Dr. Edward N. Tihen (1924-1991) was an avid reader and researcher of Wichita newspapers. His notes from Wichita newspapers -- the “Tihen Notes,” as we call them -- provide an excellent starting point for further research. They present brief synopses of newspaper articles, identify the newspaper -- Eagle, Beacon or Eagle-Beacon -- in which the stories first appeared, and give exact references to the pages on which the articles are found. Microfilmed copies of these newspapers are available at the Wichita State University Libraries, the Wichita Public Library, or by interlibrary loan from the Kansas State Historical Society.

TIHEN NOTES FROM 1874 WICHITA EAGLE

Wichita Eagle
Thursday, January 1, 1874
page 3.
Large numbers of deer being killed in this and adjoining counties.

Thursday, January 8, 1874
page 3.
The Wichita flouring mill is turning off a fine grade of flour.

Buffalo have been seen within 20 miles of this city in the last few days.

The new hotel will be named the Occidental.

A new post office has been established at Mt. Hope, Greeley Township.

It is rumored that the Douglas Avenue House, built and heretofore owned by William Griffenstein (sic), has been sold to Mr. Daily, the former proprietor of the house bearing his name, for about $12,000.

Thursday, January 15, 1874
page 2.
Articles about the capture in St. Louis of Joseph Low (sic), alias "Rowdy Joe," and his subsequent release on habeas corpus writ.

3.
Brick work on the building at the corner of Main and Douglas is completed.

The Occidental will be prepared to accommodate guests on Friday.

The city council has ordered stone put down for street crossings.

Hereafter the Baptist society will hold services at their new church, corner of Market and 1st streets.
Tickets for grand entertainment at the Occidental hotel tonight are five dollars per couple.

Note confirming that Fred Daily has purchased the Douglas Avenue House, effective last Sunday, and will run it himself in a first class manner.

Thursday, January 22, 1874
2. Ad describing the advantages of the town of El Paso, south of Wichita. Says bridge 275 foot long spans the Ark river there. Bridge rests on stone abutments on either bank and on two iron piers standing on bed rock in the river.

3. Brick work has been commenced on the New York block building.

Harris has had about 30 teams employed in putting up ice. Emil Werner has secured 100 tons of ice averaging five inches in thickness from Chisholm creek.

Article about establishment of the "Wichita Cotton Ginning and Pressing Company," A. Whitworth, president, and William Griffenstein (sic), vice-president.

Thursday, January 29, 1874
2. Letter from Joseph Nickerson of Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad complaining about heavy property taxes assessed against the railroad in counties along its route.

Thursday, February 5, 1874
3. The Occidental and Douglas Avenue are both crowded with guests.

We notice three deer hanging out at one of the meat markets this week. Deer meat has been quite plentiful in the markets this winter.

Report of dedication of the Baptist church last Sabbath. Cost including lots was $3197. Details. Thirty-three by 50 feet on the ground with seating capacity of 250 to 300.

Thursday, February 12, 1874
3. The Occidental has been full to overflowing.

M. R. Moser has bought the building in West Wichita known as Red's dance house, and has torn it down, moved it to his lots on Main Street, and is rebuilding it for use as a wagon shop.

Thursday, February 19, 1874
A war of extermination ought to again be waged on the dogs in town.

The iron columns for the New York block have arrived and are being put in place. They were cast at the Topeka foundry.

Thursday, February 26, 1874

Note about a proposal to build a canal from Little river to Chisholm creek with which to obtain water to run a mill.

Thursday, March 5, 1874

Long article from the Kansas City Journal of Commerce with details about Wichita.

The walls of the New York block are about completed.

The Catholics are conducting a school of their own in their church.

The Buffalo Mills were badly damaged by fire Saturday night.

Thursday, March 12, 1874

Ad for German bakery says warm bread is ready daily at 11:00 a.m. Twenty loaves of bread for one dollar, or five loaves of rye bread for one dollar.

Notice of election on April 7th on Sedgwick County bond issue for building three bridges across Ark river and two across Little Ark. Details.

Thursday, March 19, 1874

The building formerly occupied by the First National Bank has been purchased by Mr. Root and moved south of Douglas Avenue on Main Street, where it will be occupied by a millinery establishment.

Two or three efforts have been made to procure a city library, but without the success desired. We learn that another effort is being made for the organization of a mercantile library association with fair prospects of success. Dr. Furley had the matter in hand last week, and within a day or two secured pledges sufficient to purchase 500 volumes or more.

The Ritchey (sic) House, $1.50 per day, near the depot, is a popular stopping place.

Thursday, March 26, 1874
3. Arrangements are about completed for an extension of the New York block to the alley east of Steele and Levy's office, adding five more business rooms of 25 by 90 feet each.

Editorial note urging planting of shade trees.

Editorial comment saying there seems to be little interest in the forthcoming city election. Details.

Thursday, April 2, 1874

3. J. N. (sic) Phillips received the shipping bill last Monday for two brick machines ordered from Cleveland. These machines have the capacity for turning out about 15,000 brick each per day.

Article about new brick business buildings including two on Douglas Avenue adjoining the New York corner, 25 by 75 feet each, one to be built and occupied by Charles Hill, druggist, and the other by Mr. Noble.

Thursday, April 9, 1874

2. The bridge bonds were defeated in the election on Tuesday by a considerable margin.

Advertisement says M. Kohn and Company will occupy their new store rooms next week.

Letter from Farmer Doolittle, with editor's note saying, "We have come to recognize friend Doolittle as one of our staff, regularly ordained, tested, and not found wanting, etc."

3. The colored boys of Wichita have organized a baseball club. Their grounds are just north of town, and they practice Saturday afternoons.

Report of the city election on Tuesday. James G. Hope was re-elected mayor.

Thursday, April 16, 1874

2. The Kansas Pacific railway company has secured the contract this year for carrying government freights to Colorado and New Mexico. Last year the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad company had it.

3. Four car loads of cattle were shipped on Tuesday, the first of the season.

Mead and Mathewson's Ft. Sill train went out loaded with 20,000 pounds of flour and other stores last Saturday.
The Valley house has again been opened.

J. W. Phillips has received his two brick machines, one of which is being put in position. They are Hall’s patent and are supplied by B. C. Taylor, at Dayton, Ohio. They are light and simple, with a capacity of about 15,000 brick each per day, and should the weather prove favorable, Mr. P. will be able to fully supply the urgent demand for substantial building material.

Article says the new Occidental hotel is getting a widespread reputation for its choice bill of fare. Includes list of items offered on menu last Sunday.

Article commenting on the variations of recent surveys of streets and lots thereon with the original surveys. Lines differ as much as two to 12 feet and this damages the property holders.

**Thursday, April 23, 1874**

2. Article about case of U. S. versus J. T. Holmes, postmaster at Wichita, on charge of embezzling of several registered letters. Details.

3. William Griffenstein (sic) is plowing and grading up Water Street.

M. Kohn and Company have taken possession of their rooms.

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Company sent, last week, advertisements to 30 different newspapers in foreign countries, advertising the great Arkansas valley.

Note urging drovers of the Texas cattle trade to bring their cattle to Wichita.

M. Kohn and Company have ordered two panes of French plate glass to take the place of the four panes of American glass that are now in the front of their building.

**Thursday, April 30, 1874**

2. Advertisement says M. Kohn and Company have opened their new store rooms this week.

3. Contracts have been let for the two new brick business houses of Charles Hill and John Noble.

The patent brick machines owned by Mr. Phillips have been set up at his yard and their work gives entire satisfaction. The brick made are more compact and more square than those moulded (sic) by hand and with better corners and edges.

Article reports an illustration of Main Street in Wichita appears in the supplement of
Harper's Weekly for May 2nd.

Article reports that Josiah T. Holmes was last week found guilty in U. S. district court in Topeka of embezzling registered packages from the U. S. mails during the time he was postmaster of this city. Details. Marsh Murdock is not convinced he was guilty.

Thursday, May 7, 1874

Morris Kohn has erected a substantial and tasty awning over the sidewalk on two sides of his commercial emporium, known as the New York store.

The foundation of Dr. E. B. Allen's new home, northeast of town, is in.

The Valley House, near the depot, on the south side of Douglas Avenue, is growing quite popular with the traveling public.


Thursday, May 14, 1874

Kohn and Company's French plate glass have come and have been put in place.

The city council have repealed the fire limit ordinance on Douglas Avenue.

J. W. Phillips has burned a kiln of brick, and these are being delivered on the ground preparatory to the erection of Hill's and Noble's buildings.

Mr. Sheets (sic) informs us that they will have their mill ready and running by the time the fall crop is harvested. Their canal will be completed in about two weeks. Quite a large force of hands are employed in its construction. The contract for the stone work has been let, and will be pushed forward to an early completion. The timber for the building, etc., were got out in Butler County and are being hauled over.

Article about a new map of the state of Kansas being prepared by A. L. Thornton. To be about six by eight feet, mounted on cloth and roller, and ready for sale by the Kansas City Lithographing company some time in September.

The former Wichita postmaster, Josiah T. Holmes, was sentenced last week to ten years confinement at the penitentiary with hard labor. Marsh Murdock still does not believe he was guilty.

Thursday, May 21, 1874

New and commodious stock yards are being erected on the west side of the river at the crossing of the new trail on Mr. Bocht's place, in which cattle will be held overnight at
such times as the shipping yards are too full.

The columns for the Miller building have been delivered from Chicago and are very pretty, being fluted and having a vine entwined around them from the base to the capital.

Note about Bishop and Brickhouse's new bath house on Douglas Avenue.

Our hotels are crowded every day. Seventy-two were registered at the Occidental on Saturday, and over 100 had dinner there on Sunday.

D. S. Shellabarger and William Bowers arrived here last week from Illinois and are considering the erection here of a three story grist mill with capacity of 125 barrels a day.

Thursday, May 28, 1874

Copy of article from Emporia News about a visit to Wichita a few days ago. Details. Gives details about the eclipse of the old townsite by the new one, promoted by William Griffenstein (sic). "Nearly all the town is built on what is now known as the new townsite," located south of the old townsite.

Letter from a Texan describes the advantages of Wichita for the cattle shipping trade. Details.

The stages for the southeast, south and southwest all now leave Wichita in the morning and arrive in the evening.

Jackson Boland, whose lots were bought by Messrs. Shellabarger and Bowers, will build a new hotel on the other side of the street, one lot further west than his old stand.

Messrs. Shellabarger and Bowers, of Decatur, Illinois, last week completed arrangements for the erection of a large grist mill and store house in this city. The site chosen is at the end of Douglas Avenue, on the south side, near the depot, to which a side track will be extended. The mill will be the largest in Southern Kansas with a capacity of 125 barrels of flour per day. The main building will be of stone, four stories high, 45 by 50 feet. The smokestack will be 75 feet high, of brick, and the engine of 60 horsepower. Stonework has been let to Mr. Hartel (sic), and is to be completed by the first of August. Cost of the entire building is estimated at $25,000.

Murdock reports receiving a specimen copy of Joseph McCoy's new book, The Cattle Trade of the West and Southwest, of 500 pages and selling for three dollars.
3. Two buffalo were killed about nine miles west of the city on Monday last.

**Thursday, June 11, 1874**

3. The iron columns of Hill's and Noble's block have come, and the building is rapidly approaching completion.

Schweiter and Davidson have nearly completed their last sidewalk contract. Nearly 20,000 running feet has been put down at a cost of about $4000. Wichita has now something like ten miles of completed sidewalk.

**Thursday, June 18, 1874**

3. Milton Stewart's new brick business house on Douglas Avenue is going up rapidly and will be ready for occupancy in a year or so.

C. J. Kempton is moving the gold room building from Main Street down on Douglas Avenue. It is 25 by 50 feet, two stories high, and moving it is a heavy job.

H. W. Vigus has a few desirable resident blocks of land for sale at the head of Main Street, one of the most eligible locations for suburban residences.

Immense quantities of fresh fish are being seined from the Little river daily. We noticed in the fish cart last Saturday morning 11 fish, the smallest of which weighed 31 pounds and the largest nearly 60 pounds. Six cents per pound is the market price.

John Cline, yard superintendent, reports 111 cars of cattle shipped from June 1st to the 13th. In the full month of June 1872, 119 cars were shipped, and 83 in June 1873.

Note about plans for a "Wichita Opera House" to be built on corner of Douglas and Market. Details. (Not built?)

**Thursday, June 25, 1874**

3. W. C. Woodman has made arrangements to build a residence in the upper part of the city upon the banks of the Little river. Reese and Sawyer are to do the work.

Harris opened his big ice house yesterday and found the cold crystal deposited there last winter intact and safe.

Article lists six stone and brick business buildings erected in Wichita this spring at aggregate cost of $25,000.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Stories</th>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<td>Kohn</td>
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<td>Douglas and Main</td>
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</table>
Hill  two  70 feet  Douglas Avenue  $5,000
Noble  two  70 feet  Douglas Avenue  $5,500
Miller’s  two  70 feet  Main Street  $5,500
Hobson and Cox  two  60 feet  Not Listed  $2,000
Stewart  two  60 feet  Douglas Avenue  $2,000

Long report of severe storm and lightning strike last Saturday evening which severely damaged the home being built by Marsh Murdock, which was to have been occupied by him on July 4th. Details.


Thursday, July 2, 1874


3. Jackson Boland's new hotel, the Valley House, near the depot, is about completed.

Two mules stolen west of the river a week or two ago were recovered near the Indian line last week. They were found in possession of two Mexicans, one of whom was shot in his tracks, but the other made his escape. So all horse thieves should be served.

J. M. Allen, the popular Main Street grocerman, whose place is known as the "East and West Grocery," has moved into Noble's new brick building on Douglas Avenue opposite the Eagle block.

Article tells of armed citizens coming to the rescue of a policeman being intimidated by armed toughs. Details.

Thursday, July 9, 1874

1. Note from Topeka Commonwealth about a visit to Wichita. Says "The principal streets are Main Street and Douglas Avenue. On these are most of the business houses, banks, hotels, etc., with the Occidental, like a huge mountain, towering above all."
3. Contract has been awarded for building a Sedgwick County jail.

The bridge at Chisholm creek, east of the depot, is broken down, and if not soon repaired somebody will stand a chance to get hurt.

The new engine house is now ready for the reception of the $2500 chemical machine, which is expected in a few days.

**Thursday, July 23, 1874**

2. Letter from W. E. Stanley, clerk of the school board, regarding the special election to be held on Saturday, July 25th, on proposition to vote $10,000 bonds to erect first wing of a permanent central school building. Gives reasons it should be approved.

3. George Salisbury has purchased the new business house erected by Hobson and Cox on Douglas Avenue this spring, for $2500.

Charles W. Hill has moved his large drug establishment into his new building on Douglas Avenue opposite the Eagle block, which leads us to remember that a little over two years ago we moved the *Eagle* establishment on to the same avenue, at which time there was no other business represented on the street, if we except old Jack Peyton's harness shanty. We felt lonesome enough, but a suitable room was to be found nowhere else.

The walls of the Wichita Mills are now 36 feet high. When completed they will be 47 feet to the eaves, and 56 feet to the cone of the roof. The mill company have decided to call it the Wichita Mills.

**Thursday, July 30, 1874**

3. The bed of the Ark river looks like a long and narrow sandy desert with a tadpole mud hole oasis in the center.

It is said that Carrie Beebee intends opening up Rowdy Joe's old dance house on the west side of the river. Let the movement be nipped in the bud. We want no more dance house troubles.

We hope Douglas Avenue or the road leading from the west end of it will not be entirely closed up. It looks as though a new building was being put up right in the street or road.

The school house bond election last Monday resulted in a majority for the $10,000 bonds in a very light vote.

**Thursday, August 6, 1874**
2. Article from *Topeka Commonwealth* about the Mennonites, of whom 600 arrived in New York recently from the southern part of Russia, to seek homes in the West. This particular party left the Crimea about the 20th of June, overland to Hamburg, Germany, and thence to New York. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad Company expects to receive 200 as its share, to be located along the line of the railroad in Kansas.

3. Yesterday evening the grasshoppers were flying very thick and very high. That many of them will come down is no doubt.

The mill race ditch had been opened and led to an action before Judge Campbell last Saturday against the mill men for defying the court's order of injunction. Matter to be reheard in two weeks.

The city's great $2000 chemical squirting machine arrived day before yesterday. Murdock sarcastically considers it to be pretty worthless.

Article about the drouth and loss of a large part of the corn crop resulting from it. Urges farmers not to be discouraged.

W. P. Rouse this week disposed of his entire proprietorship interest in the Occidental hotel to Fraser and Lamb, who have already taken possession. Details. The house is and has been for some time running to its fullest capacity. (Editor's note: In the August 19, 1875 issue of the *Eagle*, Fraser is spelled "Frazier".)

**Thursday, August 13, 1874**

1. Article about the devastation from an army of grasshoppers. Fields of corn that a week ago were full of promise are today consumed.

3. Long article about the grasshopper invasion of last Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, with destruction of many crops. Details.

Article about progress on construction of the Wichita Mills. The tall brick smokestack is growing upwards. Details. Says Mr. Imboden, a partner, arrived from Illinois the other day.

The stone work of the county jail is progressing rapidly, and the foundation will be completed today. The mason contractors have made 150,000 brick, which they fired yesterday, and they will next week commence putting up the superstructure. The contractors, Hartell and Longbottom, have opened up a brick yard north of town.

John Cline, superintendent, reports shipment from Wichita in July 1874 of 266 cars of cattle, compared with 182 in July 1873.
Thursday, August 20, 1874

2. Letter from Farmer Doolittle urging farmers to hang on.

3. The city council has ordered a fire bell.

Note says the Wichita City Mills are buying wheat and expect to be ready to grind the 1st of October. The mill is located opposite the depot, next to Shellabarger and Oliver's lumber yard.

Thursday, August 27, 1874

3. The forebay for the new water mill is completed, the frame for the water wheels in, and the frame for the burrs set. The second story is well along.

Thursday, September 3, 1874

3. Article estimating the corn crop in Sedgwick and adjacent counties. About half of the fields are a total failure, another quarter will produce a quarter of a crop, and another quarter will yield from half to three-quarters of a crop.

Report from John Cline says 1012 cars or 20,240 head of cattle have been shipped from Wichita to date this year, compared with 640 cars to same date last year.

Thursday, September 10, 1874

3. Saturday, Nereus Baldwin got out his largest camera and took a view of the corners of Main Street and Douglas Avenue and photographed it. It is very good and can be seen at his gallery.

George E. Harris has delivered an average of one and one-half ton of ice per day for the past four months.

Thursday, September 17, 1874

3. J. O. Davidson has purchased one-quarter in the Eagle block of W. J. Hobson.

William Mathewson has erected one of those wind mills for the purpose of water supply upon his place east of town.

Editorial about the need for more school rooms in Wichita. Details.

The bill for the fire bell is $150, and the bell will be here in due time. Mike Zimmerly has the contract for putting it in its place at the engine house on Market Street, near 1st.
The commissioners, appointed by district court to determine damages caused by the diversion of a portion of Little river water across to Chisholm creek for power for Wheeler and Sheets (sic) grist mill, have made a report saying that surveys and inspections show substantially no damage.

**Thursday, September 24, 1874**

3. Peaches are selling here for $1.25 a bushel.

William Mathewson is building a house on his farm adjoining the city on the east.

Report noted from Leavenworth paper that E. H. Durfee is dead.

The temporary injunction against the mill dam and race has been dissolved. The machinery has been ordered and the mill will be put into operation within the next 60 or 70 days. The head gates have been opened and a heavy body of water is now passing through the race into Chisholm creek.

The fire bell has arrived.

**Thursday, October 1, 1874**

3. The five-flued boiler of the Wichita City Mills has been set in position, and the engine was expected yesterday.

The city school board have rented a building which will be moved to Douglas Avenue on the lots recently occupied by the land office building. When moved and fitted up, the primary school will be divided and another teacher employed to teach them.

Fred Martsolf, Wichita contractor, will leave Wichita and move to Trinidad, Colorado.

The frame of William Mathewson's new two story residence, 18 by 36 feet, now looms up near the site of the old log claim house.

Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe figures for shipment of cattle from Wichita for first seven months of the year were 13,739 in 1873 and 22,361 in 1874.

**Thursday, October 8, 1874**

3. The Occidental hotel dining room is being frescoed in an elaborate style. The painting will render the large room very attractive.

The home of Almond Dodge, just across the river from the city, and adjoining Delano on the north, was entirely consumed by fire last Saturday.
The county jail is moving along. The first story is nearly up and the ventilating pipes and barred windows of the jail proper have been put in position.

Thursday, October 15, 1874
page 3.
A limited horse fair was held for three days last week, a full annual fair having been "postponed" this year.

Thursday, October 22, 1874
page 1.
Another article about the Mennonites (from Topeka Commonwealth).
3.
The West Wichita post office is now at the store of D. A. McCanless.
The jail is being put under roof.

Note says the school board is submitting a proposition for $30,000 in bonds to build a new school house. Murdock now opposes it.

Long article describes the Wichita City Mills in detail. Capacity will be about 175 barrels of flour per day and about 600 bushels of corn meal. Total cost is about $25,000.

Note reporting marriage on October 18th of Miss Sarah Kohn and M. W. Levy, both of Wichita. "By this Kohn-tract Kohn-cluded Levy is Kohn-cealed in a Kohn-jugal Kohn-junction. The Kohn-jointly Kohn-sented to Kohn-sort, which we Kohn-solingly Kohn-template. May the new bride Kohn-trive to Kohn-trol the Kohn-verted Kohn-veyancor. Why Kohn-ceive more Kohns when it is so certain that all will result in little Levys."

Thursday, October 29, 1874
page 2.
Article reports letter from J. W. Brockett, of Yankton, South Dakota, saying that Joseph Lowe, alias "Rowdy Joe", was killed when the party he was with en route to the Black Hills was attacked by Indians about two weeks ago.

3.
The "Buffalo", one of the lightest engines on this railroad, brought down the valley last Thursday 64 cars in one train, with the wind against it.

Thursday, November 5, 1874
page 3.
A school of the primary grade has been opened up on Douglas Avenue by the city, in the building repaired for that purpose.
The old express building has been purchased by Mathewson, Moore and Terrill, and
moved up on Main Street, north of the Occidental hotel, and will be used for a stable for fancy or fast stock.

Murdock mentions receipt of a complimentary sack of "XXXXelcior Flour" from the Wichita City Mills.

Murdock thanks Nereus Baldwin for two large cabinet-sized photographic pictures, one a view of Main Street and the corner of Douglas Avenue, and the other of the Wichita City Mills.

Thursday, November 12, 1874
2. "Kansas wheat and flour are now being loaded at Galveston for Europe. This is the beginning of a trade with our state that is destined to work an entire revolution in our commerce."

3. J. F. Humphrey has purchased the house and lots known as the Lampher property, in the north end of town, for a residence.

M. R. Moser has leased his place on the hill to W. V. Cox, who will cultivate for a term of three years and care for the big orchard. Moser will move his family into the city.

Article describes in detail the new county jail, located on the court house square north of Central Avenue and fronting on Market Street, leaving a site for the courthouse on the same plat. Building consists of the sheriff's residence, 25 by 34 feet, and the jail proper, 50 by 22 feet, two stories high, with hip roof, covered with tin. Foundation and cellar are of stone and the upper walls of brick 18 inches thick and 25 feet high, the contract price being $10,700.

"A fully developed brother of the colored persuasion on the day of election met a couple of Republicans on their way to vote. Stopping them with a friendly greeting he pulled a bottle from his pocket and asked them to take a drink, after which he nipped himself. `Now, see heah' said the bottle owner, `when I meets gemmen republicans I allus do jess so, but when I meets two democrats, dis niggah drinks first.'"

Thursday, November 19, 1874
Editor's note: Dr. Tihen did not take notes from this issue.

Thursday, November 26, 1874
3. The Wichita City Mills are being run up to their fullest capacity.

Thursday, December 3, 1874
1. Article from Kansas City Journal of Commerce describing a trip through Kansas and
discussing the effects of the grasshopper plague. Details.

3. The Richey House, near the depot, is flourishing.

The two lots adjoining the New York block on the east have been purchased by Shlichter and Russell and Chris Kimmerlie (sic), respectively, and arrangements are being made for erection on them of two brick store rooms 25 by 70 feet each.

Report from John Cline, superintendent, on the Wichita cattle trade for 1874. Cars shipped: January -- 31; February -- 18; March -- 40; April -- 20; May -- 48; June -- 243; July -- 265; August -- 458; September -- 357; October -- 707; November -- 274. Total cars, January through November -- 2461. Total number of cattle -- 50,253. Mr. Cline has now returned to his home at Prairie City, Illinois.

Thursday, December 10, 1874

3. The city fire bell has been mounted upon a permanent tower built for that purpose, near the engine house. It can be easily heard in all parts of the city.

The post office is not in the Eagle block. It is in the Occidental block. The uptown boys got away with our man, bag and baggage.

Thursday, December 17, 1874

2. Meeting of board of county commissioners on December 12th. The commission voted to subscribe $500 to a bridge across the Little Ark river and $1000 to one across the Ark river at or near the extension of Central Avenue westward, to be paid following completion and inspection of the bridges, which are to be pile bridges with span of not less than 30 feet across the channel and are to be constructed within six months. Also voted to make $1000 donation to the Wichita Bridge Company on condition that the present bridge across the Ark river on the line of Douglas Avenue be made free within a period of three months. Bids for rent of rooms for county offices for year 1875 were taken. Mr. Fraker offered rooms in the Occidental at $400 per annum; Mr. Steele offered rooms in the Commercial Block for $500; McClees, rooms in the New York Block at $400; and Mr. Sol Kohn offered rooms above the Wichita Savings Bank free of cost for one year from January 1, 1875 which latter offer was accepted with thanks.

Thursday, December 24, 1874

3. Dr. Gray has opened a circulating library at his residence on Main Street.

The ladies aid society has been authorized by W. H. Kendle, of the Star bakery, to draw on him for 100 loaves of bread for the destitute of the city, for a Christmas donation.
Article lists Christmas dinner menu at the Occidental for tomorrow.

Thursday, December 31, 1874

Sheriff Massey has moved his office into the new jail building.

The work on the continuation of the New York block is progressing finely.

The Post Office has made another move. It went in the day time, this time. It can be found in Miller's building, next door to the Diamond front store.

McMillen and Company's hearse is finished.

C. E. Deane and Shellabarger and Oliver have their lumber yards fenced in with high pickets.

The principal, Mr. Ward, reports average enrollment at the city schools is 397, with average attendance 375. A total number of 418 were enrolled during this month, an increase of 114 from the corresponding month last year.