TIHEN NOTES FROM 1881 WICHITA EAGLE

Wichita Eagle
Thursday, January 13, 1881
page 3.

Last Saturday at 1:00 a.m. the buildings containing Snitzler’s hotel were destroyed by fire. They fronted on the north side of Douglas avenue one lot from the corner of Market adjoined by M. Fechheimer’s brick on one side, and Beck’s brick on the other (east) side. (Editor’s note: Upon checking against the microfilm, it was discovered that the article reported the fire took place at 1:20 a.m.)

The new Wichita steam Cracker Factory and Bakery of A. Weisner and Company is in full blast.

Thursday, January 20, 1881
page 3.

George E. Harris, the “Ice King”, finished his work of putting up ice last week, having stored not less than 3700 tons in three buildings covering an area 114 feet in width by 200 feet in length and 24 feet high.

Thursday, February 3, 1881
page 3.

Mr. Edwards is progressing rapidly in his work of compiling, preparatory to publishing, the best map, and in fact the only map that will be worth anything for reference in Sedgwick county.

Thursday, February 24, 1881
page 3.

A new Board of Trade has just been organized under the general corporation laws of the State. A. W. Oliver is president, and directors are listed. Text of Constitution and By-Laws given.

Thursday, March 17, 1881
page 2.

Letter to Eagle about the election called to vote on a five mill tax levy to erect a suitable
county building. ¶ Says the county acquired the present county building and the lot on which it stands through the failure of the First National Bank, and by subsequent purchase, the lot adjoining it on the north, giving an area 50 by 140 feet owned by the county. The present building is 25 by 60 feet. It is proposed to build a substantial brick addition to cover the remainder of the grounds. Court room will occupy the upper floor of the addition in rear of the present building except for a hall of ten feet, giving it dimensions of 48 by 68 feet. Estimated cost is $15,000. Details.

3. Note says a track has been ordered between Sedgwick City and Halstead to connect the Frisco and the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe.

Thursday, March 24, 1881

1. Detailed article gives history of the Old Settlers Association of Sedgwick County. Organizational meeting was September 27, 1877. By-laws adopted January 22, 1879 — text given. Details.

3. Revised by-laws of Old Settlers Association given, as adopted at the last meeting.

Annual report of St. Louis and San Francisco Railway Company, just issued, says the company has acquired 195,591 shares of the capital stock of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad and has delivered 97,795 shares of this to the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad as called for under the agreement for the joint extension of the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad.

Article reports that the water-mill, which was destroyed by fire, will be rebuilt. Colonel H. W. Lewis, president of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, who is owner of the site, dam, and franchises, this week formed a partnership with the Messrs. Deffenbaugh Brothers for the purpose of building and operating a large grist mill at the site of the old water-mill on Chisholm Creek. The mill will be a “four run” with capacity of 100 barrels of flour per day. The dam will be repaired but not raised fully to its old height, as cleaning out of the race plus introduction of improved machinery will not require nearly the amount of water used by the old fashioned turbines. In fact, a 40 inch turbine wheel of 80 horsepower will take the place of the three old style mechanical powers. It is expected that the new mill will be completed and ready for business by the time the new wheat crop is ready for market, about the middle of July.

Notice of a course of lectures at Russell Hall.

Thursday, March 31, 1881

3. Article reports that the St. Louis, Ft. Scott and Wichita Railroad, which last fall purchased the franchises of the old 5th Parallel enterprise, is preparing to start building west of Ft. Scott. Details.
Colonel Lewis says plans are being made for the new water mill. It will stand out on the bank away from the stream.

**Thursday, April 7, 1881**

3. Bonds for the courthouse addition carried and Mayor Griffenstein was re-elected at the city election last Tuesday.

Article reports new building to be erected by Mr. R. H. Roys on corner of Lawrence and Douglas, 50 by 80 feet, two stories of brick and stone. Designed by C. W. Fisk. Messrs. Bunnell and Roys will occupy the front corner rooms on the second floor for their land and loan agency.

**Thursday, April 14, 1881**

3. Editorial note says the St. Louis, Ft. Scott and Wichita Railroad is a genuine enterprise with sound backing, and has issued contracts for grading by 500 men and 300 teams and has 50 miles of material on hand and more on order.

The Santa Fe are running the handsomest Coaches in the State on the Wichita and Southwestern branch -- the regular palace coach.

**Thursday, April 21, 1881**

1. Long letter on the history of Lawrence.

3. New official figures of the Census Bureau are given -- cut down from the earlier figures. Wichita city is 4911, Wichita township 935, and Delano township 630.

“The Daily Morning Tribune is the latest venture.”

**Thursday, April 28, 1881**

2. Note says the first spike on the Ft. Scott and Wichita Railroad was driven at Ft. Scott at noon on Monday, April 25th. It is planned to complete the road to Wichita by the first of next January.

3. Mr. C. T. Buffum, president of the Keene, New Hampshire five percent Savings Institution, a bank of $200,000 capital for whom S. L. Davidson and Company have for some time been lending money, has been spending a week or two in Wichita. Mr. Buffum, a quiet little gentleman, was warm in his praise of this valley. Messrs. Davidson and Company have loaned out something like $100,000 for Mr. Buffum’s bank, which institution is also a stockholder in the new Kansas State Bank and Lombard Mortgage Company. Mr. Buffum, in company with Oak Davidson, left Monday for Harper and Kingman counties.
The old Daily house, made up originally of several frame structures, and located on 1st street west of Main, owned by Trimmer and Carlton, burned to the ground last Sunday before daylight. The main portion of the building formerly stood on upper Main street and was built by the murdered Ledford. It was afterward used for a poor house. It was the building from where the Eagle made its first appearance during the spring of 1872.

Article reports on new residences in the city.

Thursday, May 5, 1881

Page 2. Article lists the assessed value per mile of the various railroad lines in the state.

3. Mr. D. B. Emmert is preparing the history for Edwards Brothers Historical Atlas of Sedgwick County.

Graduating exercises of the Wichita public schools will take place at the Opera House Friday, May 6th.

Contract for erection of the Roys block at corner of Lawrence and Douglas, was awarded to Sternberg.

Judge Little this week bought the east business building of Eagle block from Mayor Griffenstein.

Thursday, May 12, 1881

Page 2. Letter to Eagle describes at length a day spent visiting a Wichita city school. Details

3. Captain Bear has just finished the finest and most complete county map ever executed of Sedgwick county, which is pronounced correct as to every road, stream, town, post office, school house, etc., in the county.

Thursday, May 19, 1881

Page 3. The Douglas Avenue house has been repaired and painted by its proprietor, T. M. Lane. It has been leased to T. P. Breece, of Chicago, who is to take possession June 10th.

Thursday, May 26, 1881

Page 3. Article says Frisco railway is demanding issuance of $42,000 of bonds voted to aid construction of the railway by Sedgwick county but not yet issued. The county maintains the Frisco has not complied with the requirement to build 78 miles of railroad in the county. Details.

The track was completed yesterday on the Ft. Scott and Wichita road to Marmaton City,
seven miles from Ft. Scott.

The African Methodist Episcopal church has purchased ground and will soon commence erection of a church building, 32 by 46 feet, on North Water or Church Street.

C. H. Luting, the canvasser for Edwards’ historical map of Sedgwick county, is meeting with splendid success. The map of the township and city are the most accurate of any ever issued. The name of the owner of every farm in the county will appear on the map.

Thursday, June 2, 1881

2. Table lists crops, livestock, assessed valuation, and population of Sedgwick county by township for 1881. Population of Wichita is 5,309 and Sedgwick county 18,037. Delano township 550.

3. The foundations of the new water mill are nearly in. It stands south and west of the old building which burned, and the new mill will not be over the stream, but to one side.

Thursday, June 9, 1881

3. The school board on Monday retained L. G. A. Copley as superintendent at a salary of $100 per school month.

Thursday, June 16, 1881

3. W. S. Forrey is now sole proprietor of the Occidental, Mr. Davis having retired.

Mrs. Wallace Woodman gave a party last evening in honor of Baby and Ray (sic) Woodman, her little nieces.

Thursday, June 23, 1881

3. The old Eagle hall is being transformed. The stage has been torn out and a wide hall run through it from west to east. Between the hall and front is one large room, rented by the city for a council chamber. Back of the hall is a room about 50 feet square, which will be for county courts.

Thursday, June 30, 1881

1. Editorial note about kissing.

3. Drawing of the Turners’ Opera House. Description with details. The building is 50 by 140 feet. Seating capacity 1000.

Thursday, July 7, 1881
Long article reports the shooting of President Garfield at the Baltimore and Potomac depot. Details.

A report dated July 1st says the St. Louis, Ft. Scott, and Wichita Railroad was completed to Iola last evening.

The first bonds issued by this city for school purposes -- $5,000, in 1871 -- fall due in September 1881. The funds are on hand to pay them.

Thursday, July 14, 1881

Our city schools will employ for the next year 16 teachers including Superintendent Copley. Names listed.

Thursday, July 21, 1881

The St. Louis, Ft. Scott and Wichita Railroad was formally opened from Ft. Scott to Iola last Friday.

Letter to *Eagle* complaining of diversion of water from Little River for the hydraulic mill. Says “The old mill site on Chisholm Creek is to be used again and the water of the Little Ark river diverted from its natural channel, above the city, to furnish power to run a mill to make a few dollars to satisfy the avarice of a few men reckless of public health and public convenience,” etc.

The city officers have taken possession of their new quarters in the Eagle block.

Thursday, August 4, 1881

Note says the new directory of the city of Wichita is one of the most artistic and comprehensive publications of this wonderful steam press age.

The big brick block of Mr. Roys is about enclosed.

Thursday, August 11, 1881

Article about the Geuda Mineral Springs, 40 miles below Wichita in the Ark Valley. Says Ge-u-da is an Indian name that means healing, and there are seven springs within a few yards of each other.

Note refers to the new brick block of Fuller and Snitzler on the north side of Douglas avenue near Market.

Thursday, August 18, 1881
page 2. Long letter to *Eagle* from W. C. Woodman complaining of the adverse effects of the Sullivan dam on the flow of water in the Little River. Details.

3. Mr. Platter, owner of the Occidental hotel, is in the city and has signified his intention to build a corridor running the entire length of the second story front of that hotel, and another above it extending about half the front length of the third story.

**Thursday, August 25, 1881**


**Thursday, September 1, 1881**


**Thursday, September 15, 1881**

page 3. Mr. Morris Kohn has sold his home here and will move to New York in a few days, where he will continue to buy for his retail stores here and elsewhere. Mr. Cash Henderson will continue to manage the store here.

Editorial discusses and regrets the fact that Wichita now has two competing Fair associations, the old one in existence about nine years, which will hold its 9th annual fair at their fair grounds north of the city, and the new association, which will hold another fair the following week at Shuman’s Driving Park. The new association was started two years ago. Details.

**Thursday, September 22, 1881**

page 2. Articles reporting death of President Garfield last Monday night. Details.

**Thursday, October 6, 1881**

3. Article describes the recent Fairs in Wichita.

**Thursday, October 13, 1881**

page 3. The St. Louis, Ft. Scott and Wichita Railroad expect to have their track to Yates Center soon.

**Thursday, October 27, 1881**

page 3. The Emporia city council passed an ordinance giving a franchise for building a street railway to Colonel J. W. Hartzel who built the Topeka street railway. ¶ “The time will
soon come when Wichita will want at least one line of street railway, and we will guess that should our city council invite Colonel Hartzel (sic) down to see what a live town Wichita is, he could be induced to put it in and operate it.”

Thursday, November 3, 1881

3. Editorial saying the Frisco is threatening to build a branch from Augusta to Newton, and implying that the failure of Sedgwick county to live up to its contract and issue all the bonds for the St. Louis-San Francisco railway lost to Wichita the location of a depot and machine shops and also the extension of at least one line to the western limits of the county.

Robert Lawrence last week sold 1200 bushels of wheat to the new water mill for $1500.

Thursday, November 10, 1881

3. Work on the railroad cut off from Sedgwick City to Halstead is being rapidly done, and the new line will be ready for the cars in a few days.

Meeting held November 4th by committees of the Sedgwick County Agricultural and Mechanical Association and of the Arkansas Valley Agricultural Society recommended consolidation of the two groups to form the new “Arkansas Valley District Fair Association.”

Wichita township has just had erected in the center of the township, on the banks of Chisholm creek, a little north of the mill, a township house where all elections and township meetings will be held. The editor of the Eagle, residing outside of the city, votes at the new township house.

A parochial school will be opened this week in the building on the corner opposite the Catholic church.

Thursday, November 17, 1881

3. Our county attorney, D. M. Dale, was married on November 3rd to Miss Louise Berry, of Pawpaw, Illinois. ¶ David may have dodged the strife of the late campaign, but we assure him he has enlisted in another, in the presence of whose warmth the heat of a political struggle would pale. The securing of bread and butter, shoes and stockings, little and big, soap, hook, wash-tubs, cooking stoves and pianos, may not bother him much, but as his acquaintance ripens with the milliners, and the spring and fall openings, the dressmakers and their wonderful figures, and the satanic smile of the average dry goods man, the bald spot on the top of his head will reach the nape of his neck and the furrows on his brow will look like they had been made with a sub-soil plow. Ta, ta, young man.

The city school district finished paying off the first lot of school bonds issued, which were
issued in 1871, for $5000, bearing ten percent interest.

Thursday, November 24, 1881
page
2. List of the teachers in the city schools with number of pupils taught by each during the last month ranging from 44 to 106 per teacher, with 15 teachers for present enrollment of 1,007, including 59 pupils for the one high school teacher.

3. The new water mill started its machinery on Tuesday. Its cost has been $28,500.

Thursday, December 1, 1881
page
3. The members of the colored Methodist Church have made arrangements to complete their building and will necessarily have to call on our citizens for money. A small amount from each property holder in the city will pay for the work. Let’s all help the church.

Thursday, December 8, 1881
page
3. Article describes the new water mills, named “The Hydraulic Mills,” located on the banks of Chisholm Creek some 50 rods east of the city limits. Main building is 40 by 56 feet and four and one-half stories high including basement. Water in the forebay stands nine feet over the single Victor turbine at the bottom, which gives twice the power of all three Lefel wheels in the old mills. There are four run of stones for grinding. Cost $28,500. Details.

Thursday, December 15, 1881
page
3. Colonel Hartzell, of Topeka, has been in the city this week perfecting arrangements for putting in the street railway.

The Occidental hotel has lately changed hands, Colonel Forrey selling out to Messrs. C. E. Pearson and Company.

Thursday, December 29, 1881
page
3. The history and atlas of Sedgwick county compiled by Mr. J. P. Edwards is in press in Philadelphia and will be ready for delivery in 40 to 60 days.

On last Wednesday evening was celebrated the first truly Hebrew wedding ever witnessed in this city -- of Miss Gussie Marx and Mr. Sam Lowman -- at the Lotus Hall. Details.