

*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): St. Francis

### WICHITA BEACON

Thursday, January 19, 1888

#### page

1. The incorporators of *St. Francis* hospital met yesterday and elected a board of directors: M. W. Levy, John Davidson, B. H. Campbell, A. W. Oliver, H. Schweiter, J. P. Allen, J. V. Davidson, Christopher Reed, William Griffenstein, M. J. Casey, and P. V. Healy, with B. H. Campbell chosen president, M. W. Levy, secretary, and J. Davidson, treasurer. ¶ The lease of the Burleigh brick building on North 4th avenue was secured and a charter drawn up and sent to Topeka. When the charter returns, the medical staff will be appointed. The hospital will have 42 rooms and be divided into male and female medical and surgical wards, obstetrical ward, gynecological ward and a ward for children. It will be opened about February 10th and will be in charge of the Sisters of Mercy.

Tuesday, June 5, 1888

#### page

1. Report on the work being done by the Sisters of Charity in the *St. Francis* Hospital on North 4th avenue and urging better support of the institution. Three stories above a basement, with 30 or 35 rooms in all. Report lists donations to the hospital.

Saturday, June 30, 1888

#### page

1. The city council yesterday voted to give the *St. Francis* hospital \$75 per month and to raise the monthly stipend granted to the Ladies Benevolent Home to the same amount. The council has been giving the Home \$50 per month heretofore.

Thursday, August 2, 1888

#### page

1. List of donations to the *St. Francis* hospital.

Tuesday, October 23, 1888

#### page

1. Members of the women's association of *St. Francis* hospital will meet October 24 to make comforts for the hospital.

**Saturday, December 1, 1888****page**

1. List of Thanksgiving donations to *St. Francis* hospital.

**Wednesday, December 19, 1888****page**

1. The poor men and women at the *St. Francis* hospital are in need of warm clothing, etc. The sisters in charge of the hospital hope the public will not forget that institution at Christmas

**Friday, January 11, 1889****page**

4. The advisory board of *St. Francis* hospital met this afternoon.

**Friday, May 17, 1889****page**

1. There is less sickness throughout the city than at any time this year. At *St. Francis* hospital there are 18 patients and at the Benevolent home only seven cases of sickness.

**Saturday, June 15, 1889****page**

1. Note from Sisters of Mercy (i.e., *St. Francis* hospital) saying the number of free patients during the last six months has drawn on their limited funds and asking for the generous charity of the citizens of Wichita.

**Tuesday, June 25, 1889****page**

4. The *St. Francis* hospital is said to show a preference to poor paupers. At present it is crowded with poor patients while those with money are turned away.

**Wednesday, June 26, 1889****page**

1. The Sisters of Mercy at *St. Francis* hospital will appeal publicly, for the first time, to the generous public for substantial assistance. Owing to the great number of charity patients, their financial condition is at present at its lowest ebb.

**Tuesday, July 2, 1889****page**

1. Picnic at Riverside park to be held July 4 for the benefit of *St. Francis* hospital. Prices are: coffee 5¢, ice cream and cake 15¢, and sandwiches 5¢.

**Wednesday, December 4, 1889****page**

2. City physician reports the number of paupers in local hospitals. *St. Francis* hospital 10, Wichita hospital 10, City hospital 7.

**Monday, September 8, 1890****page**

4. The three hospitals in Wichita are all on one street -- 4th avenue -- two north of Douglas and one south, and many people get them confused. The City hospital is farthest north and is the newest in the city. It is at 1105 North 4th and is under the auspices of the homeopathic branch of the medical profession. Next is *St. Francis* at 957 North 4th. The third, Wichita hospital, formerly called the Benevolent home, is the oldest and is at 1021 South 4th and is the largest of the three hospitals. ¶ In addition, the Children's Home on Ohio street, is an important institution and cares for one to two dozen infants who are orphans or neglected or abused. On September 1 the hospitals had 27 patients in all -- 7 at City, 13 at *St. Francis*, and 7 at the Wichita.

**Wednesday, March 6, 1895****page**

5. The *St. Francis* hospital and the City hospital have been voted \$900 a year each by the legislature.

**Tuesday, August 24, 1897****page**

5. Work started yesterday on excavation for a new addition to *St. Francis* hospital. To be built on the south side of the main building, to be 36 by 43 feet and two stories high. Cost about \$5,000. To be completed about November 1st. Details.

**Wednesday, November 17, 1897****page**

5. The *St. Francis* hospital addition has been completed.

**Monday, March 28, 1898****page**

8. A chapel, 43 by 22 feet, is being added to the north end of *St. Francis* Hospital. The material will be brick and stone. N. Hartle is doing the work.

**Saturday, September 17, 1898****page**

5. Doctors J. W. Shultz and S. P. Thomas have purchased the Burleigh property just north of *St. Francis* hospital and will establish a hospital there.

**Monday, April 10, 1899****page**

5. Bishop Hennessy yesterday dedicated the new addition to *St. Francis* hospital and gave some history of the institution. Says half a dozen sisters at his invitation nine years ago

took charge of a rented building to take care of the sick in Wichita. Today they not only own the original building but also two large additions and a chapel, and the entire square of ground of which the original property formed the northeast corner. These improvements have cost in excess of \$50,000. Details.

**Tuesday, June 20, 1899****page**

6. Mr. J. L. Bowdish, a resident of North 4th avenue has suggested that the name of that street north of Douglas be changed to *St. Francis* street as a tribute to the great hospital of that name which has so much improved the north part of it.

**Saturday, August 11, 1900****page**

5. *St. Francis* hospital is considering building an addition at the south end which will about double its capacity. Details.

**Saturday, July 13, 1901****page**

13. Long article describing Wichita's hospitals. Says a large addition is to be built on the west side of *St. Francis* hospital next fall. Details ("Wichita Is Proud").

**Monday, February 3, 1902****page**

5. Plans for the new wing at *St. Francis* hospital are now being drawn by architect Dumont. The new addition will extend from the present building to Emporia avenue.

**Saturday, August 2, 1902****page**

5. The new addition to *St. Francis* hospital is nearly completed and will probably be ready for occupancy by November. The new part is at the back of the old hospital and reaches almost to Emporia avenue. It is four stories high, 120 feet By 40 feet, and wire porches extend the full length of the building on each floor on the south and west sides. It will contain 45 rooms, several wards and an operating room. Cost about \$25,000. It is only slightly smaller than the main hospital, which is 170 by 47 feet and has 50 rooms. Details.

**Saturday, January 31, 1903****page**

10. Article reports 770 patients were treated at *St. Francis* hospital in 1902. Of these 385 were treated free of charge. The third addition to the hospital—a chapel and a modern steam laundry—was erected in 1902.

**Tuesday, March 3, 1908**

**page**

1. Article says the *St. Francis* hospital plans to build a new chapel. Plans have been drawn by Architect Masqueray, of St. Paul, who also drew the new plans for the cathedral. To cost \$10,000. The present chapel is located at the northwest corner of the original building, near the sidewalk and was built seven years ago. The new one may be built on the south of the present main building and face Emporia avenue, which ground is owned by the sisters.

**Saturday, March 21, 1908****page**

1. Report of plan for a large addition to *St. Francis* hospital. Details.

**Wednesday, April 22, 1908****page**

7. C. W. Terry, architect, is working on plans for the addition to *St. Francis* hospital and will have them in the hands of the contractors within a week. Addition to be three stories above the basement and have new operating rooms. It will be built on the south end of the present building. A handsome new chapel 30 by 72 feet will be located in the rear of the addition.

**Thursday, June 25, 1908****page**

6. Excavation for the new addition to *St. Francis* hospital has been completed and workmen are now laying foundations.

**Thursday, November 19, 1908****page**

5. Drawing of the new addition now being finished at *St. Francis* hospital. It is 42 by 62 feet, and in the rear is seen the spire of the new chapel, which is 47 by 53 feet.

**Wednesday, June 2, 1909****page**

10. A six foot high statue of *St. Francis* will soon be placed in the cupola of the *St. Francis* Hospital. It is cast of iron and painted in natural colors, representing *St. Francis* clad in his brown tunic girt with a cord. Details.

**Tuesday, March 18, 1913****page**

5. Preliminary plans are being prepared by Kansas City architect Henry F. Holt for a 40 room, three story addition to *St. Francis* Hospital, to be built fronting on Emporia Avenue at cost of \$25,000 to \$40,000.

**Thursday, August 28, 1913****page**

Special Southwest Development Number. One hundred pages tabloid size paper boosting Wichita.

84. Photograph of Wesley Hospital. Article about Wichita hospitals.

85. Photograph of *St. Francis* Hospital with advertisement.

### **Wednesday, March 25, 1914**

#### **page**

8. Plans will be finished April 15 for the \$30,000 Emporia Avenue addition to *St. Francis* Hospital. Architect is C. W. Terry. To be three stories, brick, and front 115 feet on Emporia and extend back 91 feet to the main building. Will have 75 rooms.

### **Thursday, May 21, 1914**

#### **page**

3. Excavation for the *St. Francis* Hospital's \$70,000 Emporia Avenue addition will be finished this week and erection of the building will be started. It is to be ready for occupancy by November 1.

### **Friday, July 3, 1914**

#### **page**

3. The new addition to *St. Francis* Hospital extending to Emporia Avenue will be finished about November 1, according to Architect C. W. Terry. ¶ The next addition to *St. Francis*, in two or three years, will replace the original section of the building extending from the *St. Francis* Avenue entrance north to 9th Street. This is now used largely as a dormitory and the old chapel also, which has been replaced by a newer one.

### **Saturday, October 10, 1914**

#### **page**

Special Section B, C for the International Dry Farming Congress and 4th Annual Wichita Fair and Exposition. Many special articles.

B-10. Photograph of *St. Francis* Hospital.

### **Friday, January 8, 1915**

#### **page**

5. Managers of *St. Francis* Hospital said today they expect to occupy the new Emporia Avenue annex within the next week.

### **Wednesday, August 25, 1915**

#### **page**

8. The new \$75,000 addition to *St. Francis* Hospital was dedicated by Bishop Hennessy this morning. Details.

### **Thursday, March 9, 1916**

**page**

10. Another big addition for *St. Francis* Hospital has been decided on and approved by Bishop Hennessy. The entire original part of the building will be torn down to make room for a north wing which will have from 40 to 50 rooms and will be three stories high to conform with the newer *St. Francis* Avenue facade of the building to the south. Long article with some history of the hospital. ("Big Addition To The *St. Francis*")

**Saturday, September 30, 1916****page**

14. Photograph of Emporia wing of *St. Francis* Hospital. Long article with details.

**Wednesday, January 31, 1917****page**

7. One hundred new beds have been placed in the new wing of the *St. Francis* Hospital during the past two weeks. Cost of the new wing and equipment was \$75,000. The hospital now has 309 beds. Details.

**Tuesday, February 18, 1919****page**

5. Ed Forsblom, architect, has plans about ready for a bridge over 9th Street at *St. Francis* hospital to connect the heating plant and laundry with the hospital building. A 36 by 36 foot three story addition to the hospital will also be built. Total cost about \$13,000.

**Thursday, May 6, 1920****page**

2. The first nursing class ever graduated from *St. Francis* Hospital will hold commencement exercises this evening at the Cathedral School, Topeka and Central. Seventeen young women are in the class, which has been in training for three years (names listed). Details.

**Friday, January 28, 1921****page**

5. Contract was let yesterday to Harry I. Ellis Construction Company for erection of the new \$150,000 nurses' home at *St. Francis* Hospital. To be 120 by 68 feet, on the northeast corner of 9th and *St. Francis*, facing on 9th Street, four stories, brick, with Bedford stone trim. Building to have 63 rooms. Architect is Ed Frosblom, and style of architecture is colonial. Details.

**Friday, December 16, 1921****page**

10. The new four story brick nurse's home at *St. Francis* Hospital will be dedicated Sunday afternoon. Report December 19, page 10.

**Sunday, April 9, 1922****page**

## Magazine

4. Article with some early history of *St. Francis* Hospital and photograph of medical staff: (apparently taken from an article in *Hospital Progress*, official magazine of the Catholic Hospital Association).

**Thursday, October 7, 1926****page**

8. *St. Francis* Hospital will build an addition within the next year at the northwest corner of 9th and *St. Francis*. There is a large frame house on the corner which will probably be removed for the addition.

**Sunday, October 31, 1926****page**

- C-15. Article about *St. Francis* Hospital. Says 56,862 persons have been cared for there in 37 years, of which one-fifth were treated entirely without charge. The school of nursing was opened in June 1917. Details.

**Sunday, March 25, 1928****page**

10. *St. Francis* Hospital is planning additions and improvements to cost approximately \$400,000. Plans are now being drawn. The two additions will be to the west wing of the hospital, one on the north and one on the south, plus addition of a fourth floor to the old structure, making the west wing conform in a general way with the original building or east wing. Details.

**Sunday, August 5, 1928****page**

15. Contract has been let for the new four story addition to *St. Francis* Hospital to a Wisconsin firm. To make room, the chaplain's house at 935 North *St. Francis* (sic -- Emporia ?), formerly the Charles East Lahey residence but since purchased as a home for the chaplain, is to be removed.

**Sunday, January 13, 1929****page**

10. Long article with details of the enlargement and remodeling of *St. Francis* Hospital now under way at cost of about \$500,000. Two new wings will be built on Emporia Street side and the present Emporia side will be remodeled and strengthened with steel and concrete beams and made fireproof. Details. Drawing.

**Sunday, November 3, 1929****page**



- C-10. *St. Francis* Hospital's new wing on Emporia Avenue is nearing completion. Photograph of entrance and building.

**Friday, January 31, 1930**

**page**

20. The new \$500,000 addition to *St. Francis* Hospital will be dedicated February 11. Details.

**Monday, February 10, 1930**

**page**

16. Article about plans for dedication of new *St. Francis* Hospital addition by Bishop Schwertner tomorrow. Details. Report on February 11, page 5.

**Monday, April 27, 1931**

**page**

8. Bishop J. Henry Tihen recently resigned his post as Bishop of Denver and will return to Wichita after an absence of 20 years to make his home at *St. Francis* Hospital

**Saturday, March 5, 1938**

**page**

12. Report that Bishop J. Henry Tihen, age 76, suffered a stroke Thursday morning and is in critical condition and semi-conscious at *St. Francis* Hospital. Details. Photograph.

**Sunday, November 19, 1939**

**page**

- B-11. Photograph of Emporia Avenue building of *St. Francis* Hospital. Hospital recently celebrated its Golden Jubilee.

**Sunday, May 11, 1941**

**page**

- D1-6. Special Section on Wichita hospitals, with articles giving history, photos, details, etc.
- D-4. Article about new addition to *St. Francis* nurses' home, which is nearing completion. The present building, to the east, was constructed in 1921 at cost of \$175,000. The new five story addition adjacent to it on the west is costing \$200,000 and will increase housing capacity from 85 to about 130 nurses. Ground for it was broken September 24 last year. Photo. (Photo appears to show new north wing of main hospital building.)

**Sunday, November 23, 1941**

**page**

- B-8. New six story addition to nurses home at *St. Francis* Hospital is to be dedicated this afternoon. Details. Photo.