

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): Veterans Memorials/Monuments

Wichita Eagle

Saturday, February 20, 1897

page

5. Article about a pavilion proposed by the Womens' Relief Corps for the soldiers' circle in the cemetery. Says Mrs. Buckwalter is one of those working on the project.

Wichita Beacon

Wednesday, May 29, 1901

page

5. The pavilion in Maple Grove cemetery which was built by the Women's Relief Corps at a cost of \$500, will be dedicated tomorrow to the surviving veterans of the civil war.

Wichita Eagle

Tuesday, August 8, 1911

page

8. The county commissioners yesterday voted a tax levy of 23/100 mill to raise \$25,000 for a monument in recognition of the soldiers of the Civil War. ¶ It is to be erected on the court house lawn at the south side and in it will be placed flags and souvenirs of the war. It will be surmounted by statuary representing artillery, infantry, cavalry, and navy, each figure seven feet high. Above the will be a statue of Peace, ten feet high. The entire monument will stand 50 feet high, and the building serving as a pedestal will be fourteen feet square. ¶ The monument is being designed by E. M. Viquesney of Marietta, Georgia.

Wichita Eagle

Tuesday, January 23, 1912

page

8. County commission yesterday let contract for the Soldiers' monument to the Woodbury Granite company of Hardwick, Vermont for \$21,500. It will be constructed of Hardwick special white granite according to the plans prepared by E. M. Viquesney of Marietta, Georgia.

Wichita Eagle

Sunday, March 24, 1912**page**

21. Diagram of proposed site for soldiers monument just west of Waco and Douglas. ¶ Shows double track street car line to just east of street car bridge across Arkansas river and double track line turning north on Waco from Douglas. ¶ Also proposes putting a dam in Big river to raise water level past Douglas avenue bridge and the monument.

Wichita Eagle**Tuesday, April 23, 1912****page**

9. By action of the county commissioners yesterday it was determined to build the soldiers' and sailors' monument south of the court house, midway between Main and Market streets. The contract for building the monument was signed yesterday and awarded to the Woodbury Granite company of New Hampshire.

Wichita Eagle**Tuesday, May 28, 1912****page**

5. Contract awarded yesterday for foundation of the soldiers' memorial monument for \$927.75 -- to be completed by July 1.

Wichita Eagle**Sunday, October 13, 1912****page**

19. Granite for the base of the Soldiers and Sailors monument south of the courthouse, was shipped from Vermont last week. The monument arrived last week. The work will probably be completed by the middle of November.

Wichita Eagle**Thursday, October 24, 1912****page**

9. Work on the foundation for the sailors and soldiers monument will begin today.

Wichita Eagle**Saturday, October 26, 1912****page**

14. Plan dedication of Sedgwick county Old Soldiers monument, south of court house, on May 1, 1913. It is now under construction and will probably be completed in two months.

Wichita Eagle**Thursday, January 23, 1913****page**

6. Article regarding progress on building the solders' and sailors' monument on the court

house square. The base was completed yesterday and the statues will soon be placed.

Wichita Eagle

Sunday, January 26, 1913

page

12. The Statue of Liberty on Soldiers' and Sailors' monument was incorrectly installed so that it faces the court house instead of Central avenue. After discussion, the county commissioners ordered yesterday that the bolts holding the statue in place be cut and that the figure be rotated around on its retaining rod and new holes drilled in the granite so new bolts can be placed. This work may take three days and add \$100 to the contract price.

Wichita Eagle

Friday, February 21, 1913

page

7. The soldiers memorial (on Court House lawn) having been completed and accepted by the county commissioners, the secretary of Memorial Association gives report of total cost. ¶ Building paid for by 23/100 mill levy by Sedgwick County commissioners in 1911. ¶ Design and plans for the memorial drawn by E. M. Viquesney of Americus, Georgia. ¶ Contract for monument proper awarded to low bidder, Woodbury Granite Company of Hardwick, Vermont. ¶ The four figures of soldiers were designed and cast by Frederick C. Hibbard, a rising young artist of Chicago. The figure on top, representing Peace, was furnished by W. H. Mullins of Salem, Ohio. The foundation was built under separate contract by J. W. Burton of Wichita. ¶ Total cost:

Foundation	\$969.11
Monument, including bronze work	\$20,250.00
Architect fees	\$1250.00
Shelves for inside cases	\$45.00
Miscellaneous	<u>\$46.78</u>
Total	\$22,560.89

¶Article shows photograph.

Wichita Eagle

Sunday, March 9, 1913

page

13. Article saying the new Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument is to be dedicated on June 14, Flag Day.

Wichita Eagle

Saturday, June 14, 1913

page

12. Ceremonies attending the unveiling of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument to be held this morning. Details.

Wichita Eagle
Sunday, June 15, 1913

page

6. Article reports on ceremonies at unveiling of Soldiers' and Sailors' monument yesterday.

Wichita Eagle
Sunday, April 25, 1915

page

5. The treasure room in Soldiers and Sailors monument in court house square is too damp, so local Grand Army of the Republic posts have decided to move the paper records and relics from there to the new Carnegie library.

Wichita Beacon
Tuesday, January 7, 1919

page

4. The war memorial arch to be erected at Lawrence and Douglas is to be 40 feet high and have a span of 70 feet. Architect is Don Schuler. To cost four to five thousand dollars. Details.

Wichita Eagle
Sunday, February 20, 1921

page

4. The Lawton Post of the Spanish War Veterans are seeking to raise \$5000 here to have a monument "The Hiker" erected in Wichita. Photograph.

Wichita Beacon
Saturday, April 30, 1921

page

4. A site in Highland cemetery where veterans of the Civil War and their wives are buried will be dedicated by the Eggleston Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and Caroline Harrison Circle, Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, at 3:00 p.m. Wednesday. ¶ A special service will be read at the dedication which was written by Rev. William A. Bosworth of Wichita, who is national chaplain of the Grand Army of the Republic. ¶ The ground to be dedicated is indicated by four corner posts of concrete surmounted by cannon balls and contains a memorial stone of dark granite with inscriptions to Eggleston Post and Caroline Harrison Circle, a large cannon directed by the government, a flag pole, and five benches of concrete. ("Will Dedicate Plot Where Hero Dead Take Final Rest")

Wichita Beacon
Saturday, May 7, 1921
page

4. Members of the Eggleston Post of the Grand Army of the Republic and Caroline Harrison Circle dedicated the section in Highland cemetery set aside for the burial of Civil War veterans Thursday afternoon. A memorial monument of dark granite has been erected. Details.

Wichita Beacon**Sunday, November 27, 1921****page**

- C-1. Drawing of large Soldier Memorial project in block between City Library and Forum. Article with details. (Never built.)

Wichita Eagle**Friday, May 14, 1926****page**

7. Public unveiling of the statue, "The Hiker," now being erected in Riverside park by the local post of the United Spanish War Veterans, will be held on Memorial day.

Wichita Eagle**Thursday, May 27, 1926****page**

5. The Spanish war veteran's have decided to place their monument, "The Hiker," in the triangle at the corner of Nims and Murdock, facing west, it was announced yesterday. Workmen have poured the concrete base.

Wichita Eagle**Thursday, August 12, 1926****page**

8. Article says consideration being given to moving the Soldiers and Sailors' monument from court house grounds to Riverside park, but most of the old soldiers are against moving it.

Wichita Eagle**Saturday, December 10, 1932****page**

5. American Legion post here has asked city commission to change name of Harding boulevard, now being built by the unemployed, to Bleckley Drive, in honor of Lt. Erwin R. Bleckley, Wichita youth shot down in the World War as he carried supplies by airplane to the lost battalion.

Wichita Eagle**Thursday, July 13, 1933****page**

5. Article says single row of trees was planted along Bleckley drive from Kellogg to Central and a double row for three miles along George Washington boulevard last

winter as a federal relief project. Details. They are American elms of the vase or upright type grown by the park board from seedlings set out about eight years ago in the park board nurseries.

Wichita Eagle
Sunday, July 7, 1946
page

2. A blue granite memorial to colored veterans of World War II is to be dedicated in McKinley Park this afternoon. It stands about eight feet high. Details. Ad with photo on page nine. Further report July 8, on page five.

Wichita Eagle
Saturday, May 31, 1958
page

- 5A. The new Veterans Memorial Monument in Old Mission Cemetery was dedicated yesterday. Details. Photo on page 7A.

From Wichita Eagle Archives

<http://www.wichitaeagle.com/archives/wichitasearch.htm>

Published on 05/21/1987, Article 105 of 112 found.

WICHITA STREET NAMED FOR WORLD WAR I HERO

In ceremonies at the Wichita Forum, on March 4, 1923, Mr. and Mrs. E.E. Bleckley received the Medal of Honor, awarded posthumously to their son, Lt. Erwin R. Bleckley of Wichita.

The citation read that Lt. Bleckley had demonstrated the highest possible contempt of personal danger and dedication to duty, courage and valor."

(WICHITA EAGLE-BEACON
, 401 words.)

Published on 11/11/1988, Article 94 of 112 found.

JAMES JABARA HONORED AT LAST

VETERANS Day is the ideal time to honor one who helped make the American fighting forces the pride of the free world: Col. James J. Jabara of Wichita, Korean War hero and America's first jet ace. The honor due his name has come in increments: first, the naming of Col. James Jabara Airport for him in 1979; the dedication of the airport and of a bas-relief sculpture of the fighter pilot in 1984; and now, today, the dedication of the Col. James Jabara Memorial Park at the new south entrance to the Jabara A

(WICHITA EAGLE-BEACON
, 364 words.)

Published on 11/12/1988, Article 92 of 112 found.

PARK DEDICATED TO ACE'S QUALITIES

A strong prairie wind was stretching the fabric of an American flag, and a poker-faced Air Force soldier was straining to keep it aloft without changing his disciplined posture.

A somber group of Kansans was gathered around the flag Friday, paying homage to one of the state's most illustrious war heroes.

(WICHITA EAGLE-BEACON
, 459 words.)

Published on 10/21/1989, Article 88 of 112 found.

A DREAM
INDIAN WAR MEMORIAL WOULD BE NATIONAL
MONUMENT IN WICHITA

Charlie Harjo had a dream.

Mr. Harjo, president of the Wichita Intertribal Warrior Society, was sleeping one night when it came to him in a vision: "I saw a traditional Indian, accompanied by Indians who were from World War I, World War II and Korean War veterans. They were travelling through time to the Vietnam War soldier . . . " (THE WICHITA EAGLE
, 341 words.)

Published on 11/30/1989, Article 87 of 112 found.

INDIAN WAR MEMORIAL GAINS SUPPORT OF CITY
COUNCIL

A dream might become reality for American Indian war veterans now that the City Council has voiced support for an Indian war memorial.

Members of the Wichita Intertribal Warrior Society asked City Council members last week for permission to build a national war memorial on a hill northwest of the Mid-America All-Indian Center. The council approved the idea, marking the first step in clearing the hurdles for the monument's construction, expected to be completed by Veterans Day 1992.

(THE WICHITA EAGLE
, 252 words.)

Published on 12/10/1995, Article 51 of 112 found.

A TRIBUTE TO MARINES -- PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

In bright sunshine and bitter cold, the friends, the mothers and fathers, the sons and daughters, the brothers and sisters and the grandsons and granddaughters of U.S. Marines gathered to give tribute to their loved ones and to the Corps as the Marine Memorial was unveiled in Veterans Memorial Park in Wichita Saturday afternoon. "If that wind had been like it was yesterday, I don't know if I could have braved it in spite of how much I know it would mean to Don for me to be here," said Jan Cooper, w

(THE WICHITA EAGLE , 598 words.)

Published on 12/18/1995, Article 50 of 112 found.

FIX MONUMENT

Recently, a letter written by LTC Melvin Jacobs appeared in the Wichita Eagle reminding the Wichita community of the exploits of 2nd Lt. Edwin Russell Bleckley. How many Wichitans are aware of the monument that is located on the north side of Kellogg intersecting Bleckley Street. This memorial is in honor of Lt. Bleckley, a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient.

(THE WICHITA EAGLE , 200 words.)

Published on 05/06/1997, Article 38 of 112 found.

WWI MEMORIAL WILL SOON BE MORE EASILY ACCESSIBLE

* MONUMENT TO WORLD WAR I FLYING ACE WILL
BE MOVED TO THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION
HOSPITAL.

An all-but-forgotten World War I memorial is about to get a new life - with a little help from the city of Wichita and a handful of veterans.

The Bleckley War Memorial, named after Lt. Erwin Bleckley, is scheduled to be relocated this summer to the grounds of the Veterans Administration hospital along east Kellogg.

(THE WICHITA EAGLE , 533 words.)

Published on 11/09/1997, Article 33 of 112 found.

HONORING HEROES
A MONUMENT TO WICHITAN ERWIN BLECKLEY, A
MEDAL OF HONOR WINNER, WILL BE
REDEDICATED ON TUESDAY, VETERANS DAY.

The first time the Wichitan's combat plane flew low to drop food and supplies to a cut-off American battalion, enemy troops set up a violent ground fire.

But when the Wichitan, 2nd Lt. Erwin Bleckley, made a second pass, he had his pilot zoom in even lower so he could aim more accurately. That time, machine gun bullets pierced the cloth fabric of the plane and mortally wounded both occupants.

Published on 12/04/1997, Article 31 of 112 found.

PEARL HARBOR VETERANS HONORED
A MONUMENT WILL BE UNVEILED SUNDAY ON THE
ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATTACK.

The men, women and children who did not live to share their memories of one of the blackest days in American history - Dec. 7, 1941 - will be in the spotlight when a monument in their honor is unveiled at Veterans Memorial Park in Wichita at 11 a.m. Sunday.

Members of the Wichita Chapter of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association raised the money for the construction of the 6-foot-tall polished granite monument, which is set on a concrete base on the banks of the Arkansas River at the south end of V

(THE WICHITA EAGLE , 340 words.)

Published on 12/08/1997, Article 30 of 112 found.

MONUMENT DEDICATED TO VETERANS OF PEARL HARBOR

A cold, raw wind churned up waves on the Arkansas River and spectators huddled together, hands driven deep into pockets as they paid tribute at the appointed hour and minute - 10:55 a.m. Sunday - to the memory of Pearl Harbor.

Among the 60 or so heads on the riverbank were a scattered few covered with the distinctive white hats of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, their embroidered lettering offering mute but poignant reminders: USS Medusa, USS Nevada, USS Maryland, Schofield Barracks.

(THE WICHITA EAGLE , 427 words.)

Published on 07/25/1998, Article 24 of 112 found.

KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL TAKING SHAPE * CEREMONY MONDAY NIGHT WILL MARK 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CEASE-FIRE IN THE CONFLICT.

A big chunk of the bronze work for the long-delayed Korean War Memorial in Veterans Memorial Park will begin within the next month.

Organizers have money to complete about half of the \$300,000 project. They will give a progress report Monday as part of a ceremony that commemorates the 45th anniversary of the cease-fire that ended the Korean conflict July 27, 1953.

(THE WICHITA EAGLE , 624 words.)

Published on 05/23/1999, Article 20 of 112 found.

KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL TAKING SHAPE BRICK "WALK OF HONOR" HAS BEEN LAID AND LIGHTING HAS BEEN INSTALLED BY VOLUNTEER UNION WORKERS

The Kansas Korean War Memorial in Veterans Memorial Park in Wichita is starting to look like a memorial.

The \$300,000 project, undertaken almost three years ago, has progressed very slowly as funds have trickled in.

(THE WICHITA EAGLE , 473 words.)