dreamliners have arrived and repair work will begin Monday. He declined to comment on whether the air conditioners had broken down during Rapid Transit Lines operation or whether their use had been discontinued to save fuel. He did say that the air conditioners had been discontinued some time ago and the fluid drained out. Because of this, gaskets and seals have dried up and will have to be replaced and the units reconditioned. Painting of the buses started Monday. All will be repainted in the colors of the parent company, American Transit Corporation of St. Louis -- dark and light green, and white. It is hoped to finish the first bus the first of the week. It takes three to five days per coach. The second one has gone into the shop.

6B. Central Airlines will inaugurate its turbo prop powered Dart 600 service through Wichita today. Details. Photo.

Saturday, July 16, 1966

10A. Article about vandalism on school buses operated by Wichita Transit Corporation, especially slashing of seats and breaking of windows. Discussed by Henry De Tournay, operating manager for the transit firm here.

18A. Report of first stop at Wichita by Central Airlines new Dart 600 turboprop yesterday. Details. Central has now received eight of the ten Dart 600s ordered. The company may get an 11th. They will replace older DC-3 aircraft. Photo.
Sunday, July 17, 1966


6E. Building permit issued to Wichita Board of Park Commissioners for a $200,000 hangar at Wichita Municipal Airport, 239 by 102 feet, to be leased to Floair, of Newton, Kansas.

Wednesday, July 20, 1966

1. 1966 assessor’s census show Wichita population of 269,996, an increase of 2047 from the 267,949 of 1965. The total for Sedgwick County in 1966 is 333,132, up 4669 from 328,463 in 1965. Other towns in 1966 include Andale 487, Cheney 1472, Clearwater 1163, Colwich 788, Derby 6706, Eastborough 860, Garden Plain 746, Goddard 643, Haysville 5412, Kechi 232, Maize 1232 (was 710 in 1965), Mount Hope 599, Mulvane 1883, Viola 140, and Bentley 186.

Saturday, July 23, 1966

1. Article about a proposed $20 million, 50,000 seat domed stadium, to be built in Wichita. Details (never built).

One and three-tenths miles of the second section of the Canal Route is now under construction at cost of $4,242,406, over Santa Fe Railroad and Highway 15. Details. Photos.

Sunday, July 24, 1966

1C. Construction of the second Wichita K-Mart at cost of two million dollars, will start this week at 4230 West Kellogg. The 13.5 acre tract was purchased from Mr. and Mrs. William E. Bales, Dan Sauder, and Gene Lygrisse. The first Wichita K-Mart is now under construction on a 16 acre tract on East Kellogg and is scheduled for opening about December 15. The tract was purchased from Mrs. Gladys H. G. Wiedemann and the Fourth National Bank and Trust Company, trustees for the K. T. Wiedemann estate. The K-Mart on West Kellogg is scheduled to open in February 1967.

Construction of a new printing plant for the Wichita Eagle Press is to begin September 1 in the 300 block of Pattie. The building will be a $125,000 one story brick veneer with 15000 square foot of floor space. The company will move from its present location at 319 South Market and its name will be changed to the Wichita Eagle Lithograph and Printing Company. Details.
Monday, July 25, 1966

1B. Report of death yesterday of Miss Wilhelmina Noltemeyer, 66, of 1110 South Wichita. A lifetime Wichita resident and retired employe of Henry’s, Inc. Survivors include a brother, Franz, of Wichita, and four sisters, Mrs. Freda Dyer, Mrs. Albertina Hogan, and Mrs. Victor L. Clark, all of Wichita, and Mrs. J. C. Smith, Topeka. Burial in Highland Cemetery.

Tuesday, July 26, 1966


Boeing Company board of directors yesterday gave approval for company to go ahead with the 747 project.

Wednesday, July 27, 1966

1. Article about proposals by Wichita Transit Inc. to City Commission yesterday for major changes in the city’s bus routes to become effective August 3. Proposal made by Earl Dreasher, bus firm manager. Public hearing to be held August 2. There would be no night service after 6:15 p.m. except on Thursday evening when it would give service every 30 minutes on weekdays. Details. The company’s gross revenues from July 1 through July 15 was $21,892. The payroll for this same period was $14,471. Revenue per mile driven was 31 cents. Night and Sunday service from July 1 through July 21 gave a gross revenue of $1422 for 14,768 miles of operation, or 9.63 cents per mile. This is a 32 bus transit operation. The company currently is operating only 25 buses during the day. Four buses have been painted in the new green and white color. Map of proposed revised bus routes on page 8A.

3A. Article about rebuilding of an old Travel Air plane by Max Walton, 315 East Lewis. The plane is a 1927 model and a 51 year old OX-5 engine installed in it was turned over yesterday for the first time in 35 years. The engine was overhauled at Hamilton, Ohio in 1931 and has not been started since. Photo.

Thursday, July 28, 1966

12A. The old Derby City Building, constructed in the 1880s, will be moved to Cow Town about September 1. The old township hall on the site will also be partly dismantled and rebuilt at Cow Town. Details.

Friday, July 29, 1966

page
1. Drivers and mechanics of Wichita Transit Inc. have threatened to strike at the close of business Monday unless the company recognizes Teamsters Local 795 as their bargaining unit and enters into collective bargaining negotiations. Details.

Sunday, July 31, 1966
page 14A. List of Wichita voting places.
1D. Construction is under way on a new enlarged Safeway store at 11th and Broadway. To cost $300,000 and have 24,000 square feet. It will replace the 14 year old Safeway store at 1146 North Broadway, which has 14,000 square feet.

Tuesday, August 2, 1966
page 5A. Article about legal problems of the former Wichita bus operator, Rapid Transit Lines, Inc. Says the Rapid Transit Lines was contacted last Monday, July 25, and told that they must vacate the property at 1101 East Central, the firm’s bus garage, before August 1, when it was to be turned over to a new owner. Sitting on the bus garage parking lot were some 55 bright yellow school buses, still owned by Rapid Transit (the company sold only its Dreamliners and other extra buses to the new company, Wichita Transit Inc.). When Rapid Transit refused to move the buses, claiming it held a lease on the property good until 1970, a health department order was obtained alleging the area was a “harborage for rodents,” and a professional moving company began moving the buses from the lot Thursday evening. Buses were moved that evening, all day Friday, and Saturday morning to the Rawdon Airport, 10416 East Central. Bernard Calkins had been told that he can have his property any time he wants to pay the moving and storage costs.

Wednesday, August 3, 1966
page 2A. Bus drivers and mechanics of Wichita Transit Inc. reportedly have given 100 percent endorsement to a move last week demanding that Teamsters Local 795 be designated as their representative union. Details.

Thursday, August 4, 1966
page 5A. Negotiations between Wichita Transit Inc. and Teamsters Union representatives are expected to be started in the near future. Details.

Sunday, August 7, 1966
page 9C. Construction of the new YWCA Building at 350 North Market is 40 percent complete. Architects are Schaefer, Schirmer and Eflin. Completion is scheduled for February 1967. Details. Photos.
A $2.75 million expansion of Parklane Shopping Center is to get underway by early spring and be completed by end of 1967. Details.

Monday, August 8, 1966

Photo of B-47 donated to Wichita as a memorial. It is still sitting on a Municipal Airport ramp because no decision has been made about a permanent site.

Friday, August 12, 1966

Urban Renewal Agency yesterday approved demolition of the Koch Building, 321 West Douglas, for the Civic Cultural Center project site. Price of building approximately $450,000. Details. Photo.

Saturday, August 13, 1966

The new miniature train in Watson Park will make its inaugural run at 10:00 a.m. today.

Sunday, August 14, 1966

Feature article about “Draggin’ Douglas” by teenage motorists. Details. Photos.


Remodeling of the Eagle-Beacon building at 825 East Douglas is expected to begin August 25 and be completed by end of the year. An additional 16,000 square feet of floor space will be added to the third floor at a cost exceeding $300,000. The architect is Charles F. McAfee. Details.

The Star Lumber Company is now in its new buildings at 325 South West Street, built at a cost of over $130,000 after its old facilities at the site were torn down. William J. Goebel is president of the company. It was founded by Earl J. Goebel, who died last July. Details. Photo.

Monday, August 15, 1966

The Wichita City Commission will consider Tuesday a request by Wichita Transit Inc., the new bus operator, to abandon all Sunday and holiday service, and to shorten three bus routes and change most other schedules to standardize operations on a 30 minute headway. Details. The commissioners also will consider approval of a six percent
contract with Feagins and Kirsch, architects, to design a permanent garage for the Metropolitan Transit Authority.

Wednesday, August 17, 1966

City Commission yesterday deferred action on proposed bus route changes pending a public hearing by the new Metropolitan Transit Authority. Wichita Transit, Inc. renewed its appeal last week for adjustments in routes and schedules, including elimination of bus service on Sundays and holidays and shortening of some routes. Transit Company manager, Earl W. Dreasher, made a similar request to the commission in late July, which sought to eliminate nighttime service. Detailed list of proposed changes. The five member Metropolitan Transit Authority, created by charter ordinance August 2, is unable to take official action itself until after October 2, which is after a 60 day protest period required before the charter ordinance becomes final. The Metropolitan Transit Authority members are Gerald F. Byrd and Charles D. Anderson (two year terms), and Fred W. Aley, Glenn J. Shanahan, and Edward V. Geary (four year terms). Changes proposed by the Transit Company include:

1. Thirty minute intervals between buses on all routes.
2. Extension of the East Kellogg line from Veterans Hospital to Eastgate Shopping Center.
3. Extension of the Riverside route to Twin Lakes Shopping Center.
5. Elimination of service on the South Main route south of 31st and Pattie.
6. Curtailment of service on the East Central line east of Woodlawn.
7. All buses traveling north and south through downtown on one-way streets would be shifted to Broadway.

After the public hearing, the Transit Authority will make recommendations to the commission for final action.

Friday, August 19, 1966

Contract negotiations are to open Tuesday between Wichita Transit Inc. and its Teamster union member drivers, according to Donald T. Calcote, new acting manager of the bus firm, who assumed his duties August 11, replacing Earl W. Dreasher, who returned to the parent American Transit Corporation, St. Louis, Missouri, after helping to get the new firm on its feet. Calcote came up through the ranks of Wichita’s bus operation, starting as a driver 15 years ago. He was schedule supervisor prior to taking over his new job. Wichita Transit has suffered a total operating loss of $10,000 during its first month of service it was announced yesterday. This was offset partially by approximately $2000 in motor fuel tax refunds by the city and a $3000 city subsidy. City staff members are preparing an application for a federal grant under the Mass Transportation Act of 1964 to finance two-thirds of the purchase of 67 new buses, land for a new bus garage, and construction of a new garage facility. Wichita Transit has a six month franchise to operate the company through December. The 67 new buses are to cost about $1.2 million, of which the city will provide about $400,000. Of these, 12 will be 45 passenger, 20 will
be 35 passenger, and 35 will be 61 passenger public-type buses for school transportation. All but the school buses will be air conditioned. All will contain fiber glass seats. Wichita Transit Inc. has had luck in its efforts to repair and place in operation the air conditioning units in its 27 Dreamliner buses. Parts and tools have been hard to get. Only five of the Dreamliners have functioning air conditioners. About six older buses are being used by the company while the Dreamliners are being painted a new lime green and while work is being done on the engines.

5B. The new $755,124 science building at Sacred Heart College will be dedicated October 16. A $475,000 dormitory will be opened in January. Remodeling of the administration building to provide space for a student center is being completed at a cost of $100,000. Future Sacred Heart plans include a $750,000 library by 1970 and an $850,000 fine arts building by 1974. Details.

Saturday, August 20, 1966

1. Longest airline strike ended last night after 43 days.

Sunday, August 21, 1966

9A. List of Wichita public schools with date of construction, capacity, and estimated enrollment. Riverside capacity is 400 and enrollment 362.

Monday, August 22, 1966

3B. Photo of Watkins Skylark 460W plane in which L. S. Garner, Santa Fe agent at Kendall, Kansas, soloed at Syracuse, Kansas airport on March 29, 1935. He says the plane had black and canary paint, and the late Norman Kramer was owner and instructor. Garner was told that about ten Skylarks were built in Wichita. This ship was designed for a 110 horse power motor but because of financial difficulties, an 85 horse power LeBlonde was installed. The ship was purchased new by a Garden City boy who flew it from Wichita to Garden City and overshot the field while coming in. The propeller was broken and the boy ended his flying career on the spot. Only a new propeller was needed, and Norman Kramer purchased the plane. Photo shows two place, open cockpit, low wing monoplane, with number 460W on tail.

Tuesday, August 23, 1966

5A. Report of first official meeting of the new Metropolitan Transit Authority yesterday at City Hall. Two sites for a new bus garage were considered: (1) On city property south of the prison farm at Harry and McLean Boulevard, and (2) South of 9th on the east side of the Drainage Canal. Final selection of a site was postponed. Fred W. Aley was elected chairman of the new authority. Vice-chairman is Gerald F. Byrd. Wichita Transit Inc. is using a temporary bus garage at Central and the canal, for which the city has six month
lease. This garage is destined for condemnation to make way for the I-35 West Canal Route. Details.

A public hearing on proposed changes in bus routes and schedules for Wichita Transit Inc. is to be held Friday in the City Commission meeting room, by the Metropolitan Transit Authority. Details with data on number of riders.

12A. Report of death Sunday of William J. Babb, 74, 1247 North Lorraine, former High School principal and retired postal employee. Born in Wichita, the son of former mayor William J. Babb. Graduated from Fairmount College in 1916. After World War I he was High School principal at Satanta and Isabel, Kansas. Then was in Railway Mail Service. Was employed by Wichita Post Office when he retired in 1959. Survived by two sons, William J., Belle Plaine, Kansas, and Major Herbert A., Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska, a daughter, Mrs. J. D. De Pay, Richard, Washington, and two sisters, Miss Virginia Babb, Wichita, and Mrs. Minerva Rautenstrauch, Athens, Vermont. Burial in White Chapel Memorial Gardens.

Wednesday, August 24, 1966
page 7B. Contract talks between Wichita Transit Inc. and Teamsters Local 795 got under way yesterday afternoon and will continue today. Details.

Friday, August 26, 1966
page 6A. Article about new school bus routes, as presented by new school bus operator, Bruce Jones. Jones expects some 40 buses to be in from the Arkansas factory Sunday. About 35 buses are already on hand at 6218 East 45th North. Details.

Saturday, August 27, 1966
page 7A. Report of public hearing on bus route and schedule changes held yesterday by Metropolitan Transit Authority. Details. Major changes proposed are the elimination of Sunday and holiday service and standard 30 minute service on every line.

Sunday, August 28, 1966
page 4A. One million six hundred thousand dollar “fraud and misrepresentation” suit by Rapid Transit Lines Inc. against the city of Wichita was dismissed in United States District Court Friday by Judge Wesley E. Brown, but the company plans to refile another suit this week in Sedgwick County District Court. Long article with details of charges.

7A. Photo of crane working on construction of new Innes Parking Garage on site of old Wichita Eagle Building. Completion scheduled for mid-October.

Tuesday, August 30, 1966
Photo of house at Waco and Murdock being razed as part of clearing of site for Park Plaza “A” urban renewal area. Waco is to be realigned, bending east to Wichita between Central and Murdock.

Wednesday, August 31, 1966

After approval by City Commission, bus service in Wichita by Wichita Transit Inc. changed to new time schedules and routes this morning. Sunday, holiday, and Saturday night service will be discontinued. Long article with details (continued on page 3A).

Thursday, September 1, 1966

Report of death yesterday in Florida, of Max A. Houston, 65, of 11 Hampton Road, Eastborough, president of A. C. Houston Lumber Company. Survived by widow, Alice, three sons, George C., Wichita, Robert A. and William H., of the home, a daughter, Mrs. Katharine Knorr, Sacramento, California, and a sister, Mrs. Ethel Walker, Prairie Village, Kansas. Photo. Entombment at Old Mission Mausoleum.

Article about problems with first day school bus operation by Wichita Transit Inc. yesterday. Details.

Friday, September 2, 1966

Report of death Wednesday of Mrs. Virginia Lee Valdois, 45, of Derby, of a heart attack. Born at Riverdale, Kansas and came here in 1942 from Belle Plaine, Kansas. Survived by husband, Vernon L. Valdois, a son, Valdon Lee, two daughters (named), her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Levi Ostrander, Derby, and a brother, Harry Ostrander, Derby.

Sunday, September 4, 1966

Trans World Airlines yesterday announced orders for 28 new Boeing jets costing $410 million, including 12 Boeing 747s.

Building permit issued past week for a connecting bridge walkway from Macy’s Inc’s. new parking garage across Market to the Sutton Building and across William to the company’s Innes Store. Details.

Grand opening ceremonies for Prairie Homestead, 1605 May, will be held September 19. The two million dollar housing project for senior citizens, owned by American Baptist Estates Corporation, was conceived in 1960 and completed last month. It has 138 one-story units. Ralph L. Hollis was architect.
5A. Article says Wichita will seek federal aid for lining of the Drainage Canal with concrete from Lincoln north to 18th Street. Details. Photo of Drainage Canal as it is today, looking north from 1st Street bridge.

The Derby City Building, constructed in the 1880s, was placed on wheels yesterday to be moved to its new location in Cow Town. It will be relocated next door to the Southern Hotel in Cow Town. Details. Photo.

Saturday, September 10, 1966

2C. Report of death Thursday at Emporia, of George Siedhoff, 88, former Wichita businessman and contractor. Born at St. Louis and came to Wichita in 1916 from Kansas City. Formerly owned and operated the Broadview Hotel in Wichita and at Emporia. Survivors include a son, Elmer W., Emporia, and a daughter, Miss Viola Siedhoff, Kansas City. Entombment in Forest Hill Abbey Mausoleum, Kansas City.

Sunday, September 11, 1966

1. Wichita bus drivers and garage employees yesterday voted to reject a contract proposal offered by Wichita Transit Inc., and voted 55 to 2 to go on strike. Details.

18A. Charles L. Rollins, 36, of 1863 South Parkwood, will become the chief photographer of the Wichita Eagle and Beacon tomorrow, replacing Robert G. Ames, chief photographer since 1955, who has been named to a new post of quality control and color photography coordinator. Ames is 48. Details. Biographies. Photos.

Thursday, September 15, 1966

1. Beech Aircraft Corporation yesterday delivered its 25,000th plane, a prop-jet powered King Air. Sales include 781 Model 17s, over 7000 Model 16s, over 8000 Bonanzas, over 1200 Barons, over 1200 Musketeers, over 1000 Mentor trainers, and over 1100 Debonairs.

Friday, September 16, 1966

1. Article about recommended site for new zoo, an 800 acre site between 13th and 21st Streets west of Big Ditch to Ridge Road. Map.

14C. Ad for Wichita's new Chrysler-Plymouth dealer, Dave Johnson Chrysler-Plymouth, Inc., 7127 East Kellogg.

Saturday, September 17, 1966

17A. Company and union officials are to meet today with federal mediator in attempt to forestall a strike by bus drivers and garage employees of Wichita Transit Inc. The
employes voted to go on strike September 10 at a union meeting. Donald T. Calcote is local acting manager for the bus firm. Details.

**Sunday, September 18, 1966**

1. Saturday meeting attempting to avert bus strike failed, and union officials called for strike to begin at 4:00 a.m. Friday. About 70 drivers and garage employes are involved. Details of union demands and company offers are given.

Report of death yesterday at his home in Los Angeles of former Wichitan and well-known author, Paul I. Wellman, at age 67. Born in Cherokee Strip at Enid, Oklahoma, on October 14, 1898. Physician father took family to Portuguese West Africa when he was six months old. Family returned to United States when he was ten. In Vernal, Utah initially, then was cowboy in western Kansas. Finished High School in Wichita and graduated from Fairmount College in 1918. After one year in Army, he started newspaper career as reporter, for Beacon at $12.50 a week. Later took over Beacon’s city desk, and later moved to Eagle as news editor. In 1936 he was lured to the Kansas City Star, and in 1944 went to Warner Brothers in Hollywood, where he wrote several films. Started writing books while in Wichita -- books are listed. He was in Wichita in August 1965 to visit his aunt, Miss Alice Isely, on her 100th birthday. Survived by wife and son, both in Los Angeles. Photo.

**Tuesday, September 20, 1966**

1. Lear Jet Corporation yesterday officially became Lear Jet Industries, Inc., and William P. Lear, previously both president and chairman of the board, dropped the title of president. Theodore A. Bruinsma is the new president. Mr. Lear remains chairman of the board. Details.

7A. The new YWCA building at 350 North Market is about 50 percent completed. It probably can be occupied in March 1967. Details.

**Wednesday, September 21, 1966**

1. Fifteen million dollar school bond issue was approved by Wichita voters yesterday by 19468 for to 17486 against. Details, including projects being considered by Board of Education.

10A. Friends University enrollment has reached an all-time high of 834, an increase of 116 from last fall.

**Thursday, September 22, 1966**

1. Approximately 16000 persons who daily ride Wichita’s buses are faced with a strike tomorrow by bus company employes. Details. Included in the 16000 passengers hauled
daily by Wichita Transit Inc’s. 61 buses are about 5000 Junior and Senior High School students.

The Metropolitan Transit Authority is considering sites for a new bus garage and is leaning towards the old Wichita Transportation Company bus barn at 10th and Fairview. Other sites being considered are:

(1) South of Sedgwick County Hospital at 9th and Minnesota, adjacent to the Drainage Canal.

(2) East of the Drainage Canal in an area both north and south of Murdock.

(3) South of the City Prison Farm on McLean Boulevard.

A leased building at 1815 East Central is currently being used by Wichita Transit Inc. The lease expires January 1. The building is to be condemned by State Highway Department to make way for the new I-35 Canal Route, now under construction farther south. Metropolitan Transit Authority members yesterday gave approval to a 1966 Metropolitan Transit Authority budget of $60,000, of which $11,550 has already been spent. Further details.

Friday, September 23, 1966

1. Another long article about bus strike expected to start today. Company has been providing service from 5:00 a.m. to 9:15 p.m. Monday through Friday and 5:00 a.m. to 6:15 p.m. on Saturday.

Saturday, September 24, 1966

9A. Wichita’s bus strike started at 4:00 a.m. yesterday as announced previously. Details.

Sunday, September 25, 1966

5A. Interview with early Wichita resident, Julius Schaefer, who was 100 years old Friday, and who is father of J. Earl Schaefer. Now in Woodlawn Nursing Home, but mind is alert. Came to United States in 1882 from his birthplace, Schramberg, West Germany. Later came to Kansas, where he met his wife to be, Cora Calvin, while working at Stillwell Hotel in Pittsburg. Married for 44 years before her death in 1936. After marriage he moved to Wichita, in 1894. First job was as pastry chef for Carey Hotel. After 11 years there he opened his first restaurant at 319 East Douglas. He paid O. C. Daisy one cent per foot per week to water Douglas in front of his restaurant to keep the dust down. For several years he operated the Jefferson Hotel. Then he opened the Old English Inn. It burned, so in 1913 he moved to Texas and operated several bakeries. Retired and moved back to Wichita after wife died. Photo.

Tuesday, September 27, 1966

1. Plans were approved yesterday by Wichita park commissioners for a 25,500 square foot cargo building to be constructed at Municipal Airport at a cost estimated at $450,000.
Architect is Roy Calvin. Building is to be 375 feet long with nine individual bays. Details.

8A. After 15 years in a temporary chapel, Church of the Magdalen parish broke ground yesterday for a $548,651 circular permanent church building, to be completed within a year. Magdalen parish was started in July 1950 by Bishop Mark K. Carroll. The parish held services in the now defunct Roll-O-Rena skating rink at 6400 East Kellogg until a school and temporary chapel were built in February 1951. The new church will be at the northwest corner of Woodlawn and Kellogg and will seat 850. Architect is Robert Kirsch. Details.

Wednesday, September 28, 1966
page 13A. Open house is to be held Sunday at Fairmount Towers, new privately franchised dormitory near Wichita State University.

Thursday, September 29, 1966
page 1. Dr. Ronald R. Meredith, senior minister of First Methodist Church, has resigned to devote full time to writing and lecturing. He has been on sabbatical leave since July. He has been at the church for 14 years, during which the new church sanctuary, costing about $4.5 million, was finished this year. Details.

8A. Wichita’s bus strike is continuing. Wichita Transit Inc. has said that the revenue from fares on a weekday averaged about $2100 prior to the strike.

Friday, September 30, 1966
page 1. Rock Island Railroad passenger service between Kansas City and Fort Worth, routed through Wichita, came to a halt Thursday. Declining passenger revenue, which would have resulted in a loss this year of more than $240,000, is the reason for stopping service. The two trains affected, Twin Star Rockets Numbers 17 and 18, were made up of two chair cars, two baggage cars, and a railway post office. Sleeping and dining cars were discontinued last year. The Interstate Commerce Commission after a year’s study, last week authorized the Rock Island to discontinue the trains, leaving the Santa Fe as the only railroad still providing passenger service to Wichita.

Saturday, October 1, 1966
Sedgwick County voters will be asked November 8 to approve issuance of $3,650,000 in county general obligation bonds to purchase a public park and recreation area and build a new zoo. Details.

Sunday, October 2, 1966
page 1
1. Opposing parties in Wichita’s ten day old bus strike are hopelessly deadlocked. Details.

Monday, October 3, 1966
page 1C.
1C. Central Airlines is leasing two DC-9 jets for delivery in August and September next year and will purchase two additional jets later. Central also is in the process of phasing out its DC-3 fleet and replacing them with Convairs converted to use a Dart 600 turbo-prop engine. Central operates four flights a day through Wichita, three of which use the new turbo-prop Dart. The fourth is a DC-3 which flies between Wichita and Dodge City. About 70 percent of all Central flights now use the Dart aircraft.

Tuesday, October 4, 1966
page 3A.
3A. List showing enrollment in all Kansas colleges. Includes

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<td>Sacred Heart</td>
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Thursday, October 6, 1966
page 1.
1. American Transit Corporation is negotiating for a long term bus franchise in Wichita. Details of their demands listed, including freedom to negotiate all labor contracts without city interference. Long article with details.

3B.
3B. Ozark Air Lines, of St. Louis, and Central Airlines, of Fort Worth, yesterday asked the Civil Aeronautics Board for expedited consideration of their proposal to merge. Details. Ozark would be the surviving airline.

8D.

Tuesday, October 11, 1966
page 1.
1. Wesley Medical Center will try to raise $10 million within five years and $20 million within ten years to finance a major expansion project. Details.
Thursday, October 13, 1966
page
7B. Another article about Wichita bus strike. Details.

Friday, October 14, 1966
page
3A. Another article about Wichita bus strike. Details.

16C. Announcement of grand opening of Dave Johnson Chrysler-Plymouth, 7127 East Kellogg, Saturday. Photo.

Saturday, October 15, 1966
page
5A. Transfer of zoo alligators to winter quarters yesterday. Report.

Sunday, October 16, 1966
page
1D. Ground was broken the past week for a new plant for Western Lithograph Company, Inc. at the southeast corner of Industrial and Hydraulic, to cost $720,000. Architects are Schaefer, Schirmer, and Eflin. Details.

Building permit issued for $3000 remodeling project at 1158 North Waco for Biltmore Homes, 1037 North Waco, which will entail replacement of a front porch, a separation between the first and second floors, and work on the floors in the structure, which will be used for a new office and apartment.

4D. Photo of a trial run of the new fountain in front of the new Wichita Library.

Monday, October 17, 1966
page
5A. About 200 persons took a ride in a restored Ford Trimotor “Tin Goose” yesterday at Rawdon Field. The plane was here from its home airport in Kansas City as part of a promotion for the unveiling of the Mooney Aircraft Company 1967 models. It is owned by Aero Services, of Kansas City, and was built in 1927. Photo -- no number visible.

1. Report of last run of Rock Island Railroad’s Rocky Mountain Rocket yesterday. Details. The train was inaugurated November 12, 1939. The Rock Island discontinued the Twin Star Rocket from Kansas City to Fort Worth via Wichita September 29.
Tuesday, October 18, 1966

1. Negotiations for a five year Wichita bus franchise continued Monday between the Metropolitan Transit Authority and American Transit Corporation, of St. Louis. The franchise would be based on the same conditions as those in the present temporary contract, with buses and garage facilities acquired by the city and leased to the bus company for operation and management. Details.

Thursday, October 20, 1966

8D. Ad announcing opening of the new Mr. D’s supermarket tomorrow at Sweetbriar Shopping Center, 2323 Amidon.

6F. Photo showing street overpass under construction connecting fourth floor of Innes store with fifth floor of Sutton Place and the one million dollar, 525 car parking garage under construction at southwest corner of Market and William. Overpass to be completed December 1 and the parking garage shortly after January 1.

6H. Wichita’s newest Safeway Store, at Seneca and Pawnee in the Westway Shopping Center, was opened Tuesday. Details. Photos.

Friday, October 21, 1966

5A. The Metropolitan Transit Authority yesterday prepared to apply for a $2.1 million federal transportation grant for the Wichita bus system. The authority chose a site south of the City Prison Farm on McLean Boulevard, for construction of a bus garage and approved the estimates totaling $345,000 for purchase of four acres of land from the city and for the garage construction. They also approved purchase of 78 new city owned buses at estimated cost of $1.7 million plus $35,000 for fare boxes. The buses to be purchased include 32 new 45 passenger air conditioned buses for general city transit and 46 new 35 passenger buses without air conditioning for school transportation. The authority looked at several other possible bus garage sites including the old Wichita Transportation Company bus barn at 10th and Fairview but decided the old barn would not provide adequate space for expansion if the need arose and therefore was eliminated as a possibility.

Sunday, October 23, 1966

8B. Fred G. Gartung, newly elected president of Yingling Chevrolet Company, 300 South Topeka, is now sole owner and stockholder of the company, after purchasing stock from the founder’s son, E. V. Yingling, Jr. Gartung is the son-in-law of the late E. V. Yingling, Sr., who founded the company in 1928. Gartung, 44, has been a Wichita resident since 1941. Details.
1D. Construction is expected to start in the spring on the new River Bend shopping center on West 21st Street between Somerset and Hood. To cost $3.5 million. Architects are Hanney-Sanders and Associates. Drawing.

Monday, October 24, 1966


Tuesday, October 25, 1966


10A. Wichita Transit Inc. is expected to submit a proposed long-term bus franchise to the Metropolitan Transit Authority Wednesday. Details.

Wednesday, October 26, 1966

1. Cessna Aircraft Company yesterday reported record sales of more than $202,000,000 and record earnings of $4.13 per share for the fiscal year ending September 30, up approximately 35 percent from the previous record total last year of $148,419,000. Details.

Thursday, October 27, 1966

1. Wichita Transit Inc. has been given until Monday to submit its proposed city bus franchise to the Metropolitan Transit Authority. Details.

Friday, October 28, 1966

1. Urban Renewal Agency yesterday approved plans for a two million dollar First National Bank parking garage at Douglas and Water. Construction of the five story, 350 car structure is expected to begin before the end of the year, with completion in 18 to 20 months. The bank paid $350,000 for the 140 by 205 foot tract, which is roughly
equivalent to the Urban Renewal Agency’s cost of demolition clearance and installation of utilities. Architects are Claude Van Doren and Arthur T. Woodman. Details.

Sunday, October 30, 1966
page
1C. Henry’s Inc.’s new store in the Twin Lakes Shopping Center will be held Tuesday. Store cost two million dollars. Architects were Feagins and Kirsch. Details. Photo.

Tuesday, November 1, 1966
page
3A. Full page ad announcing opening this evening of Henry’s Twin Lakes store. Drawing.

5A. Wichita Transit Inc. submitted a draft franchise agreement to the Metropolitan Transit Authority on the deadline yesterday. Tentative terms listed.

Wednesday, November 2, 1966
page
3A. Follow up report on opening of Henry’s Twin Lakes store last evening. Details.

5A. Negotiations between Wichita Transit Inc. and the company’s striking drivers and garage employes will resume today. Details.

Thursday, November 3, 1966
page

Friday, November 4, 1966
page
1. Ultimatum issued by Metropolitan Transit Authority yesterday setting noon Tuesday as deadline for settlement of the city’s six week old bus strike. If not settled the Metropolitan Transit Authority will break off negotiations with Wichita Transit Inc. for a long term franchise and look for another firm to operate the city buses. A meeting Wednesday between union and management failed to reach an agreement to end the strike. Article lists details of company’s “final offer.”

3C. Ad announcing grand opening of Midway Rambler’s new building at 1010 East Douglas.

Sunday, November 6, 1966
page
Special section
Article about Wichita’s elevated skywalks. First one is from Fourth National Bank and Trust Company to Wichita Plaza Building and was dedicated in 1963. A second one is now under construction at William and Market, linking Sutton Place with Innes parking garage and store. To be completed in a few more weeks. Details. Photos.


Tuesday, November 8, 1966
1. Report of meeting this morning to be held in attempt to settle Wichita’s bus strike. Details.

Wednesday, November 9, 1966
1. Wichita is temporarily without a transit system. On recommendation of Metropolitan Transit Authority, city commissioners yesterday voted to cancel its contract with strike-bound Wichita Transit Inc. for non-performance. The temporary six month contract was scheduled to terminate December 31. Details.

5A. Wichita inventor Herbert C. Jones, 82 year old owner of Jones Milling and Manufacturing Company, is ready to present to the public Monday his new bus trailer. The 17 foot eight inch trailer with 24 school bus seats is designed to be pulled by a Jeep. Details. Jones started Wichita’s first successful bus line in 1914.

Thursday, November 10, 1966
1. Union tactics in the Wichita bus strike will remain unchanged despite cancellation of Wichita Transit Inc’s. contract with the city. Article says Wichita Transit Inc’s. parent company, American Transit Corporation, St. Louis, became a subsidiary of Chromallory Corporation, New York, in February. Details.


Friday, November 11, 1966
5A. Strike-bound Wichita Transit Inc. was preparing yesterday to pack up and leave the city: “We’re getting the buses ready right now,” said Donald T. Calcote, local acting manager for the firm. When in operation Wichita Transit provided bus service for about 16000 persons daily, including 5000 students. The company purchased most of the rolling stock
belonging to Rapid Transit Lines, Inc. in August. The firm has an estimated 61 buses, including 27 Dreamliner buses.

Saturday, November 12, 1966

1. Another article about continuing Metropolitan Transit Authority discussions of Wichita’s transit difficulties. Details.

Sunday, November 13, 1966

1D. Innes new parking garage has been expanded to provide 605 parking spaces by addition of another level, it was announced yesterday. The garage is now under construction and will be in partial operation in December, with completion early next year. Details. Photo showing it largely completed.

9E. Long article about relocation of businesses displaced to clear site for Civic Cultural Center. Details. Photos.

Tuesday, November 15, 1966

5A. Report of bids received yesterday for construction of new 25,500 square foot air cargo building at Wichita Municipal Airport. Details. Drawing.

Wichita Library Board yesterday made final inspection tour of the new $2.6 million library building and took possession. Carpeting is to be installed within a week or two.

Thursday, November 17, 1966

1. The Metropolitan Transit Authority declared a transit emergency in Wichita and gave Wichita Transit Inc. until noon Friday to accept cancellation of its six month contract with the city. Notice was sent to Mr. P. J. Giacoma, president of Wichita Transit and of its parent company, American Transit Corporation, St. Louis. Details.

12A. Rapid Transit Lines Inc., former Wichita bus operator, filed suit yesterday in Sedgwick County District Court for $153,882, against owners of the former bus garage property at 1101 East Central, who commenced evicting the bus company from the property on July 28. Details.

Friday, November 18, 1966

Wichita’s contract with American Transit Corporation and its subsidiary, Wichita Transit Inc., was formally terminated yesterday in St. Louis. Details.

Announcement by Friends University of plans for a large new building program. Details.

7C. Report of death yesterday of retired Wichita theater owner and operator Charles C. McCollister, 87, of 2124 Park Place. Was lifetime resident of Wichita. Was owner of Nomar Theater and former owner and operator of the Wichita, Empress, Marple, and West Theaters, and of the Star Theater, the first nickel theater in Wichita.

Saturday, November 19, 1966

5A. Formal cancellation of Wichita Transit Inc.’s six month contract to provide bus service in Wichita was received by the city yesterday in the form of a signed letter from American Transit officials agreeing to the mutual cancellation. The company’s local manager, Donald C. Calcote, reported the company had sold 21 of its 23 school buses since learning of the city’s intention to cancel its contract. The company still has 27 Dreamliner buses, plus 27 older type transit buses it is willing to sell.

Sunday, November 20, 1966

1. Wichita’s old public library building, 220 South Main, is likely to be used as a new home for Wichita’s municipal courts. Details.

5A. Article about an old 1916 Seagrave fire engine formerly belonging to the Wichita Fire Department and now being restored by members of the Derby Fire Department. Details. Photo.

Tuesday, November 22, 1966

7A. Wichita’s Metropolitan Transit Authority plans to interview four bus firms that have shown interest in operating a bus system here, in hopes of having buses operating here by the end of next week. Details.

Wednesday, November 23, 1966

5A. City commission yesterday decided to increase the speed limit in downtown Wichita from 20 miles per hour to 30 miles per hour as soon as signs can be changed. Details.

Thursday, November 24, 1966

6C. Derby’s historic Rockford Township Hall, built in 1885, was on wheels yesterday and was to be moved to Cow Town early today, where it will be converted into a replica of an old time saloon. Details. Photo.
Saturday, November 26, 1966
page 1.
Night photo showing new downtown Christmas decorations.

Sunday, November 27, 1966
page 16A.
Two page ad announcing grand opening today of Mr. D’s new IGA supermarket at 2323 Amidon in Sweetbriar Shopping Center.

Monday, November 28, 1966
page 3C.
Report of death yesterday of Mrs. Freda Halb, 64, of 714 Porter. Born at Neuhaus, Austria and came here when young. Survived by widower, William, and two daughters, Mrs. Vance Wigington, Kansas City, Kansas, and Mrs. H. A. Mayer, Jr., Omaha, Nebraska. Old Mission Cemetery.

4C.
Article about Herman Wetzig, 85, of Junction City, former businessman, who became interested in flying in 1910 and was known as owner of the first private plane in Kansas. He and brother, Henry Wetzig, saw arrival of two Wright aircraft at Fort Riley in 1910. They then went to the Curtiss factory at Hammondsport, New York, in search of a plane and finally located one at the branch factory in St. Louis, which they purchased for $4000 along with instruction at the company’s flying school. They then made barnstorming flights in western Kansas. Further details and photo of the Wetzigs with their Curtiss pusher.

Tuesday, November 29, 1966
page 1.
Two contracts that would put buses back on Wichita streets within a week were approved Monday and will probably be signed Wednesday, or Thursday. They are between the Metropolitan Transit Authority and American Transit Corporation, and between American Transit and Teamsters Union Local 795. Details.

5A.
Night photo of lighted Christmas trees in South Riverside Park on banks of Little Arkansas River.

Thursday, December 1, 1966
page 1B.
Ad announcing that Innes Parking Garage is not finished, but 200 spaces are now ready for use. Photo of nearly completed walkway from garage to store.

Friday, December 2, 1966
page 5A.
Report on negotiations over ending of bus strike, indicating that some progress is being made. Details.
Saturday, December 3, 1966

Wichita’s Metropolitan Transit Authority signed an agreement Friday to lease buses from the municipally owned Dallas, Texas bus system and said limited bus service would be available for Wichitans Monday, with rides free for the first day. Negotiations with American Transit Corporation of St. Louis were called off. The Metropolitan Transit Authority has negotiated an acceptable contract with officials of the striking Teamsters Union Local 795, ratified Friday night seven to one by members. Friday’s action put the Metropolitan Transit Authority in the bus business, and attention was turned to who will manage the system. Fred Aley, chairman of the Metropolitan Transit Authority, said Frank Neal, 205 Estelle, former superintendent of operations for Rapid Transit Lines, was the most likely choice. Neal went into retirement about a year ago. Aley reported the Dallas transit system signed a contract Friday night leasing 40 44 passenger air-conditioned diesel buses to the Metropolitan Transit Authority for a 12 month period beginning Saturday. Wichita will pay Dallas $200 per month per bus. Wichita can terminate the contract at any time on 30 days notice, subject to a $100 per month per bus penalty for the remainder of the 12 month contract. Details. About 15 of the 40 buses are expected to arrive in Wichita Sunday night.

16C. Laying of 48,000 square feet of new gold carpet costing about $74,000 in the new public library, reached the halfway point yesterday. Late shipment of other furnishings has caused opening of the building to be postponed several times.

Sunday, December 4, 1966

Fifteen bus drivers flew to Dallas early today to drive the first 15 buses being leased from that city, back to Wichita. At least six of them will leave as soon as they get there, and the rest will be strung out through the morning. It will be about 15 hour drive because the buses have 40 mile per hour governors. They are expected in Wichita late Sunday night. Details.

Report of death Friday in a Cheney rest home, of Mrs. Europa E. Cessna, 84, widow of pioneer aviator Clyde V. Cessna. Born in Schuyler County, Illinois. She married Cessna on June 6, 1905. He died November 20, 1954 at age 74. She attended McPherson College and taught in the rural Kingman area from 1900 until her marriage in 1905. At that time she and Cessna returned to Rago. She and Cessna moved to Wichita in 1924 and resided there until 1934. After his death she came to Norwich. Survivors include a son, Eldon W., El Segundo, California, a daughter, Mrs. Wanda D. McVey, Rancho Mirage, California, and two brothers, Grover C. Dotzour, Wichita, and Royer P. Dotzour, Norwich. Funeral at Norwich Methodist Church. Photo.

13B. Feature article about Kansas Milling Company, 715 East 13th, founded in 1906 by Henry Lassen and C. M. Jackman, and purchased in 1959 by Ross Industries, headed by Carl Ross. Hal Ross is treasurer. Other Ross divisions are Hunter Milling Company in
Wellington and American Flours Company in Newton. Kansas Milling Company is largest flour mill in Kansas and seventh largest in United States. Details.

Monday, December 5, 1966
1. Return of bus service to Wichita will be delayed at least until late today because of fog which delayed the flight of drivers scheduled to fly to Dallas at 4:00 a.m. Sunday. Five more drivers will be sent to Dallas today and then five each day until the remainder of the 40 buses arrive in Wichita, which is expected by December 12. Details.

1B. The newly completed Newman Center on the Wichita State University campus was dedicated Sunday. The $202,600 center was designed by architects Wilbur Kruse and Robert Smith. Details.

Tuesday, December 6, 1966
1. Buses will run on Wichita streets this morning for the first time in 43 days. At least one bus will operate on each of the old Wichita Transit Inc. routes, making one-hour headways, and rides will be free today and probably tomorrow as a promotion. The 15 Metropolitan Transit Authority drivers drove the big 44 passenger Southern Coach diesel buses into the lot at 1816 East Central about 5:30 p.m. Monday after a 12 hour run from Dallas. The buses average 10 to 14 years in age but are said to be in good condition. They also have power steering, a feature missing on the old Wichita Transit Dreamliners. Five drivers have been retained by American Transit Corporation, St. Louis, Wichita Transit’s parent company, to drive five of the firm’s Dreamliners to Jackson, Mississippi Tuesday. Details.


Wednesday, December 7, 1966
1. Report of return of bus service in Wichita yesterday. Details. Seven more buses are expected to arrive from Dallas this afternoon. Fares of 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children will be resumed Thursday.

5A. Article discusses the Metropolitan Transit Authority budget. Details.

Thursday, December 8, 1966
7D. Fare boxes have now been installed in Wichita’s newly acquired buses, and riders will have to pay fares starting today. However tokens issued by the city’s past transit companies will be honored until January 1. Donald Calcote, manager of the former Wichita Transit Inc., has been retained by the Metropolitan Transit Authority to serve as
transportation supervisor under Metropolitan Transit Authority agent-manager Frank Neal.

10F. Workmen on the Civic Cultural Center have erected an ornamental light pole extending 50 feet above the steel skeleton at the building’s center point. Photo -- shows only a portion of steel skeleton.

Friday, December 9, 1966
page 5A. Land clearing for Wesley Medical Center’s $4.6 million expansion program started yesterday with demolition of two houses on Pine Street north of the hospital. Another four homes will fall in the next three weeks. The hospital owns about 45 homes in the area bounded by Elm, Rutan, Murdock, and Yale Streets. All 45 should be razed within three years.

Saturday, December 10, 1966
page 5A. School bus service will be resumed on Monday the Metropolitan Transit Authority announced yesterday. On Friday the Metropolitan Transit Authority had received 26 of the 40 buses leased from Dallas. Details.

Sunday, December 11, 1966
page 15A. Ad says the Innes parking garage walkway is now open. Photo. 1B. Feature article about Cessna Aircraft Company’s facility expansion, including announcement yesterday of plans to build a plant at Strother Field, between Winfield and Arkansas City. Details and photos. 4B. Long article reviewing the Metropolitan Transit Authority’s decision to take over Wichita’s bus service. Details. 2D. Recently tenants began moving into the newly rebuilt Sutton Place building, 209 East William.

Tuesday, December 13, 1966
page 1. Wichita’s park commissioners yesterday proposed a five to eight million dollar capital improvement program for Wichita Municipal Airport. Includes a new $1.7 million parallel northeast-southwest runway west of the terminal building and extended passenger gate fingers costing estimated $850,000. Details. 5A. Board of Park Commissioners yesterday signed contract with Airport Parking Corporation, Cleveland, Ohio, to establish a parking concession using existing parking facilities. Details.
7B. Metropolitan Transit Authority buses yesterday resumed 30 minute headways for the first time since service was resumed last Tuesday. About 8000 to 9000 persons rode the buses. The Metropolitan Transit Authority is negotiating for the purchase of five school buses from American Transit Corporation, parent company of the former Wichita Transit Inc.

Wednesday, December 14, 1966

5A. Article gives details of Metropolitan Transit Authority’s finances.

Friday, December 16, 1966

8C. The new Silver Skate Ice Arena, 13000 West Kellogg, is now about 50 percent iced over and is expected to open Saturday. The skating area is 100 by 200 feet. Photo.

Tuesday, December 20, 1966

13A. Photo of circular Church of the Magdalen under construction at Kellogg and Woodlawn. Framework mostly completed.

Thursday, December 22, 1966

2B. Elimination of night service and a reduction of some headways on Wichita’s bus system were recommended to the Metropolitan Transit Authority yesterday by bus system manager Frank Neal. He recommended lengthening headways from 30 minutes to one hour between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 or 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 28, 1966

5A. After several postponements the new Wichita public library will open about the second week in January. Details.

Friday, December 30, 1966

7A. The new Beechcraft Duke, six place pressurized turbo-charged medium twin-engined plane, made its maiden flight yesterday at the company’s Wichita plant. The Duke is sized between the light twin Beechcraft Baron and the heavy twin Beechcraft Queen Air, has a gross weight of 6400 pounds, and is powered by twin turbo-charged 380 horsepower Lycoming engines. First deliveries are scheduled for October 1967. Plans are to produce 250 of the planes the first year. Equipped with all-weather avionics, the estimated selling price will be $175,000. Photo.