

*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.*

## **Subject(s): Air conditioning**

### **Wichita Eagle**

**Wednesday, June 21, 1911**

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5. Superintendent W. R. Morrison reports to city commission that autos are cutting down the revenue of the Wichita Railroad and Light company. About a thousand families use autos for rides in evening to cool off, instead of street cars. ¶ Regarding use of trailers, he says they're too heavy to put on any line except Stock Yards and Topeka avenue, where they have the large double truck cars to handle them. The trailers were purchased in the first place for baseball business only and may be disposed of now that we have no baseball.

### **Wichita Eagle**

**Wednesday, July 25, 1923**

#### **page**

9. Advertisement for Fourth National Bank says building is air-cooled with temperature 74 degrees when it's 106 degrees on the street.

### **Wichita Eagle**

**Sunday, July 12, 1931**

#### **page**

- 3-B. The Allis hotel ballroom has been newly equipped with an air conditioning system similar to that in use in the Kit Kat Coffee Shop.

### **Wichita Beacon**

**Saturday, April 27, 1935**

#### **page**

7. The Missouri Pacific "Sunflower" arrived in Wichita this morning, for the first time carrying air-conditioned cars throughout.

### **Wichita Eagle**

**Saturday, July 27, 1935**

#### **page**

1. A new corporation, the Lassen Hotel Company, has been formed to consolidate the

former Rigby-Gray Hotel Company, owner of the building and ground, and the Seymour Hotel Company, holder of the lease and owner of the furniture and fixtures. About \$200,000 will be spent on remodeling and redecorating. Details. Includes air conditioning of all public rooms.

**Wichita Beacon****Saturday, July 27, 1935****page**

1. A newly formed single owning and operating company, the Lassen Hotel Company, has taken over the building and real estate, owned by Mrs. Richard M. Gray and John Rigby, of the Rigby-Gray Hotel Company, and the lease and fixtures, owned by L. S. Seymour, of the Seymour Hotel Company. The same owners (above) are the principal stockholders of the new company. About \$200,000 will be spent in remodeling and refurnishing the hotel. In the new consolidation all ownership is severed with the Wichita radio station, KFH. Public rooms will be air conditioned. Details.

**Wichita Eagle****Sunday, April 19, 1936****page**

7. The Innes Tea Room has been air conditioned.

**Wichita Eagle****Wednesday, June 3, 1936****page**

10. Walker Brothers store has been completely air-conditioned.

**Wichita Eagle****Sunday, June 7, 1936****page**

26. Wolf Brothers is installing an air conditioning system, to be completed in three weeks.

**Wichita Beacon****Tuesday, June 23, 1936****page**

4. Work started today on a \$300,000 remodeling program at the Hotel Lassen. The work will be completed next October. A new coffee shop will be built facing on Market St. just south of the present lobby entrance. There is to be a new front for the present Spanish ballroom to harmonize with the rest of the hotel building. The coffee shop and ballroom are to be air conditioned. Plumbing in the building is to be replaced and 175 new shower baths installed. All rooms will be redecorated. Further details.

**Wichita Eagle****Sunday, January 23, 1938**

**page**

5. Barney L. Allis announced plans to start soon on air conditioning of the Allis Hotel. Eight floors and the public rooms will be air conditioned at this time.

**Wichita Beacon****Sunday, March 27, 1938****page**

15. Article describes the 50 new air conditioned buses which will soon be placed n service by Santa Fe Trailways. Being built by American Car and Foundry Company. Details.

**Wichita Eagle****Saturday, May 7, 1938****page**

5. Santa Fe Trail Transportation Company yesterday asked Interstate Commerce Commission approval for its purchase from American Car and Foundry Motors Company of 46 new air-conditioned buses for \$740,812, the first of the kind to be put into service. Delivery of the new buses was started May 1 and two are already in service between Wichita and Kansas City.

**Wichita Eagle****Monday, June 13, 1938****page**

5. New enlargement of engineering department of Stearman division of Boeing Airplane Company has been completed at cost of \$25,000. Room has been doubled in size to more than 5000 square feet and is air-conditioned. Photograph of interior.

**Wichita Eagle****Sunday, June 26, 1938****page**

- 5-A. Allis Hotel has completed its new air-conditioning installation.

**Wichita Eagle****Sunday, January 1, 1939****page**

3. Allis Hotel advertisement says eleven floors of the hotel were air conditioned during 1938.

**Wichita Eagle****Saturday, June 17, 1939****page**

5. Permit issued yesterday to Montgomery-Ward for installation of a cooling tower for its air conditioning system at cost of \$8500.

**Wichita Eagle**

**Tuesday, June 4, 1940****page**

10. Photo of new Orpheum theater marquee, which will be lighted for the first time at 9:00 p.m. today. Article with details. The Orpheum has recently installed a modern air-conditioning plant.

**Wichita Eagle****Saturday, April 22, 1950****page**

5. Contract let yesterday by board of regents of University of Wichita for a new building for the college of business administration and industry for \$294,480. Building to be on the east campus at 18<sup>th</sup> and Yale and will be a modern "functional" type building, with two stories and basement, 66 by 244 feet. Probably ready for occupancy in October or November. It will be air conditioned. Details. (Editor's Note: Neff Hall.)

**Wichita Eagle****Thursday, August 27, 1953****page**

- 5A. Remodeling of the ticket offices at Wichita's Union Station will be completed about September 15. The ticket selling area will be equipped with new furniture, new lighting facilities, and air conditioning. Plans for the remodeling were developed by the Santa Fe engineering department in Topeka. Martha K. Eby is the general contractor.

**Wichita Eagle****Tuesday, December 1, 1953****page**

- 5A. Building permit issued yesterday for the new Forum cafeteria building at 111 South Market, to cost \$182,000. To be 40 feet by 126 feet and two stories. Heating, air conditioning, and electrical work not included in the contract amount.

**Wichita Eagle****Sunday, January 3, 1954****page**

- 5A. The 1954 city budget includes about \$20,000 for some remodeling of the 1890 city building, including the heating system and possible installation of air conditioning for part of the building. Several offices on the second floor and restrooms on the third floor are already being remodeled. Details.

**Wichita Eagle****Tuesday, November 9, 1954****page**

- 5A. Wichita Library Board yesterday let contract for air conditioning the library at cost of \$12,692.

**Wichita Eagle****Sunday, December 18, 1955****page**

1. Jenkins Music Company has signed a long-term lease on the south two-thirds of the former Sears, Roebuck building at northwest corner of Market and William. Work will start Monday on remodeling and installation of a new front, a new elevator, air conditioning and a new lighting system. The improvements are estimated to cost over \$100,000, with completion by late spring. Overend and Boucher are architects. Photo of building on page 4A.

**Wichita Eagle****Tuesday, April 24, 1956****page**

- 5A. Workmen yesterday began demolition of the old southeast wing of St. Francis Hospital, starting another phase in a program which will culminate in replacement of the hospital's St. Francis Avenue side. It will take more than three years to complete the \$4 million program. Demolition of the southeast portion will take some 30 days. Work on the northeast portion is not scheduled until construction is completed in the southeast portion. When the entire St. Francis Avenue building is replaced, the hospital capacity will be increased to over 100 bassinets and 700 beds, from the present capacity of 535 beds and 65 bassinets. The new fully air conditioned building will be 387 feet long and nine stories, including penthouse and ground floor. Forsblom and Parks are the architects.

**Wichita Eagle****Tuesday, May 8, 1956****page**

1. Report of major fire yesterday at the O. A. Sutton Corporation warehouse, 539 North Mead, which destroyed about \$900,000 worth of air conditioners. Details.

**Wichita Eagle****Sunday, July 15, 1956****page**

- 18C. The one story building at 218 North Broadway now occupied by KARD-TV has been sold this past week by Roy C. Russell, of Wichita, to the Home Building and Supply Company of Oklahoma City. KARD-TV will move into its new building at 8<sup>th</sup> and Main at the end of the summer after which the building on North Broadway will be remodeled and air-conditioned for commercial use. Photo.

**Wichita Eagle****Sunday, July 29, 1956****page**

- 1E. A new heating and air conditioning system costing about \$200,000 is being installed in the Brown Building. Work started about three weeks ago. Details.

**Wichita Eagle**  
**Sunday, March 9, 1958**

**page**

- 15C. Work has been started on remodeling and air conditioning of the Beacon Building, which was transferred to new ownership March 1. Details.

**Wichita Eagle**  
**Wednesday, July 2, 1958**

**page**

1. The Union National Building, Broadway and Douglas, has been purchased by District Lodge Number 70, International Association of Machinists, for \$2,000,000, it was announced yesterday. Remodeling projects for the building included central air conditioning on most floors, are almost complete. Details. Photo.

**Wichita Eagle**  
**Saturday, December 13, 1958**

**page**

- 5A. Wesley Hospital expects to complete its new 46 bed care unit for surgical patients on the fifth floor of the west wing early in January 1959, giving the hospital a total of 485 beds for adults and children. The west wing was partially completed in December 1956, but the fifth and sixth floors were left unfinished. Air conditioning of the main building will be an objective for 1959.

**Wichita Eagle**  
**Saturday, April 18, 1959**

**page**

- 5A. Remodeling of the top four floors of Wesley Hospital will start Monday. To include a new air conditioning system, with lowered ceilings, modern lighting fixtures, and new hardware. Completion date set for July 1.

**Wichita Eagle**  
**Thursday, May 12, 1960**

**page**

- 14A. Delivery of the first ten of Rapid Transit Lines' all new, diesel, air-conditioned "dreamliners" arrived in Wichita yesterday from the General Motors plant at Pontiac, Michigan. Photo.

**Wichita Eagle**  
**Tuesday, April 23, 1963**

**page**

- 5A. Building permit issued yesterday for remodeling of Union Station, 715 East Douglas, at cost of \$62,000. Work will be confined to the interior, including a lower ceiling, improved lighting, redecorating, and air conditioning.

