

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): Rouse

Wichita Beacon

Wednesday, April 14, 1886

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1. Work will soon commence on the bridge over the Little river at Carey avenue. It will be of wood, with 18 foot roadway, with foot walks on each side. The entire length of the bridge proper will be 300 feet. It will open up Carey avenue through to the Arkansas river, and open up the 300 acres recently platted by Messrs. Lloyd B. Ferrell, Joseph Rich, G. L. Rouse, and E. P. Ford, located between the rivers, extending from 13th street one mile north, the Carey avenue bridge striking its river front about the middle of the property. The bridge is under contract to be finished by June 9th.

Wednesday, April 28, 1886

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1. Proudfoot and Bird are engaged in drawing the plans for the following residences: Mr. A. A. Hyde on College Hill, Mr. Zimmerman's, and also several for Messrs. Rouse and Blackwelder in Fairview addition.

Tuesday, March 8, 1887

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1. Messrs. William Griffenstein, M. C. Campbell, B. H. Campbell, J. O. Davidson, G. M. Dickson, N. A. English, W. K. Carlisle, H. G. Lee, H. G. Toler, G. L. Rouse, and J. H. Blackwelder have purchased the franchise and charter of the Wichita City Railway company, paying Major Powell \$100,000 for his half interest. Mr. Campbell retains a great part of his interest by taking stock in the new company. It was only this afternoon that the terms were arranged, the papers made out, and a cash payment of \$300,000 made. ¶ Most of these gentlemen are connected with the Mascot Street Railway Company, which was lately organized and for which a charter was granted, but it has not yet been decided whether this charter will be used or a new one obtained. ¶ The company will be organized tomorrow with a capital of \$1,000,000. It expects to lay ten miles of new track at once, and the first extension will probably be on the West Wichita line and will run out to Martinson's addition.

Thursday, March 10, 1887

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1. The Wichita City Railway company reorganized this morning with the following officers:
 - G. L. Rouse, President
 - B. H. Campbell, Vice-President
 - J. O. Davidson, Treasurer
 - W. K. Carlisle, Secretary
 - G. M. Dickson, Manager¶ Mr. Dickson took charge of the company's office last night after the final settlement of the purchase.

Wichita Beacon**Wednesday, July 13, 1887****page**

1. Contract let yesterday to Mr. J. V. Majors for the new Rouse and Blackwelder building at corner of Market and 1st streets for a little less than \$100,000. Foundations are already complete. Building to be completed by January 1st.

Friday, September 6, 1889**page**

1. Article reports views of Colonel Campbell, of the Wichita Street Railway company, on the new franchise ordinance. He is indignant about the complaints. Details. Says stockholders in company include J. O. Davidson, William Griffenstein, Robert E. Lawrence, N. A. English, George L. Rouse, H. G. Lee, J. N. Pompelly, R. W. Eldridge, and A. H. Merrill.

Wednesday, January 15, 1890**page**

1. Annual election of directors of the Wichita Street Railway company took place at the company's office on Main street yesterday. The directors elected are B. H. Campbell, George L. Rouse, J. O. Davidson, R. E. Lawrence, O. Martinson, William Griffenstein, and N. A. English.

Monday, April 23, 1894**page**

4. George Rouse, Jr. went to St. Louis yesterday to complete the arrangement for the sale of the Sedgwick block to J. T. McCasland. The new proprietor will assume charge next month.

Monday, April 30, 1894**page**

4. George L. Rouse, Jr., returned from St. Louis last evening, where he consummated the sale of the Sedgwick block to Mr. McCausland of that city. Transfer of the property to the new owner will be made about August 1.

Friday, November 2, 1894

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5. It is said that George L. Rouse, Jr., and family, are soon to leave for St. Louis, with the intention of making that city their permanent home.

Tuesday, April 7, 1896

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5. In the case of Edgar Harding versus George L. Rouse et al, the order of the district court was returned yesterday showing the sale of the Sedgwick block for \$65,000.

Saturday, May 16, 1908

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20. Real estate sales: Julia B. Rouse, trustee, et. al. to Walter F. Metz, April 22, 1908, lots even 44 to 62, Riverside avenue north, Riverside addition.

Monday, April 8, 1912

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5. The Sedgwick Block and Sedgwick Annex have been sold by the Edgar Harding estate of Boston to J. S. Barnes, of Pratt, and H. B. Hupp, who recently moved from Pratt to Wichita, for \$160,000. Details. Building erected by Rouse and Blackwelder and later became the property of Edgar Harding, of Boston, by foreclosure of a mortgage, seventeen years ago. In 1906 the Sedgwick Annex was built. Photograph.

Wichita Eagle**Tuesday, April 20, 1886****page**

6. A charter has been taken out for the "Little River Street Car Co.," which proposes to build and operate a line of street railway beginning on Fairview ave. and running west on Carey ave. across the Little Arkansas, and on several streets in West Wichita. Incorporators include Col. George L. Rouse, Lloyd B. Ferrell, E. P. Ford, Joseph Rich, and Frank Ford.

Friday, April 23, 1886**page**

6. "The Rambler": A number of men and teams could be seen at work yesterday grading a race track over in the Riverside addition. Col. George Rouse said that streets will soon be laid out in the River View addition, where the new street car line will cross from Carey ave.

Tuesday, March 8, 1887**page**

4. For some time it has been reported that the street car franchise owned by Major Powell was about to be sold. Yesterday the sale was consummated for \$200,000. The purchasers are a Wichita syndicate of the following capitalists: George L. Rouse, H. G. Toler, J. Oak Davidson, W. H. Carlisle, Capt. Dickerson, C. R. Miller, N. A. English, and R. Eldridge. Valuable and needed improvements will be made in the road. Instead of the present rails, flat rails will be laid, at least along Douglas ave., and Main st. The track throughout its entire length will be made the regulation width. In some areas at least the electric motor will be substituted for the horse car now in use.

Friday, March 11, 1887**page**

4. The purchasers of the street railway met yesterday and elected as officers for the ensuing year: G. L. Rouse, president; B. H. Campbell, vice-president, J. O. Davidson, treasurer; W. K. Carlisle, secretary; D. M. Dickson, manager. The new manager took charge of affairs last evening.

Tuesday, May 10, 1887**page**

4. Mr. George Blackwelder yesterday sold a half interest in the seven lots on northwest corner of 1st and Market to George L. Rouse for \$40,000 and on these lots the two men will erect the finest business block in the state of Kansas, 175 ft. x 140 ft. and five stories high.

Wednesday, June 1, 1887**page**

4. Blackwelder and Rouse commenced excavating yesterday for their new building at Market and 1st (i.e., Sedgwick building).

Wichita Eagle**Wednesday, June 22, 1887****page**

4. Foundation walls for the Rouse-Blackwelder building at 1st and Market are well under way.

Thursday, June 23, 1887**page**

4. Article gives detailed description of the magnificent five story building erected by Blackwelder and Rouse at corner of 1st and Market (i.e., Sedgwick building). Front on 1st st. is 140 ft. on Market 120 ft. Towers reach 107 ft. above the street. Building will contain 120 rooms. Details.

Thursday, July 14, 1887**page**

4. Contract was let yesterday for erecting the Blackwelder and Rouse block, which has been named "The Sedgwick." The foundation is already in. Total cost to be \$120,000.

Tuesday, July 26, 1887**page**

4. J. B. Legg, architect of St. Louis, who made the plans for the Blackwelder and Rouse building, has established a branch office in Wichita.

Sunday, September 11, 1887**page**

1. Drawing of the Sedgwick building, now being erected by George H. Blackwelder and George L. Rouse and to be completed by January 1st at cost of \$120,000. Front is of St. Louis pressed brick trimmed with Lake Superior red sand stone and polished granite. Details.

Wednesday, September 28, 1887**page**

4. The stone arch and pillar at the southeast corner of the Rouse-Blackwelder building was completed yesterday.

Wednesday, January 9, 1889**page**

5. Article reports annual meeting of stockholders of the Wichita Street railway was held yesterday at the company office on S. Main. Directors elected for coming year: B. H. Campbell, J. O. Davidson, D. M. Kirkbride, Robert Lawrence, Chris Pierce, George L. Rouse, Sr., and George M. Dickson. The superintendent is George M. Dickson. This

is the oldest and strongest of Wichita's five street railway and motor line and electric corporations. The company operates 44 miles of track. They have three principal stables and run 43 cars regularly. They keep 240 mules and horses regular at work, employing 20 stable men, 42 drivers, ten track men, and five employees at the general office, in all 75 to 80 people. The property is valued little short of a half million dollars.

Wednesday, January 15, 1890

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5. Stockholders of the Wichita Street Railway company met yesterday at the office of the company on S. Main st. The following directors were elected: B. H. Campbell, George L. Rouse, J. O. Davidson, R. E. Lawrence, O. Martinson, Wm. Griffenstein, and N. A. English.

Sunday, April 22, 1894

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6. Article reports sale yesterday of the Sedgwick block at 1st and Market to Mr. J. T. McCasland of St. Louis for \$175,000 by the Sedgwick Investment company whose principals are George L. Rouse and G. H. Blackwelder. Details.

Wichita Eagle

Tuesday, May 14, 1907

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5. George W. Rouse died last week in Cleveland -- age 66 -- he together with George H. Blackwelder built the Sedgwick block in 1886. He was a director and vice-president of the old mule car line, which operated 41 miles of rail in this city. He lost heavily during the depression which followed the boom days. The Sedgwick block passed into the hands of receivers, and likewise the street car line, in 1892. George M. Dickson was a partner with Mr. Rouse in the street car line. They gave E. R. Powell \$100,000 for his interests in the line in 1887, and could have sold the line for \$400,000 in 1889, but did not do so and lost out on the proposition soon after.

Sunday, July 10, 1927

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Magazine

3. Reminiscences of John E. Herron, who has lived in 1700 block on Fairview since he came to Wichita on June 1, 1887. "Fairview was well built up with houses when we arrived. Park Place was little more than an alley then with only three or four houses. Fine houses on Fairview included that of Judge Lauck at 13th street, of Jake Aley at 14th street, Jim Stafford at 16th street, George Rouse at 16th street, and Colonel H. G. Toler in the 1600 block. ¶ A street car line (mule car line) then left the corner of Market and Douglas, ran down Fairview avenue, and ended in old Alamo park across the river, the crossing being made on the 17th street bridge. ¶ One of the North End attractions of that day was the race track in the Carey Park addition, where many horse races attracted excited crowds. ¶ Following the boom was a period of depression. A

Congregational church in the middle of the 1600 block on Fairview, built during the boom and then abandoned, was torn down and the materials sent out of town for use elsewhere. Hundreds of houses went the same way, many of them going into Oklahoma.