TIHEN NOTES FROM 1981 WICHITA EAGLE

Wichita Eagle
Thursday, January 1, 1981

1. Report of a major fire yesterday which destroyed the former Salvation Army warehouse at 624 East William. The 81 year old two story brick building was to have been renovated as part of the Urban Renewal project in the Union Station area. The fire started about 1:00 a.m. Wednesday -- cause unknown. The building was erected in 1899 for the Jett and Wood Wholesale Grocery Company. Details. Photo.

Harter, Inc., the firm selected to redevelop the Union Station, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in the United States Bankruptcy Court yesterday. The company applied for reorganization. Details.

Friday, January 2, 1981

8A. Report of death Wednesday of Herbert L. “Herb” Rawdon, former Rawdon Field owner. Survived by his wife, Barbara, and a daughter, Debra Rawdon, of the home. Cremation.


Sunday, January 4, 1981

Tuesday, January 6, 1981  

page 5B. United American Bank and Trust has moved into its new east facility at 6030 East Central, which was opened yesterday. Details. Photo.

4C. Report of death Sunday of Mrs. Ina Naramore, 89, following a stroke a year ago. Born May 28, 1891, the daughter of John and Minnie Pratt, farmers at Herington, Kansas. Married Arch Naramore and moved to Wichita. Lived at 1400 Garland. Survived by a son, John P. Naramore, and a daughter, Mary Alice Fishback, both of Wichita. Burial in Maple Grove Cemetery.

Thursday, January 8, 1981  

page 1. Photo of old unused railroad track crossing Waco Avenue between 1st and 2nd Streets, formerly a spur of the Missouri Pacific Railroad.

Friday, January 9, 1981  

page 1B. The Wichita Association for Repertory Arts has ended its lease with the Marple Theater and closed its cabaret theater there Sunday with the last performance of “Godspell.” However it will reopen with most of the same cast on January 22 but will be produced by the Marple instead of the Wichita Association for Repertory Arts. The Marple Theater is for sale for $275,000 according to Linda Powell, president of Ms. Marple Production Inc., owner of the theater. Details. Photo.

4C. The recent fire at the former Salvation Army warehouse in 600 block of East William has been ruled due to arson by Wichita fire investigators. Fire occurred on December 31. Details.

Saturday, January 10, 1981  

page 1C. Chronology of events (with dates) relating to redevelopment of Wichita’s Union Station and Rock Island Depot. First proposals were received by Urban Renewal Agency in June 1975. Details.

32. Article about experience of reporter Fred Mann driving an Metropolitan Transit Authority bus for one day. Instruction given by The Bus operations supervisor, Bob Ingram, who has been with the bus company in Wichita since 1949. Writer drove the northwest-east Lincoln route. Regular driver is Foster Ford, a ten year veteran. Of the city’s 72 buses, 58 are on the streets during peak hours and 32 during the non-peak times. The city has 79 bus drivers. Pay is $6.05 per hour. Details.

Sunday, January 11, 1981  

page
1. Beech Aircraft Corporation announced yesterday that Ed Burns, 59, has been elected president succeeding Frank Hedrick, 70, president since 1968. Hedrick was elected to a newly created position, of board vice-chairman -- Mrs. Oliver Ann Beech will remain chairman of the board. Details. Biography of Burns. Current Beech employment totals nearly 11,000, of which 8420 are in Kansas and nearly 7200 in Wichita. Sales for the fiscal year ended September 30, 1980 were about 720 million dollars.

Monday, January 12, 1981

1. Vern Miller leaves office of Sedgwick County district attorney today at age 52. Long article with details of his career.

Tuesday, January 13, 1981

1. United Airlines will begin serving Wichita June 12 with two daily roundtrip flights to Chicago and Denver. Details.

1B. Report of death Friday of O. F. Sullivan, 83, of 936 Back Bay Boulevard, former Wichita city commissioner and mayor, and operator of several theaters in the city. Born in northwest Arkansas in 1897. He built the 81 Drive-In Theater in August 1946, said to be Kansas’ first such theater. He also built the Civic Theater, 725 West Douglas, in 1936, and ran the Tower, Palace, Crawford and Crest theaters. Elected to City Commission in 1941, became acting mayor that year and mayor in his own right the following year. Survivors include his widow, a son, William F., a daughter, Marjean Fooshee, and a stepson, Jerry Kemnitz, all of Wichita. First wife, May Jane, died in 1970. Remarried Agnes Kemnitz.

5B. Total Petroleum’s headquarters will be relocated from Michigan to Denver this year. Company said yesterday that this will also mark the end of the 160 person Vickers Petroleum headquarters in Wichita. Total bought Vickers last year and will consolidate offices now in Oklahoma City, Detroit, Houston and Wichita in Denver, moving from its current headquarters in Alma, Michigan. Harold Grueskin is president of the Vickers operation. The company owned Vickers service stations will retain their names.

10Z-11Z. Feature article about deterioration of the terra cotta sculptures decorating North High School. Details. Photos.

13Z. Feature article about living at the Hillcrest Apartments — also pages 6Z and 7Z.

Wednesday, January 14, 1981

10A. Beech Aircraft sales for past fiscal year were 761 million dollars, up 21 percent.