

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): Municipal Beach Swimming Pool

Wichita Eagle

Thursday, May 24, 1923

page

9. Contract let yesterday for cementing of the new municipal swimming pool in South Riverside park for \$18,500. Work will probably start by Monday. ¶ The excavation work is already completed and was done by the city. The pool will be 275 by 235 feet, with a sand beach 60 feet wide at the north.

Tuesday, April 8, 1924

page

5. Thousands visited the city parks Sunday. Many used the six tennis courts which have just been completed in South Riverside park. A parking area is being constructed now at the municipal beach to provide plenty of space this summer.

Monday, July 5, 1926

page

5. This season's record of 3487 swimmers at municipal beach set yesterday.

Monday, August 9, 1926

page

5. Driven by the scorching heat, throngs of Wichitans crowded Riverside park last night. Three extra and six regular street cars carried the crowds to the park, besides buses and other conveyances. Thirty-five hundred fifty-four persons visited the municipal beach pool, the record for this year.

Monday, July 11, 1927

page

5. Record attendance set yesterday at Municipal Beach, with 4340.

Thursday, July 14, 1927

page

12. Advertisement with aerial photograph of municipal beach pool.

Friday, June 8, 1928

page

4. Photograph of slide at municipal beach pool.

Thursday, July 5, 1928

page

2. Admissions at municipal beach yesterday were 4013, not far below the all time mark of 4340.

Monday, July 15, 1929

page

5. A new all time record of 4900 swimmers was set at the municipal beach yesterday.

Monday, July 7, 1930

page

5. Forty-three hundred seventy swimmers were at municipal beach yesterday.

Tuesday, September 2, 1930

page

5. Total of 99,527 bathers passed through municipal beach turnstiles this past three month season.

Sunday, January 3, 1932

page

Rotogravure

Aerial photographs by Edgar B. Smith of Municipal Beach, stockyards and packing plants, and Mt. Carmel academy.

Sunday, July 16, 1933

page

Section A -- Eagle's special 61st anniversary issue with special articles on Wichita businesses and institutions.

- 12-A. Photographs in Wichita parks including municipal beach pool.

Monday, August 28, 1933

page

5. Municipal beach has had approximately 60,000 admissions this summer.

Monday, July 8, 1935

page

5. Twenty-seven hundred seven swimmers at municipal beach yesterday set a new record for the season.

Saturday, April 2, 1938

page

5. Article summarizes annual report of city park board. Municipal beach had 61,018 swimmers and the neighborhood pools a total of 125,575. There were 64,100 golfers at Sim park. There were 100,168 landings and takeoffs at municipal airport. Progress in development of College Hill park, with opening of the new swimming pool there.

Saturday, June 11, 1938**page**

5. The new Wichita municipal beach pool, completed yesterday as a Works Progress Administration project at approximate cost of \$50,000, will be opened today for the summer. It is 240 feet by 125 feet, with depth from two to nine feet and has 38 underwater flood lights of 1000 watts each. There are also two smaller pools for small children. Details.

Tuesday, September 6, 1938**page**

5. Attendance at municipal beach pool this past summer was 64,825. Neighborhood pools: Woodland 22,600, Lincoln 28,000, McKinley 15,100, Seneca 24,600, and College Hill 25,500.

Sunday, June 4, 1939**page**

17. Article says 100,000 are expected to use Wichita municipal beach pool this summer. ¶ The pool was opened on August 4, 1923, and attendance the five weeks of operation that summer was 47,761. The attendance in 1924, first full summer of operation was 91,400. The peak attendance was reached in 1929 with 114,807. It then declined during the depression, but increased to 80,415 in 1934, a hot summer, and to 86,303 in 1936. Last year the attendance was 63,653.

Monday, June 15, 1953**page**

- 5A. A new all time attendance record of 4716 was set yesterday at Wichita's municipal beach in Riverside park. The previous record of 4100 was set in 1951.

Monday, July 12, 1954**page**

- 5A. Sunday's hot weather attracted the largest crowd in the history of the Municipal Beach at Riverside Park-a total of 5397 persons. The previous record was established only last Monday-4867. Previously the highest number in one day was about 4600 last summer.

Saturday, September 4, 1954**page**

- 5A. Wichita's Municipal Beach will complete its season Monday with an all time attendance

record. Attendance passed the 200,000 mark on Tuesday and is expected to exceed 210,000 by the time it closes. Last year the beach drew 149,000 swimmers, topping the 1952 season record of 129,000. An all-time one day record of 5591 was set this summer.

Wednesday, August 22, 1956**page**

- 9A. Report of attendance of Wichita's six neighborhood swimming pools to date this summer. They will remain open until August 31 and the Municipal Beach until September 3.

Friday, October 14, 1960**page**

- 6A. Replacing of the old concession building at Municipal Beach is expected to start within a few days. The old building in South Riverside Park is to be torn down and replaced with a new structure. Cost will be \$17,324. The new building will be a circular structure with a large sunshade over the service area. Architects are Kruse and Roberts.

Wednesday, September 5, 1962**page**

- 5A. Attendance this season at Municipal Beach swimming pool in Riverside Park totaled 81,605 compared with 76,845 in 1961.

Wichita Eagle-Beacon**Tuesday, November 28, 1972****page**

- 5A. Wichita Park Board yesterday approved a preliminary plan for a tennis and handball court complex in South Riverside Park, to be located on the site of the former Municipal Beach swimming pool. Details.

Wichita Beacon**Wednesday, February 21, 1923****page**

2. The bath house at the municipal beach is being torn down after nearly a decade of service, and the lumber will be used in construction of new barns and utility buildings which the city is erecting south of Central and east of Seneca. ¶ A new bath house and swimming pool are to be built in South Riverside Park where the auto tourist camp now is. The old city barns in South Riverside will be torn down or moved to the new site.

Friday, September 3, 1926**page**

1. The city today purchased land in the West Riverside district as the site for a municipal art museum. It comprises a part of the Stackman tract at the intersection of Sim Park Drive and River Boulevard and fronts the lagoon which the Little River forms as it circles the Municipal bathing beach. Mrs. Marie Steinbuchel, administrator of the estate, sold the tract (five acres) for \$16,500, which is below the market price, and then ceded 2.15 acres more, giving the city a total tract of 7.15 acres, thought to be worth \$25,000, for the \$16,500. The Stackman estate, of which this is a part, was established by Frederick P. Stackman in 1873, and in 1881 he bought a farm of 130 acres in what is now Riverside addition. His widow, Mrs. Marie Steinbuchel, still lives in the original homestead, 705 Faulkner.

Monday, July 2, 1928**page**

3. Attendance at the Municipal Beach on Sunday set a season's record at 3931.

Monday, June 12, 1933**page**

14. Park officials reported there were 2759 swimmers at the Municipal Beach yesterday and over 8000 during the first week since it opened for the summer.

Sunday, July 31, 1938**page****Special anniversary edition**

8. New \$50,000 swimming pool at Municipal Beach built as a Works Progress Administration project was opened this summer.