

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): Boeing

Wichita Beacon

Sunday, July 19, 1942

page

13. Photo of Boeing Airplane Company's new administration building, which is nearing completion. Approximately two-thirds of the office space is now occupied. Article with details.

Thursday, August 27, 1942

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18. It was revealed today that the Boeing Airplane Company here is building two bus stations at its plants here, one at Plant Number 1 and a large one at Plant Number 2. The station at Plant Number 2 is large enough to accommodate 60 buses at one time. It is located across the highway south of the plant and will have two large pedestrian overpasses over Mac Arthur Road. There will be six loading docks each capable of taking care of ten buses at once.

Friday, September 11, 1942

page

22. Photo of above 117 passenger Santa Fe Trailways bus taken yesterday afternoon at the Boeing Aircraft factory.
30. Three Wichita aircraft plants, Boeing, Beech, and Cessna, are engaged in building large transport gliders carrying 15 fully equipped soldiers, the Army Air Forces announced officially today. Details.

Wednesday, September 23, 1942

page

6. Photo of new warehouse buildings and bus terminal under construction at Boeing Airplane Company south of Mac Arthur Road. Article with details.

Sunday, October 25, 1942

page

Special Boeing Section

2. Work has started on erection of two large covered bridges connecting the new bus loading platforms across the highway to the south parking lot of Boeing plant Number 2. The wooden bridges will each be 350 feet long and 12 feet wide.
22. Article relates early Wichita aviation history including Roy Knabenshue's dirigible in October 1908 and the aviation show of May 1911 followed in November of 1911 by exhibition flights by Hugh A. Robinson at the Wheat Show.
24. Biographical article about J. Earl Schaefer, vice-president of Wichita division of Boeing, with photo.
31. Article with history of Stearman Aircraft Company. Details.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, January 4, 1942****page**

5. The personnel building at Boeing plant Number 2, a separate unit from the main factory standing at the edge of the field was completed yesterday, and the department will move in today. ¶ The hiring program for the new plant has been started and there were about 6800 on the payroll last week, an increase of about 1000 for the month and of 400 for the week just past. ¶ Construction on the main plant is making good progress and the warehouse is now roofed over.

Sunday, January 11, 1942**page**

5. The Boeing Wichita division is now hiring employes at the rate of about 150 a day. The number at work yesterday was 7588.

Sunday, May 17, 1942**page**

2. Photo of the twin-engine AT-15 Crewtrainer recently delivered by Boeing Wichita plant to the army air forces for tests. Details.

Wednesday, June 3, 1942**page**

2. Contracts have been let for site for 500 defense housing units near Beech factory and 4500 units near Boeing factory, and ground work should begin in the next day or two. Details.

Sunday, July 19, 1942**page**

14. Drawing of the new administration building of the Boeing plant Number 2, which is nearing completion. Details.

Tuesday, August 4, 1942**page**

5. Records filed yesterday with the register of deeds showed that the Boeing Aircraft Company has purchased an additional 45 acres directly across MacArthur Road south of Boeing's Number 2 plant from Mike Kennedy and his son, Charles W. Kennedy. The buyer of the land was the Defense Plant Corporation. It is to be used to add to the warehouse facilities of the Boeing Aircraft Company. Grading equipment is now on site and the Austin Company will build the new warehouse. A spur of the Santa Fe Railroad will be extended from the Connell station to the new warehouse at a cost of about \$50,000. The Santa Fe now has a spur extending from Connell station to Boeing plant Number 2.

Sunday, August 30, 1942**page**

5. The new four lane highway K-15 will be open to traffic next Wednesday morning and will relieve a good share of traffic from Oliver and George Washington Boulevard. Under the new routing, K-15 traffic will travel west on MacArthur Road from southeast corner of Boeing plant Number 2, then turn in a northwest direction on the new four lane highway which parallels the railroad tracks down to the intersection with Hydraulic. It then goes north to Kellogg, west to Broadway and then north again. The previous routing was from Oliver down George Washington Boulevard to Kellogg. Details.

Sunday, October 25, 1942**page**

8. Article with biography of J. E. Schaefer, general manager of the Wichita Boeing plant. Born here June 11, 1893 to Mr. and Mrs. Julius Schaefer. His father was proprietor of the Old English Inn, which stood for any years at 115 North Topeka, where the Shrine club is now situated. The Old English Inn was destroyed by fire in 1913, and Earl Schaefer then moved with his parents to Houston. However he returned to Wichita to graduate with his high school class in 1914. Married Miss Catherine Rockwell four years later. Photo.

Special Section honoring Boeing Airplane Company for its Army-Navy "E" award. Details. Photo.

Monday, October 26, 1942**page**

6. Completion of the new Boeing plant is being celebrated today. Details.

Wednesday, December 16, 1942**page**

5. County commissioners yesterday gave approval to Boeing's application to build an overpass across MacArthur Road from Plant Number 2 to the warehouse and bus station. Work is now under way on construction of the overpass.

Sunday, March 21, 1943**page**

6. The Boeing Airplane Company has added 500,000 square feet of floor space to its plant with the completion on schedule a few days ago of two new warehouses directly south of Plant 2 across MacArthur Road. Details.

Sunday, April 18, 1943**page**

2. The original Boeing primary trainer delivered to the army on June 12, 1936 is still in service after more than 3400 hours of flight. It is at Santa Monica, California. Details. Photo.

Sunday, April 25, 1943**page**

10. The 7000th Boeing Kaydet trainer plane was delivered to the armed forces the past week. History of Stearman plane development. Photo.

Sunday, January 2, 1944**page**

1. Official announcement yesterday stated that the Boeing Airplane Company's Wichita plant delivered 74 percent more B-29 super bombers to the army air forces than the number delivered in November.

Thursday, April 27, 1944**page**

5. Article gives details of Boeing financial report for 1943.

Friday, May 5, 1944**page**

5. National aviation writers are in Wichita today to tour the Boeing plant and be introduced to the new B-29 bomber. Details.

Saturday, July 29, 1944**page**

5. The 10,000th Kaydet primary trainer was delivered to the armed forces by Boeing yesterday. Details. Photo alongside B-29.

Friday, December 22, 1944**page**

12. The first of Transcontinental & Western Air's improved Stratoliners was returned to the airline this week by Boeing and at the same time the fifth and last of the fleet was flown to Boeing's Seattle plant to undergo major reconversion before entering commercial service. The first will undergo official tests as required by the Civil Aeronautics Agency while the other four are being worked on at Boeing. They are scheduled to return to

Transcontinental & Western Air's Kansas City base at regular intervals during the next few weeks. ¶ The chief improvements are new Flying Fortress wings, more powerful engines, landing gears, and a new horizontal stabilizer and elevator assembly. With take off rating of 4800 horse power, the passenger capacity will be increased to 38.

Monday, January 29, 1945**page**

2. Article about the Boeing B-15, completed in 1937 as an experimental bomber, and still in active use flying from Air Transport Command field in Miami carrying cargo and passengers throughout the Caribbean and to South America. Details. Frontal photo. Nicknamed "Grandpappy."

Thursday, February 15, 1945**page**

1. The 1000th Boeing B-29 and the 10346th and last Boeing Kaydet trainer produced in the Wichita plant were delivered to the army air forces at a ceremony at the Boeing plant yesterday. Details.

Sunday, March 18, 1945**page**

5. An extension to the present parking apron at the Boeing Airplane Company plant will be built at a cost of approximately \$350,000, it was announced yesterday. Funds have been approved by the defense plant corporation in Washington. The big paving project will adjoin the old apron on the south. When complete, it no longer will be necessary to park the big planes on runways and other parts of the surrounding ground.

Saturday, April 7, 1945**page**

5. Contracts let yesterday for construction of two nose hangars and another building for Boeing Airplane Company on ground leased from the municipal airport. Buildings to cost \$86,400. ¶ Contract was also let for extension of the concrete parking apron in the same area, for \$186,500.

Tuesday, April 10, 1945**page**

1. The Boeing plant in Seattle yesterday ceased production of the B-17 Flying Fortress after producing 6981 of them, and henceforth will build the B-29 Superfortress. Of the B-17s built in Seattle, 6802 were built since Pearl Harbor.

Saturday, May 26, 1945**page**

5. A drastic cutback in aircraft production announced yesterday by the war department in Washington will cause some 3000 workers to be terminated immediately at the Beech Aircraft Corporation. Production at the Boeing-Wichita plant will not be affected.

Details.

Friday, June 15, 1945**page**

5. Boeing-Wichita announced that it has built 1400 completed B-29s and spare parts equivalent to another 124 bombers, making the equivalent of a total of 1524 bombers. Including the Seattle-Renton facilities, Boeing has built a total of 2075 B-29s plus the equivalent of 149 additional planes in spare parts.

Friday, July 6, 1945**page**

5. The Civil Aeronautics Board in Washington yesterday awarded Transcontinental & Western Air a route from the United States to 20 foreign cities. Details.

Boeing Company announced yesterday it has received a contract for a limited number of YC-97 transport planes similar to the three C-97s already built as experimental ships, one which visited the Boeing plant here last week. The planes will be built at the parent plant in Seattle and are a military version of the company's postwar commercial transport to be known as the Stratocruiser.

Friday, August 17, 1945**page**

5. Production of B-29s at Boeing-Wichita plant is to be cut back. The company will go ahead and complete its full quota of 100 B-29s for the month of August, but the schedule for September calls for a reduction to 60 deliveries; which may wind up scheduled deliveries of B-29s at Wichita under existing contracts. However some spare parts and assemblies may be produced here in connection with a continuing B-29 program at the Boeing-Seattle plant.

Sunday, August 19, 1945**page**

3. Article about layoffs of thousands of workers at Wichita aircraft plants. Boeing has terminated 5000 employes in the past two days. Cessna's war contracts have all been cancelled and 300 of the company's employes will be terminated Monday. Beech has terminated a large number of employes. ¶ The International Association of Machinists says approximately 10,000 workers have been terminated and another 7000 will be laid off by the first week of September.

Sunday, August 26, 1945**page**

15. Article summarizes at length the production by Boeing's Wichita plant. ¶ Includes total of 10,346 equivalent primary trainers, or 44 percent of all primary trainers, with 13 other plants combined producing the other 56 percent. ¶ A total of 1665 completed B-29s plus 125 equivalent B-29s in spare parts, making a total of 40 percent of the combined total of

all four B-29 plants. ¶ Parts and assemblies for B-17s built at Boeing-Seattle. ¶ A total of 750 CG-4 gliders used in the invasion of Europe.

22. Full page Boeing ad with large photo of Boeing plant.

Wednesday, September 5, 1945

page

2. Boeing Airplane Company officials yesterday received a telephoned directive from the army air forces calling for immediate suspension of all B-29 manufacturing operations at the Boeing-Wichita plants. The previous schedule called for delivery of 100 B-29s in August and 60 in September. The August schedule has been met and 45 of the 60 planes for September are completed.

Saturday, December 29, 1945

page

5. Boeing is installing one million dollars worth of new equipment in Plant Number 1 and in February will employ about 2000 employes for production of parts for the Stratocruiser and revised B-29 parts.