

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): Van Arsdale, William (W. O.)

Wichita Beacon

Thursday, May 27, 1909

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6. Nineteen men have subscribed \$100,000 toward building an interurban line north and northwest from Wichita to Valley Center, Sedgwick, Norton, Halstead, Burrton, and Hutchinson. Details. The company is to be called the National Interurban Railway Company. Subscribers are listed -- including \$20,000 each from W. G. Van Arsdale and George Theis.

Friday, June 11, 1909

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12. The Arkansas Valley Interurban Railway company has elected the following board of directors: W. O. Van Arsdale, George Theis, Jr., R. L. Holmes, Charles G. Cohn, Charles H. Smyth, E. T. Battin, R. B. Campbell, D. C. Rounds, and O. A. Boyle. ¶ Officers are W. O. Van Arsdale, president; George Theis, Jr., vice-president; A. Stone, secretary; E. T. Battin, treasurer. ¶ Negotiations are pending to secure a chief engineer.

Saturday, October 15, 1910

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Section E -- "The New Wichita"

- E-3. Photograph and biography of William O. Van Arsdale. Photograph of Thomas G. Fitch.

Saturday, November 19, 1910

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6. Photograph of William O. Van Arsdale, president of the Arkansas Valley Interurban road.

Wednesday, July 23, 1913

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5. Directors of the Arkansas Valley Interurban Railway Company yesterday elected a new president, George Theis, Jr., replacing W. O. Van Arsdale, who has held the position for three years. Mr. Theis owns a larger block of stock than any other stockholder and has been very active in promoting the businesses. ¶ O. A. Boyle will be vice-president and general manager and A. Stone, secretary. Other directors listed -- also the officers and directors of the Interurban Construction Company.

Friday, February 18, 1916**page**

6. Report of death yesterday of Mrs. W. O. Van Arsdale at age 58. She and husband married December 27, 1882 at Peoria, Illinois. Survived by two sons, J. H. Van Arsdale, of Wichita, and Leone B. Van Arsdale, and one daughter, Miss Louise Van Arsdale.

Tuesday, December 28, 1920**page**

2. Half a dozen Wichita men have purchased Walnut grove from the Van Arsdale Brokerage Company for a private summer camping ground and site for summer homes. They include Fred Farmer, O. S. Shirk, T. B. Richardson, Harry Lawrence, H. D. Baker, and Dr. Will A. Carter. The tract comprises 17 acres, lying just south of 39th Street.

Monday, September 19, 1921**page**

8. W. O. Van Arsdale is having plans drawn by Lorentz Schmidt and Company for \$45,000 house to be built at northwest corner of 1st and Broadview. Details.

Sunday, January 1, 1922**page**

- C-8. Article lists major new buildings erected last year in Wichita or under construction. Also photographs. ¶ Includes among others:

Orpheum Theater	\$700,000
Miller Theater	600,000
Hotel Broadview	400,000
Fourth National Bank addition	500,000
First Methodist Episcopal church	200,000
Park School	120,000
Harry Street School	115,000
United Congregational Church	115,000
St. Francis Hospital Nurses Home	150,000
Mt. Carmel Girls' Dormitory	150,000
Residences:	
Warren E. Brown	\$200,000
Harry Dockum	35,000
R. D. W. Clapp	75,000

Will G. Price	45,000
W. O. Van Arsdale	50,000
Dr. R. W. Hissem	25,000

¶ Total building permits issued in 1921 set record at \$7,388,109. Previous record was \$4,849,831 in 1919. 1918 was \$3,064,731 and 1920 was \$3,806,503. ¶ Photographs include Orpheum building, United Congregational Church, Miller theater.

Sunday, March 26, 1922

page

Magazine

4. Drawing of new W. O. Van Arsdale residence at 1st and Broadview. Lorentz Schmidt, Architect. Details.

Monday, August 28, 1922

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5. Report of death yesterday of John Henry Van Arsdale, age 90, at his home at 1540 Park Place. He was a retired rancher and had been a Wichita resident for 14 years. He was father of W. O. Van Arsdale, broker, and C. G. Van Arsdale, insurance writer, both of Wichita. Also survived by wife and three daughters (named -- all of Peoria, Illinois). To be buried in Peoria.

Sunday, October 26, 1924

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- 4-A. Daughters of the American Revolution plans to mark the spot in Sedgwick Company where historic Indian treaties were signed in 1865. Said to be about four miles up the Little Arkansas near the residence of E. P. Thompson later. This residence was in northeast quarter of Section 18, Township 26, Range 1 East on land now owned by W. O. Van Arsdale.

Thursday, November 6, 1924

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6. Report of death this morning of W. O. Van Arsdale at his home, 205 Broadview, at age 66. Born in Mason County, Illinois, in 1858. Came to Burrton, Kansas in 1883 and to Wichita a few years later. Survived by wife, May, two sons, J. H. and Leon B., both associated with him in business, and one daughter, Louise. Photo.

Saturday, February 28, 1925

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7. Mr. T. M. Deal has purchased the home of Mrs. W. O. Van Arsdale, at 205 Broadview, on northwest corner of 1st and Broadview. The Italian style home, designed by Schmidt, Boucher and Overend, architects, cost \$60,000 to build nearly four years ago. Mr. Deal now lives at 1247 North Emporia and is president of the Deal Lumber Company.

Thursday, October 13, 1938

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15. Van Arsdale Motors, Inc., yesterday moved into its new and larger quarters at 1700 East Douglas, one block east of their former quarters at 1600 East Douglas. Van Arsdale is the local distributor of Graham and Willys motor cars. The new quarters were formerly occupied by the Studebaker agency. Photograph.

**SELECTIONS FROM DR. EDWARD N. TIHEN'S NOTES FROM WICHITA NEWSPAPERS
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Keywords: Van Arsdale, William (W. O.)

Wichita Eagle

Thursday, May 19, 1910

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9. A ceremony is to be held today inaugurating the first track laying of the Arkansas Valley Interurban Railway company. The mayors of Wichita and Newton will attend. Mayor C. L. Davidson and President W. O. Van Arsdale of the interurban will drive the first silver spikes. The ceremony will be held at 23rd street and North Main.

Wednesday, December 20, 1911

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5. Effective this morning passengers and freight service is being inaugurated between Halstead and Wichita by the Arkansas Valley Interurban railway. The distance from Halstead to the junction with the main line is five miles, making it only 28½ miles from Wichita to Halstead. ¶ The point at which the Halstead line connects with the main line of the Interurban is called Van Arsdale, in honor of W. O. Van Arsdale, president of the Arkansas Valley Interurban Railway company, and a new town will be started there. ¶ Hourly passenger service is being established on the Halstead line. The first car will leave Halstead at 6:30 this morning and then will connect every hour with each through cart from Wichita to Newton. The first passenger car out of Wichita leaves at 5:30 a.m. ¶ Two daily through freight cars will be operated between Wichita and Halstead, supplying both Halstead and Newton. The first leaves Wichita at 7:00 a.m. and arrives in Halstead about 9:30. The second leaves Wichita at 1:00 p.m. and arrives in Halstead about 3:30. ¶ The completion of the Halstead line was celebrated yesterday afternoon, when the first through car was operated between Wichita and Halstead. Car No. 2 left Wichita at 3:00 p.m. with Interurban officials and newspaper men and arrived at Halstead at 4:40. Albert Fowler was motorman and J. E. McCluer, conductor. On the trip the car traveled over portions of the line at from 40 to 43 miles an hour. Returning the car left at 5:00 p.m. and arrived in Wichita at 6:12, covering the 28½ miles in one hour and twelve minutes. Parts of the return trip were made at 50 to 55 mph. ¶ Officials were pleased with the condition of the new track, which is comparatively smooth. A portion of it has not yet been surfaced. The five mile stretch is practically straight and follows the county seat (sic) line. There are seven bridges along the line, one crossing East Emma creek, another over West Emma creek, and a third spanning the Little Arkansas river.

Wednesday, July 23, 1913**page**

5. George J. Theis, Jr., local financier and stock broker, was elected president of the Arkansas Valley Interurban Railway company at the annual meeting of stockholders yesterday. W. O. Van Arsdale, who has held the presidency since the road was built in 1910, stated that he would not accept the office for another year. He stated that since Mr. Theis owned a majority of the stock, it was right that he should hold the presidency. ¶ Article lists the officers and directors of the two companies involved. The Arkansas Valley Interurban Railway company and the Interurban Construction company.

Saturday, August 2, 1913**page**

2. Children from the Masonic Home were taken for a launch ride last night at the Riverside Boat company in the launch "Bessie May."
5. What is declared to be the first rural electric circuit in Kansas, if not in the southwest, is now being built by the Kansas Gas and Electric company from the Van Arsdale power station on the interurban line to supply the farms of eight progressive Sedgwick County farmers with electricity. ¶ The line will be exactly two and a half miles long.

Friday, February 18, 1916**page**

5. Death notice of Mrs. W. O. Van Arsdale. Survived by husband, two sons J. H. Van Arsdale of South Fern avenue and Leone (sic) B. Van Arsdale, just recently married, and one daughter, Louise, age ten. Also one sister in Peoria, Illinois and two brothers, A. N. Bontz, 1134 North Emporia in Wichita, and John Bontz of Peoria, Illinois.

Saturday, October 14, 1922**page**

1. The Arkansas Valley Interurban station at Van Arsdale, the junction point between the main line and the Newton branch, was completely destroyed by fire last Friday. Origin unknown.

Friday, October 27, 1922**page**

7. Contract let for rebuilding the Arkansas Valley Interurban station at Van Arsdale, which burned recently. The same company, Dodson Cement Products company of Wichita, also has a contract to replace all other stations in the future using concrete board construction. The stations will be standardized and will be finished with gabled roofs and fire retarding shingles.

Thursday, November 6, 1924**page**

1. Article reports death of W. O. Van Arsdale at age 65. Survived by wife May, two sons, J. H. and Leon B., and a daughter, Louise.

Monday, April 19, 1927**page**

1. Several outbuildings and the small interurban station at Van Arsdale, five miles south of Newton, were wrecked at 1:00 p.m. yesterday by a baby "twister." Parts of the station were carried for a quarter of a mile.

Thursday, April 2, 1964**page**

- 6C. Report of death yesterday of Harry Van Arsdale, 79, of 144 South Brookside. Born at Burrton, Kansas September 29, 1884 and had lived in the Wichita area 50 years. Was president of van Arsdale and Osborne Brokerage Company. Survived by widow, Maude, a son, William O., 12630 East Lynne, a daughter, Mrs. Jacquelyn Lightner, Colorado Springs, and five grandchildren. Burial in Maple Grove Cemetery.

Thursday, October 19, 1967**page**

- 6C. Report of death yesterday of Mrs. May J. Van Arsdale, 83, of 1457 North Vassar, daughter of G. W. C. Jones, probate judge in the early 1900s, and widow of W. O. Van Arsdale, insurance broker here in the 1920s. Survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Louise Bartlebaugh, Forty Fort, Pennsylvania, and a brother, Sidney Y. Jones, of Glendale, California. Burial at Maple Grove Cemetery.

Wichita Eagle-Beacon**Tuesday, June 13, 1978****page**

- 7C. Report of death of Maude G. (Mrs. J. Harry) Van Arsdale, 93, of 4001 East Douglas. Survived by son, W. O., and daughter, Jacquelyn Lightner, both of Wichita, and three sisters (named — all of Hutchinson). Burial at Maple Grove Cemetery.