

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): Murdock Bridge

Beacon

Thursday, July 26, 1923

page

7. An extensive paving program for Riverside Park drives will be started early in August, at a cost of more than \$40,000, and finished before cold weather starts. Pavement with asphalt will include.
 - ¶(1) Drive from west end of Murdock Avenue bridge through Central Riverside Park and along Murdock Boulevard to the central entrance of Sim Park.
 - ¶(2) Drive from south end of Wiley Avenue through Central Riverside park to the Woodman Bridge.
 - ¶(3) Drive from the north end of Griffenstein Bridge to Bitting.
 - ¶(4) Road leading from south end of Pearce Avenue to the boy and boot fountain.

Sunday, January 22, 1922

page

- B-1. Article gives city manager's report. Says city engineer has recommended building of new bridges over the Little Arkansas at Murdock and the Big Arkansas at 13th street. Both of these present bridges are hazardous.

Wednesday, March 22, 1922

page

7. A petition has been signed requesting paving of the 200 feet dirt street on Murdock avenue from Waco Avenue to the Murdock Avenue bridge.

Wednesday, April 12, 1922

page

4. City engr. Brockway again warned city commission yesterday of the unsafe condition of the Murdock Avenue Bridge. Details.

Sunday, May 18, 1924

page

Magazine 6.

Article about the widening of the Little River being carried out for flood control purposes.

Thirty-five thousand cubic yards of material to be excavated between the mouth and 13th Street. Near the mouth it will be widened on the west bank, meaning that the Central Avenue bridge and dam must be lengthened 100 feet. From 400 feet West of the Woodman Bridge to 400 feet north of Murdock, the entire stream is to be widened. North of 13th Street, the river will be widened to the city limits. Details.

Sunday, August 10, 1924**page**

7. City Manager Elliott yesterday announced a \$300,000 bridge building program within the next year. Because of the widening of the Little River and the Drainage Canal, the Griffenstein and Woodman Bridges over Little River are to be lengthened, and now concrete bridges over the canal are to be built at Harry, Broadway Kellogg, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Central, Murdock, 9th, 10th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, and 18th streets. ¶Also a bond issue for construction of a new bridge across the canal at Douglas and across the Little River at Murdock will be submitted to the voters to the November election. ¶The new canal bridge will be 100 feet long, the width of the canal after it is widened, compared to the present 60 feet length.

Tuesday, September 23, 1924**page**

5. Contracts let by city commission yesterday for 13 bridges across the drainage canal, to replace the present ones at Kellogg, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Central, Murdock, 9th, 10th, 11th, 13th, 15th, and 17th Streets, at cost of \$299,544. They will be the full width of the street, this eliminating the hazard of the present 18 foot bridges.

Saturday, November 8, 1924**page**

8. In Tuesday election the Murdock Avenue Bridge bonds carried 13,703 to 8,817, and the Douglas Avenue Canal Bridge carried 12,809 to 9,003.

Saturday, December 6, 1924**page**

2. City engineer is working on plans for the new Murdock Avenue bridge. It will be 245 feet long compared with 160 feet of present bridge, and will have 40 feet roadway and 12 feet walks compared with 20 feet roadway and 4½ feet walks of present bridge.

Wednesday, January 28, 1925**page**

2. Contracts were let Monday by city commission for the new Murdock Avenue bridge over Little River for \$87,007, and for a bridge over the drainage canal at Broadway Avenue for \$23,477.

Saturday, February 7, 1925**page**

4. Report of progress on bridge construction in Wichita Canal bridge on Kellogg should be finished in one week. Lengthening of Woodman Bridge and Central Avenue Bridge should be finished by first of March. Last abutment on the new Seneca Street Bridge will be finished today, leaving only the superstructure to be finished. ¶Tearing out of the old Murdock Avenue Bridge over the Little River began yesterday.

Thursday, February 26, 1925**page**

9. The new Kellogg Street bridge over the drainage canal was opened a week ago Sunday. The Central Avenue bridge over the canal should be completed March 15 and the Woodman Bridge extension in Riverside should be finished March 10. Three of the nine spans in the Seneca bridge over the Arkansas river have been finished and the foundations and buttresses are all in. The old Murdock Street bridge over the Little River has been torn out and work is processing on the new bridge.

Thursday, October 1, 1925**page**

16. The Murdock Avenue bridge over the Little River will be finished about the last of November. The deal has resulted from difficulties uncharted in the under water structure, and the Gunitite Construction Company, which has the contract for about \$88,000, is likely to lose about \$15,000 on the project. ¶The same company has the contract for the Broadway bridge over the canal, word on which was began early this week.

EAGLE**Sunday, September 18, 1921****page**

4. City engr. P. L. Brockway has recommended tearing down the old Murdock ave. bridge and replacing it with an arched concrete structure. Details. The river is 170 ft. wide at this point.

Tuesday, February 19, 1924**page**

5. Park Board's plans for improvements this year include construction of swimming pool in Woodland park, treat with asphaltic oil the road from Woodman bridge along the river to Murdock bridge, constructed necessary road in Oak park, construct parking area at municipal swimming pool and roads from Nims and Central to the pool, pave and gutter road from Murdock entrance of Sim park to intersection with asphalt road near northwest corner of the park, and pave and gutter the road from Griffenstein bridge to Murdock bridge.

Sunday, August 10, 1924**page**

8. City manager Elliott is recommending lengthening of the Griffenstein and Woodman bridges, building of a new bridge over the Little Arkansas at Murdock and over the canal on Douglas, and 15 other new bridges across the canal at Harry, Broadway, Kellogg, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Central, Murdock, 9th, 10th, 11th, 13th, 15th, 17th, and 18th streets.

Thursday, November 6, 1924**page**

1. In election Tuesday the bond issue for new bridge across Little Arkansas at Murdock carried by 13,452 to 8,675, and the new bridge across canal at Douglas carried by 12,690 to 8,840. Murdock bridge \$95,000 and canal bridge \$60,000.

Sunday, November 9, 1924**page**

2. Article describes plans for new Murdock street bridge including viewing bays built out from eight feet sidewalks.

Tuesday, February 3, 1925**page**

5. The new Kellogg street canal bridge will be opened in the next ten days, weather permitting. ¶The Central avenue bridge will be finished in about a month and the 1st street bridge in six weeks. The 3rd street bridge will be started when the Central avenue bridge is finished. ¶Work on the Murdock avenue bridge over the Little Arkansas river will begin February 16.

Thursday, February 5, 1925**page**

5. The old Murdock avenue bridge will be closed today and wrecking will begin this afternoon. Erection of the new bridge will start about February 16.

Wednesday, February 18, 1925**page**

2. Work on the Central avenue dam across the Little river will be complete within ten to 14 days. ¶The Griffenstein bridge will be opened in about two weeks. The deck is finished and work is progressing on the approaches. ¶Wrecking of the old Murdock avenue bridge is nearly finished and work on the new structure will begin at once.

Thursday, April 2, 1925**page**

3. The 1st street bridge, third of the new canal bridges, was opened Saturday. Work on the Murdock bridge is expected to be completed within a month.

Friday, April 17, 1925**page**

3. Seneca street bridge will be opened by Decoration day. Seven of the nine piers are

finished. ¶The lengthened West Central bridge will be completed by May 5, as will the Murdock avenue canal bridge. The canal bridge on 3rd street will be opened ten days later. Work is just beginning on the canal bridge on 10th street.

Friday, May 15, 1925

page

4. Four bridges will be opened in next two weeks. The B. F. McLean bridge on Seneca street will be dedicated Saturday, may 23. The Central avenue bridge across Little river will be re-opened next week, and the new drainage canal bridges at Murdock and 10th street will also be opened.

Saturday, July 18, 1925

page

5. The List and Weatherly Construction Company, which has the \$250,000 contract for building 13 bridges across the drainage canal, will finish the work before Thanksgiving. The 17th street bridge will be opened by the last of the month and the 9th street bridge within 30 days. Bridges at Kellogg, 1st street, 3rd street, Central, Murdock, 10th street, 11th street, 13th street, and 15th street are already finished. Work on 2nd street and Broadway avenue will begin in a few weeks.

Friday, November 13, 1925

page

5. The Granite Construction Company, of Kansas City, contractors for the Murdock avenue bridge across Little river, will pour the last concrete today and expect to complete their part of the job before the end of the week. The park board, however, will not finish construction of the west approach for about ten days, and the bridge will be opened about Thanksgiving. ¶The same company is now constructing a canal bridge on Broadway avenue, and another company will soon have the canal bridge on Harry completed. All other canal bridges recently lengthened, have been opened for traffic. ¶The lengthening of the Douglas avenue canal bridge yet remains to be done, as it is being delayed until the courts decide on the widening of the avenue.

Wednesday, November 25, 1925

page

5. The Murdock avenue bridge over Little Arkansas river will be opened to traffic this afternoon. Contract price was \$88,000, but it is thought it has cost the Granite Concrete Construction Company of Kansas City in excess of \$100,000 to complete their work, causing them a loss of nearly \$20,000.

Thursday, November 26, 1925

page

5. New Murdock avenue bridge was opened yesterday.

Sunday, November 29, 1925

page

7. Photo of new Murdock avenue bridge.

Sunday, December 20, 1925

page

Rotogravure:

Photo of new Murdock avenue bridge.