Subject(s): Sibbitt, Ben

Wichita Eagle
Wednesday, December 12, 1917
page 5.
Benjamin J. Sibbitt yesterday bought for $16,000 the site of the old Moore foundry works at corner of 1st street and the Santa Fe tracks and will build a large new foundry and structural iron works. The site extends 220 feet north of 1st street along the elevated tracks and 132 feet east from the tracks.

Wichita Eagle
Monday, August 8, 1921
page 6.
Wichita’s “Boy and the Boot” statue is to be repaired, and the broken parts are now at the Ben Sibbitt foundry and should be restored within two weeks. ¶ It was bequeathed to the city by Finlay Ross during the second year of his first term as mayor and for 23 summers has stood emptying water from one of his boots. But the present summer he has been missing. During the last winter some vandal broke off the boot and the arm which held it aloft. Now the Park Board plans to repair it.

Wichita Beacon
Saturday, February 9, 1924
page 8.
The Ben Sibbitt Iron Works has purchased the plant and business of the Wichita Foundry at 525 South Wichita Street. The latter is the oldest iron foundry in Wichita and was founded in 1876 by the McFarlands but has been owned and operated by W. J. Sharon since 1893. The Ben Sibbitt Company was established by Moore Brothers but has been owned and operated by the present company since 1914.

Wichita Beacon
Thursday, June 11, 1936
page 13.
Wichita from Illinois in 1910. Survived by wife, Clara, two brothers and one sister (named -- none in Wichita). Obituary. Photo.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Thursday, June 11, 1936**


**Wichita Beacon**

**Monday, August 9, 1937**

1. Article reports purchase of controlling interest in the Ben Sibbitt Iron and Foundry Company, 217 Moore Street, by E. A. Watkins, vice-president of Union National Bank. The company was founded in 1914 by the late Ben J. Sibbitt, who died 14 months ago, and the stock was sold by his widow, Mrs. Clara Sibbitt and by Walter S Henrion, of Henrion Improvement Company.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, October 24, 1937**


**Wichita Eagle**

**Wednesday, February 28, 1940**

3. Announcement made yesterday that the name of the Ben Sibbitt Iron and Foundry Company will be changed on March 1 to Watkins, Inc. The concern is now headed by E. A. Watkins, of Wichita, founder of the Watkins Rebabbitting company, which was later acquired by the Federal Mogul company. ¶ The company was founded by Mr. Sibbitt in 1914 with three employes and now has 130 on the payroll.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, April 28, 1940**

Page

Special Section

1W-8W. Special Section for Wichita Chamber of Commerce Good Will Tour, with articles and photos about Wichita business. Several pages about Watkins, Inc., with history, photos, etc. Says Ben Sibbitt purchased the Moore Brothers factory in January 1914 and in 1918 he incorporated the company with the name of the Ben Sibbitt Iron and Foundry Company. Ben Sibbitt died in June 1936 and the business was operated by Mrs. Clara Sibbitt until September 1937, when the
controlling interest was sold to E. A. Watkins. On March 1, 1940 the name of the company was changed to Watkins, Inc. Company at present has 140 employees, including W. Harold Mooney, who is a sales representative.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Wednesday, April 3, 1963**