

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): Fairmount Congregational Church, Fairmount Community Church

Wichita Beacon

Monday, November 20, 1893

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4. Article gives some history of Plymouth Congregational church, at 2nd and Lawrence on southeast corner. The church was organized in October 1885 by Reverend Joel Harper. The present minister is Reverend F. A. Bissell and congregation numbers 109. Since organization of the church there have been three Congregational churches organized in the city -- Olivet church in south part of town, the May Flower (sic) church on Fairview, and the Fourth church on Fairmount. Ministers at Plymouth since its founding have been Reverend Joel Harper, Reverend J. H. Parker, Reverend Mr. Millikan, and the present Reverend F. A. Bissell. Trustees are listed. Details.

Wichita Eagle

Wednesday, December 11, 1896

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3. The Congregational church at Fairview is being moved out to Fairmount avenue and 16th street, where it will be used in the future.

Wichita Beacon

Thursday, December 16, 1896

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5. The Congregational church at Fairview avenue, between 14th and 15th streets, is being moved to Fairmount.

Wichita Beacon

Monday, August 23, 1897

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8. Work is to be resumed Monday on the Fairmount church so that it will be in readiness by the end of the pastor's vacation. The church has moved out of the brick store on Vassar street and will worship in the college chapel for the present.

Wichita Beacon

Friday, September 25, 1908**page**

5. Fairmount Congregational church yesterday decided to build a new church to take the place of the present brick building which has been used ever since the founding of the church.

Wichita Beacon**Friday, November 13, 1908****page**

9. Members of the Fairmount Congregational church yesterday decided to make plans for a \$12,000 building to replace the old brick building on corner of 16th and Fairmount now used. The church was organized here in 1888. A frame building was built on 15th street at foot of Fairmount hill but was sold to the Dunkards six years later because of heavy debt and is still used by the Dunkards. For three years the Congregationalists worshiped in a brick store building at corner of 15th and Vassar. In 1897 they bought a brick church building on Fairview avenue, called the Mayflower church and built in 1888, and moved it to the present site at 16th and Fairmount.

Wichita Beacon**Saturday, October 9, 1909****page**

2. Drawing of the Fairmount Congregational church, on which work will be commenced next week at cost of \$10,000. To be brick veneer, 82 by 85 feet. The old building will be utilized as much as possible in the new. Architect is Mr. Stringfield. Details.

Wichita Beacon**Friday, June 17, 1910****page**

10. Corner stone of Fairmount Congregational church will be laid Sunday afternoon.

Wichita Eagle**Friday, June 17, 1910****page**

5. The cornerstone of the new Fairmount Congregational church will be laid next Sunday afternoon. The church was first organized in 1892 and met in the church at the corner of 15th and Tyler (?), which was later used by the Dunkards. In 1898 they secured the Mayflower church, which was moved from Fairview avenue to the corner of 16th and Fairmount. Last fall that building was torn down and the foundation for the new church was begun.

Wichita Eagle**Tuesday, June 21, 1910****page**

6. Article reports laying of corner stone of new Fairmount Congregational church Sunday

afternoon, June 19.

Wichita Eagle**Wednesday, July 27, 1910****page**

3. The first meeting in the new Fairmount Congregational church building will be on August 6. Meetings will be held in the basement until the \$25,000 building is completed.

Wichita Beacon**Wednesday, June 14, 1911****page**

6. First services will be held in the new Fairmount Congregational church next Sunday.

Wichita Beacon**Tuesday, August 22, 1911****page**

4. The Fairmount Congregational church is practically completed after having been under construction for nearly two years. The dedication will be held Sunday, September 10. It is of red brick trimmed with white stone. Total cost about \$13,000. Details.

Wichita Eagle**Wednesday, September 6, 1911****page**

6. The new Fairmount Congregational church will be dedicated next Sunday. Located at 11th and Fairmount. The old building was torn down and foundation for new one laid two years ago last spring. Further construction was suspended until last spring. The new building cost \$15,000 and seats 700. The old church torn down two years ago was built in the boom days on Fairview avenue as the Fairview Congregational church. It was bought by Fairmount residents in 1897 and re-erected on Fairmount that year.

Wichita Beacon**Monday, September 11, 1911****page**

9. Report of dedication yesterday of the new Fairmount Congregational church. Details.

Wichita Eagle**Tuesday, September 12, 1911****page**

6. Article reports dedication of Fairmount Congregational church Sunday.

Wichita Beacon**Sunday, September 9, 1923****page**

11. An old landmark of the Fairmount district has been razed -- the last bricks were torn down yesterday. It was a two story brick at 15th and Vassar, built in the late 1880s. After serving as a store it was taken over by the school board and used as a school house. After several years a new school was built, and the Fairmount Congregational Church was organized in the store. The church than turned the building over to Fairmount College and for almost ten years it was used as a boys dormitory and was known as Rugby Hall. When Fiske Hall was built, it was sold for a store. The Fairmount Boys Athletic Club used it for a time as a gymnasium. ¶ Harry Miles, sewer contractor, is the present owner, and since the war he has used it as an apartment house with a store on the ground floor. He is replacing it with two modern bungalows.

Wichita Eagle**Thursday, February 2, 1928****page**

5. Fairmount Congregational Church will be known in the future as Fairmount Community Church, it was decided last night. Details.

Wichita Beacon**Saturday, June 8, 1929****page**

3. Photograph of Fairmount Congregational Church.

Wichita Beacon**Monday, July 26, 1937****page**

2. Mrs. Clayton B. Wells, who has lived for the last 42 years at 1626 North Holyoke, has sold her home to the Reverend W. H. Hayes, pastor of the First Reformed Church, and will leave Friday to make her home with her son, Frank C. Isely, in Washington, D.C. Another son, the Reverend Merrill Isley, is a missionary in Turkey. ¶ Mrs. Wells was first married to W. H. Isely, the first dean of Fairmount College, who died in 1907. She later married the Reverend Clayton B. Wells, for many years pastor of the Fairmount Congregational Church. She was raised near Clearwater, where her brother, J. C. Nickerson, now lives. ¶ Her son, Merrill Isely, married Mildred Myers, and they have three children, Mary Frances, William Henry, and Caroline Elise.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, September 10, 1944****page**

7. A fund campaign will open today to raise \$25,000 for a new building for the Fairmount Community Congregational church at 16th and Fairmount. Plan is to erect the new church on the site of the present building which was erected in 1910. First a two story educational building will be built on the grounds just west of the present church. Then the present building will be razed to make room for a new house of worship. Details.

Wichita Eagle
Sunday, June 29, 1952

page

11. Ground breaking ceremony is to be held today for the new religious education building for Fairmount Community Church, 16th and Fairmount. To be 40 by 91 feet and completed about January 1, 1953. It is located across the street from the church. Architects are Thomas and Harris. Drawing.