

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.

TIHEN NOTES FROM 1879 WICHITA BEACON

Wichita Beacon

Wednesday, January 1, 1879

page

4. On December 24th, Cowley County voted by a majority of over 1100 votes to issue bonds to the Sumner, Cowley, and Ft. Smith Railroad, otherwise known as the extension of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad.

5. Installation of the officers of the Blue Lodge of the Masonic Lodge was held in Russell Hall last Friday. Details.
 - A. Wiegand and Company have put up and secured 3500 tons of ice.

 - Milo Kellogg received word Monday that his mother was lying dangerously ill at her daughter's house, in Marion, New York.

8. Report of proceedings of the City Council on December 9th.

Wednesday, January 8, 1879

page

4. Long letter to the editor critical of Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad and saying the extension of the road south to Winfield and Wellington will further depreciate the two-fifths of the stock, nominally \$200,000, of the Wichita and Southwestern Railroad that is held by Sedgwick County.

Long letter and discussion of the proposed sale of Sedgwick County stock in the Wichita and Southwestern Railroad, expressing concern about the proposed extension of the railroad to the south, reducing Wichita's importance as the terminal point. Details.

Article summarizing pork packing in Wichita since 1874:

- 1874 — Col. M. Stewart — 100 hogs
- 1875 — Stephens and Stewart — 290 hogs
- 1876 — Harvey, Stewart, and Company — 806 hogs
- 1876 — Davidson and Brown — 500 hogs

1877 — Martin Hellar and Company — 900 hogs

1878 — Martin Hellar and Company — to date, 872 hogs; estimate, 1500 to 2000 for the whole season.

5. The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad bonds were carried by large majorities in both Sumner and Cowley counties.

Mr. Alexander Innes, brother of our "Colonel," has lately arrived from Chicago and taken a reserved seat behind the counting desk in the popular and first class dry goods house of George Innes and Company.

Report of meeting of the Frontier Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 on January 3rd, with election of officers (named).

Report on pork packing statistics in Wichita by Mr. Martin Hellar:

1874 -- Col. M. Stewart packed 100 hogs with average weight of 240 pounds, total 24,000 pounds.

1875 -- Stephens and Stewart -- 200 hogs, average 264, total 59,800 pounds.

1876 -- Hellar and Company -- 900 hogs, average 306, total 275,400 pounds.

1877 -- ?

1878 -- Martin Hellar, to date 872 hogs, average 274, total 238,928 pounds.

Wednesday, January 15, 1879

page

4. Long report by County Commissioner J. M. Steele on his trip to the East to try and sell Sedgwick County's stock in the Wichita and Southwestern Railroad. Says the best offer was 40 cents on the dollar and examination of the county's books in Boston showed the Wichita and Southwestern Railroad to be indebted to the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad in the amount of over \$52,000. Most of this debt has accrued under the unfavorable terms of the old lease of the Wichita and Southwestern Railroad to the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, and that in 1876 a new or supplementary lease had improved the Wichita and Southwestern Railroad results by allowing them to pro-rate east of Kansas City. Details. Line is profitable in 1878.
5. Long article describing inspection by County Commissioners last Wednesday of the new cells at the county jail, just finished by the contractors, C. L. Wundt and Company, of Burlington, IA. Description. The cost of \$3700 has already been paid.

Report of meeting of County Commissioners on January 13th. County printing for the ensuing year let to *Wichita Eagle*. Contract as county physician awarded to Dr. C. C. Furley for \$80 per year plus 50 cents per mile for all travel outside the city, he to furnish all medicines.

Article says the Lotus Club was organized at a meeting last week. Details.

Long article about the German school in Wichita, conducted by the German Turn Verein, and located in a small building o several lots at the northeast corner of 2nd Street and Market Street. Details.

The Beacon's new power press and steam fixtures, arrived on Monday from New York City, from the factory of Cottrell and Babcock. It weighs 7130 pounds and will by set up in working order within a week or so. Its capacity is 1400 impressions per hour.

Henry Schweiter has stored away for summer consumption 1200 tons of good ice. Wiegand and Company have more than enough for their brewery purposes, and Mr. George E. Harris also has a large supply on hand.

8. Proceedings of city council meeting, January 13th.

Wednesday, January 22, 1879

page

4. Editorial about the Beacon's new Cottrell and Babcock steam power press, and other improvements. Details.

The Beacon's new Cottrell and Babcock steam power press arrived last week. New type has also been purchased, and a 20 foot addition has been made to the office, making it 24 by 70 feet.

5. Article critical of resurgence of a large number of gambling houses in Wichita. Details.

Mr. A. G. Cutter sold the lease and fixtures of the Grand Pacific Hotel last week to Messrs. Wells and Reynolds. Mr. Reynolds is lately from Indiana. Mr. Wells has been in Wichita for over a year with the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad.

Report of meeting on Friday, January 17th, of the Old Settlers' Association. Committees appointed (named).

Wednesday, January 29, 1879

page

5. Bitting Brothers are taking advantage of the mild weather to complete their large brick business house on Market Street and Douglas Avenue. Plasterers are working on the inside.

The German Methodist congregation have completed, furnished and painted their church building. It is the only church building in the city with a completed spire or tower.

The foundation of the Douglas Avenue front of the New York Store has been relaid. The wall had settled a little, caused by excavating under the foundation for the introduction of gas pipes into the store.

Our enterprising young friend, Mr. George M. Hellar, has formed a partnership with J. D. Graves, under the name of Hellar and Graves, for the manufacture and sale of the Wichita Clipper Wind-Mill. This wind-mill has been on exhibition on our streets for the past two or three weeks and has attracted favorable comment.

8. Proceedings of a city council meeting on January 27th. The Gas Committee recommended that the amount due the company be paid.

Wednesday, February 5, 1879

page

5. H. L. Jackson and M. Fory have within the past few days assumed the proprietorship of the Douglas Avenue Hotel. Mr. Baker retires. (The name Fory is spelled "Forrey" in the February 18, 1880 issue of the *Beacon*.)

Note says Mr. Hartzell, of the firm of McMeekin and Hartzell, of Topeka came down Saturday and has bought the Douglas Avenue Hotel.

The Turnverein Society of Wichita, will, as soon as the weather is favorable, begin work of their new Hall, corner of Market Street and 1st Street. It will be of brick 54 by 130 feet, one story with 30 foot ceiling, seating for 1200 persons, and will cost \$10,000. It will be built on a four foot foundation. It will be fitted up for a public hall, with a stage 54 by 25 feet. The auditorium will seat 1200 persons. It is hoped to have it completed by next 4th of July.

Mr. Mike Zimmerly has leased his Douglas Avenue brick, now occupied by Mr. Thomas Lynch, to G. T. Myers and Brothers for three years.

Wednesday, February 12, 1879

page

2. Ad for the Wichita Water Mill, Noah Ellis, proprietor.
4. Editorial about a bill before the legislature to regulate the practice of medicine in the state of Kansas. Favorable comment.
5. Report of baby boy born to Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Daisy.

Hartwig and Company are adding a one story brick building, 25 by 60 feet, to their brick block on Douglas Avenue.

Mr. Guthrie is going to build an artificial stone building 24 by 50 ft, one story high, on the lot immediately north of Stackman's building, on Main Street. It will be occupied by W. P. Johnson's grocery store.

8. Proceedings of city council meeting on February 10th.

Wednesday, February 19, 1879**page**

5. Report of third annual meeting of the Wichita Library Association last Wednesday, February 12th, at the Presbyterian Church. Details.

Finlay Ross has fitted up and furnished the second story of his business house for a residence, and Mrs. Ross now keeps house upstairs and Finlay keeps store downstairs.

News from El Paso: The Southwestern Stage Company will hereafter run four horse coaches, making daily trips from Wichita via El Paso to Winfield. This will enable them to carry all the passengers on their line.

Wednesday, February 26, 1879**page**

4. Long editorial about the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad. Details.

Long article about a visit to Wichita last Saturday of Mr. James Dunn, chief engineer of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad, to discuss the possible extension to the Arkansas Valley of the Missouri and Western standard gauge railroad from Oswego.

5. Report of the Old Settlers' annual meeting last Friday at Eagle Hall. Officers elected (named). Details. Says Mrs. King's grand-daughter, Floy Simmons, was presented as the first female child born in the city of Wichita.

The *Beacon* power press in this week run by steam.

The contractors have begun work on the gutters on the west side of Main Street.

There will be Congregational services at Eagle Hall, next Sabbath, by Rev. W. D. Williams.

Report of a visit by several Wichitans Friday night to Augusta to discuss the extension of the Missouri and Western Railroad from Oswego to Wichita. Details.

The road leading east from Central Avenue is now being graded.

8. Proceedings of city council meeting of February 24th. Ordinance 221 passed, "Relating to the officers and members of the Fire Department."

Wednesday, March 12, 1879**page**

Special issue inaugurating *Beacon's* change from five column, eight page paper, to nine column, four page paper printed on their new press with new type, etc. This is a special issue of the paper with articles and illustrations about Wichita institutions. New design of mast head.

1. Article with history of Wichita and Sedgwick County. Details year by year.

Historical. Although previously erected, the county of Sedgwick was not organized until early in 1870. The first election was held in November 1868, with 35 votes polled. The first meeting of the county commissioners was held in April of that year, and the first official act was the granting of a liquor license.

Population of Sedgwick County: 1870 — 1095
 1875 — 8310
 1877 — 13414
 1878 — 15220

More Sedgwick County history: ¶ Eight years ago there was a school house in this county. In 1874 there were 82 organized school districts and 50 school houses. ¶ Now there are 120 organized school districts with 103 school houses, of which three are brick.

2. Letter from "Old Settler" saying he landed at "Chisholm" on December 6th, 1869 and put up at what was then called Lewellens Ranch for one month.

"This spring opens up with the almost absolute certainty of the extension to Wichita of the Missouri and Western Railroad, which connects to the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad at Pierce City, Missouri."

Article about the *Beacon*, with drawing of its new Cottrell and Babcock press, Baxter steam engine made by J. C. Todd of New York City, and a job press. Eighteen thousand copies of this special edition printed. The new press makes 1400 impressions per hour. Details.

3. Special articles about Wichita, with details about: Post Office; Newspapers; Fair Association; Public Schools; Moser Hill -- the fine brick residence of Mr. M. R. Moser is situated about two miles east of Wichita. (Mr. Moser and family have resided here for the last five years, with 80 acres under cultivation. Details.); the Southern Kansas Institute — founded on first Monday of September 1877; Pork packing establishment; the Wichita Foundry; Churches; Hotels; Marble and stone yards; Jewelry stores; Banks; Real estate dealers; Coal merchants; Elevators.
4. Further special articles about Wichita: Furniture stores; druggists; bakeries; tobacconists; booksellers; confectioners; sewing machines; undertakers; dry goods stores; boot and shoe stores; groceries; clothing stores; hardware stores; lumber dealers; saddle makers; implement firms — includes A. J. Cook and Company, on Douglas Avenue between Emporia Avenue and Topeka Avenue. (The company is represented by Mr. M. A. Sayles, who is a partner in the business and one of the oldest settlers in the district. Mr. A. J. Cook, who has been here since the birth of Sedgwick County and Wichita city, has gained a reputation as an inventor, and in reply to his last application for a patent for a steam-dredging machine to deepen the channel of the Arkansas River, is informed that no

impediment stops the way.)

Wednesday, March 19, 1879

page

2. Quarterly report of city finances.
3. The Illinois House is located on the south side of Douglas Avenue east of the railroad depot, and is superintended by Mrs. Johnston.

R. M. Richardson has moved his stock of groceries into the old stand lately occupied by Bitting Brothers.

Report of a son born to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Houck on March 11th.

Mr. R. E. Guthrie's artificial stone building on Main Street near the county building will soon be ready for use. He is dividing it into two rooms, one of which Mr. Johnson will occupy with his grocery stock.

Mr. A. W. Bitting, the senior member of the Keystone Clothing House, returned last Saturday from Philadelphia and New York. The Keystone Clothing House was moved last week into its new, commodious, and elegant quarters at corner of Market and Douglas Avenue. The room is 25 by 94 feet in the clear, with a 14 foot ceiling, and will be lighted by 32 lamps.

Hartwig and Company's new brick business house will soon be ready for occupancy.

Mr. A. A. Hyde has added a second story to his residence on the corner of Topeka Avenue and 1st Street.

The work of guttering on the west side of Main Street is progressing with commendable speed.

Fritz Snitzler (sic) has just finished a residence on Emporia Avenue between 1st Street and Douglas Avenue. It is 16 by 32 feet, a story and a half. He is also having a chair of suitable dimensions and strength built to support his 350 pound avoirdupois.

Mr. W. C. Woodman has the flags on the ground for a stone pavement in front of the post office.

Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad advertisements.

Wednesday, March 26, 1879

page

3. Report of City Engineer J. W. Bear on work done during past year. Includes a large number of wooden bridges over street crossings, etc. — listed.

Bones are coming in quite lively. Exton received several loads yesterday.

Bitting Brothers are putting up a handsome awning in front of their fine store room on Douglas Avenue.

The *Eagle* office has lately been brought into a close connection with the post office by means of a telephone. The wire is stretched across Douglas Avenue and over the house tops to the rear of the post office.

O. C. Daisy lost three-quarters of a mile of three year old hedge on his farm in Illinois Township by prairie fire on the 22nd last.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Ferrell last Monday.

Wednesday, April 2, 1879

page

2. Editorial comment about the East and West Railroad.
3. Report of city election. Sol H. Kohn elected mayor with 516 votes to 510 for William Greiffenstein and 280 for James G. Hope. Details.

Letter from M. R. Moser in reply to a letter from A. J. Cook printed on page two of March 26th *Beacon* as follows: "My attention has been called to a mis-name in your issue of the 12th instant calling the hill east of town, Moser's Hill. The first entry of three-fourths of a section on the hill was made by the writer. Moser's 80 was included in that entry. The hill was therefore called Cook's Hill, and the school house was called by that name until a recent date. When the Sabbath School was organized at our school house, it was called by the appropriate name of the Prospect Hill. It seems so appropriate we object to its name change, without the consent of all parties interested, or by an act of legislature -- in either case we would acquiesce of course." Yours truly, A. J. Cook.

Reply by M. R. Moser: "It appears that Mr. A. J. Cook is a little off in his card regarding Moser's Hill. In the first place, Mr. Cook could not have entered three quarter sections of land under the United States laws. In the second place, A. J. Cook, nor any other man by the name of Cook ever owned the 80 acre tract known as Moser's Hill. The tract was entered by Charles Gilbert and purchased from him direct by myself. I have no objection to Mr. Cook calling his place 'Cook's Hill,' 'Prospect Hill,' or any other name he chooses, but my place is known and recognized by at least 75 newspapers in the United States as Moser's Hill. I trust that this explanation will be satisfactory to Mr. Cook, as I have not the least doubt it will be to the readers of the *Beacon* and the public generally." M. R. Moser

The plans and specifications for the new Turner Hall were drawn by a brother of our townsmen, H. P. Stem, living in Indianapolis and an architect of distinction. It is intended to serve the double purpose of a Turnverein Hall and Opera House. Outside dimensions

will be 55 by 130 feet The front on Market Street will be two stories above the basement, with an orchestra balcony above the first story. The main entrance is through a vestibule seven by nine feet, and a hall ten by 24 feet. On the right as you enter there will be a committee room 20 by 34 feet, and on the left, two reception rooms, 12 by 20 feet each. The audience room is 51 by 80 feet with a 12 foot gallery extending in a semicircle around the audience room. The stage will be 28 by 51 feet, with dressing rooms below in basement, each 18 by 24 feet, and also dressing rooms on either side of the stage 11 by 24 feet. The building will rise from a five foot foundation and the ceiling of the opera hall will be 30 foot, and above the stage 24 foot. It will be heated with a furnace, probably lit with gas, and will be well provided with exits in case of danger. The bids will be in by the 10th of April and work will begin at once.

Mr. W. P. Stem has at his office the design and specifications for the contemplated Odd Fellows Hall. The cost, if adopted, will be \$12-15,000. The plan provides for a three story front building, 50 feet wide by 40 feet deep, with two store rooms, 18 by 38 feet, and a hall

12 by 40 feet on first floor, the second floor for the Wichita Library, and the third floor for the Odd Fellows Hall. The rear extension is for an Opera House, 50 by 80 feet.

The pile bridge across the Nennescah (sic) River below the forks, in Morton Township, was finished the early part of last week.

The St. Louis, Wichita, and Western Railroad from St. Louis when built will be the largest taxpayer in the county. Surveys are now being made through the Flint Hills between Butler and Greenwood counties to determine the route through Butler County. Further details and comments.

The purchasing agent of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad has orders to contract at once for supplies for the extension of the Wichita Branch road.

Report of proceedings of the City Council on March 24th.

Wednesday, April 9, 1879

page

2. Report of the proceedings of the City Council on April 4th.
3. The engineers of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad left this city last Thursday to locate the line of the extension of the Wichita Branch to Winfield and Wellington.

The County Commissioners met this week and passed an order submitting to the voters of Sedgwick County a proposition to vote bonds to the amount of \$4,000 per mile to the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad. The election is to be held on May 20th.

Messrs. Hobson and Alexander completed their contract for guttering Main Street last

week.

Report of marriage on April 3rd in Wichita by D. A. Mitchell, Esq., of Edward Knoblauch to Miss Sophie Schnitzler, step-daughter of Fritz Schnitzler.

Wednesday, April 16, 1879

page

2. Publication of official proclamation of election on Tuesday, May 20th to vote on bonds in aid of St. Louis, Wichita and Western Railroad in amount of \$3500 per mile built. Details.
3. Letter from A. J. Cook opposing statements written by Mr. Moser. "The citizens of Prospect Hill have no objection to Mr. Moser calling his own farm by any name he wishes as long as he doesn't endeavor to carry it beyond his legal possession. In regard to the former ownership of his 80 acres, I entered it in the name of Oliver Gringris (sic) expressly for him, who came to Kansas with us; in his absence David Fields jumped the claim. Mr. Fields died before he had proved up and Gard Smith, as administrator, sold it to C. F. Gilbert. If Mr. Gringris had contested the claim, Gard Smith nor Gilbert never would have owned it, as he was the rightful owner.

Proceedings of meeting of the new city council on April 14th, with new committees appointed. Bond of D. S. Munger for \$1,000 as Police Judge, was accepted.

The property owners on Douglas Avenue have petitioned the city council to curb and gutter that street.

Mr. W. C. Woodman is laying a flag stone sidewalk in front of his bank on Main Street.

The Episcopal Church building is rapidly approaching completion.

Wednesday, April 23, 1879

page

2. Official proclamation of election on May 20th to vote on issuing of bonds in support of the St. Louis, Wichita, and Western Railroad. Details.
3. Report of city census, as completed by W. F. Green last Saturday:
 - 1st Ward — 1538, with 260 families
 - 2nd Ward — 1116, with 190 families
 - 3rd Ward — 1274, with 210 families
 - 4th Ward — 1307, with 215 families
 - Total — 5225 (sic), with 875 families

Letter, M. R. Moser replying to A. J. Cook: "I have some time to waste upon the idiotic ravings of A. J. Cook. If A. J. should buy meat and feed it to a dog, he might as well claim that he had made the dog, as to claim that he entered a piece of land by merely carrying

some other person's filings to the land office. A. J. must be full of truth, for none of it ever comes out of him, particularly when he asserts that I have ever given a name to my place. He knows, if he is capable of knowing anything, that I never called my place 'Moser's Hill,' or by any other name, nor ever authorized or solicited any other person to so call it, except in reply to some of his spleen. The name was given by the editors of the *Beacon* and the editors of other newspapers, who had visited the place and admired its beauties. These notices seem to have galled the sensitive Cook to such an extent that, like a buzzard, he desires to empty his filth upon me or any other person who can't see 'Cook's Hill.' I believe that is all I have to say in reply to A. J. Cook, and with these few kind remarks will drop the subject of A. J. Cook v. Moser's Hill." M. R. Moser.

3. The Murdock Brothers are putting a handsome cornice on their building on Douglas Avenue. It greatly improves appearances.

Note about West Wichita mentions the brick yard of Grubb and Company there.

A bouncing girl weighing less than 20 pounds called on Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Murdock last week.

Report of death of W. D. Russell in Canon City, Colorado. Funeral to be held today at the family residence on Emporia Avenue.

Mr. G. F. Hargis, head of Hargis, Imboden and Company, millers, will soon retire from that firm.

Mr. Thomas H. Lynch has purchased the grocery stock of George W. Reilly, and will close it out to make room for Mr. Lynch's dry goods store.

Wednesday, April 30, 1879

page

2. Report of a Sedgwick County meeting on Saturday, April 26th called to discuss the railroad question. Long article with details.

Report of the proceedings of the City Council on April 28th.

3. The architectural plans and specifications of the Methodist Church building, prepared by Mr. C. H. Abbott, are now in the hands of the contractors. The enlargement of the building is a substantial one. The present building, which is 32 by 58 feet will be turned north and south and placed on the back of the lot it now stands on. The addition fronting on Lawrence Avenue will be 40 by 42½ feet, with a gothic front elevation with two flanking towers. Seating capacities 500-600. Cost about \$3500. Further details.

T. J. Peters, the first superintendent of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad, was in the city Friday.

Mr. Fred Stackman is putting up another business house, 25 by 50 feet, one story of brick, on Main Street, next lot south of Squire Mitchell's old office.

George E. Harris has commenced delivering his ice.

Letter from W. F. Green stating that his recent census of Wichita was an honest one and substantially correct.

Report of death yesterday of C. C. Hartwig, of the firm of Hartwig and Company. Survived by his young wife.

Report of death of Mrs. F. A. Sowers on April 21st, from a sun stroke received last summer. She was the daughter of Mr. F. Schattner, Sr., and is survived by her husband and three little children. She was buried in the Wichita Cemetery alongside two children who preceded her in death.

J. W. Bear, city engineer, commenced surveying Shuman's Park, and on Friday will survey the town of St. Mark, in this county.

Report of the railroad meeting Saturday night. Details.

Wednesday, May 7, 1879

page

3. The dedication of the German Methodist Episcopal Church on corner of 1st Street and Emporia Avenue will take place Sunday, May 18, 1879.

Many notices of railroad mass meetings in various areas on this page. Details. One will be held at the Parallel School House, Greeley Township, Wednesday, May 7th.

Mr. Beard is putting a second story to his building occupied by Healy and Niederlander.

Messrs. McClees and Noble are building a one story, artificial stone, business block of three rooms, 50 feet front by 50 feet deep, on Douglas Avenue, east of Messrs. Houck Brothers implement warehouse.

Twenty-six car loads of railroad iron for the Wichita extension was received at this depot last Friday. Up to Monday night, 50 car loads of railroad iron were received and about 45 car loads of ties.

Mr. D. B. Emmert has been appointed chief clerk by Capt. R. L. Walker, the new Register of the Wichita Land Office.

There are now two surveying parties at work on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad extension. T. W. Sterrett, in charge of one, is surveying a line from the end of the track, while Mr. McGuire, with eight men, is working in the vicinity of Wellington.

3. Long letter about the new county bridge on the line crossing the Ninnescah River between Afton and Viola townships, with complaints about the condition of approaches and abutments. Article states that the planks used for the abutments were obtained from the old bridge across the Arkansas River above Wichita. (Seneca Street?)

Wednesday, May 14, 1879

page

2. Report of proceedings of City Council on May 12th.
3. The Episcopal congregation will meet in their new church building next Sunday. The rector, Rev. J. S. Colton, will preach. The building will be consecrated by the Bishop of the Dioceses on June 22nd. Details.

The first dirt on the extension on the Wichita branch was thrown last Monday at the end of the track.

Report by Mrs. Blackburn, the librarian of the Wichita Library. Details.

Reports of several other railroad meetings in the county. Details.

Mr. D. P. Alexander, of this city, has received the contract for grading the first ten miles of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad extension south from this city. Work will begin as soon as the right-of-way has been settled.

Report of a railroad meeting at the Parallel school house in Greeley Township last Wednesday. With but one exception those present were unanimous for the railroad.

Wednesday, May 21, 1879

page

2. Article from *Topeka Commonwealth* of May 13th giving annual report of Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. Details.

Text of Dr. Furley's address as president of the Medical Society of the State of Kansas.

3. Article reports bonds for St. Louis, Wichita, and Western Railroad carried at special election yesterday. In the city the vote was 1483 for and six against. Details.

Dedication of Episcopal Church did not take place last Sunday as scheduled owing to fact that the pews, etc. were not completed on time, and first services there will be held next Sunday instead.

3. Rev. J. P. Harsen, of the Presbyterian Church, and his family will leave Wichita tomorrow to make their residence in New York. He has been here since 1871. Details.

The German Methodist Episcopal Church was formally opened on Sunday morning by

Rev. Mr. Grievy, Presiding Elder in the German Methodist Episcopal Church of Kansas. Owing to the rain, the afternoon dedication ceremonies were postponed until next Sunday.

Wednesday, May 28, 1879

page

3. Report of 1879 census of Sedgwick County by township. Total population 17,465, compared with 15,220 in 1878. Number of families — 3127.
- Delano Township — 560 population
 - Sherman Township — 310 population
 - Greeley Township — 371 population
 - Minneha Township — 401 population
 - Kechi Township — 460 population
 - Wichita Township — 663 population, including 130 families
 - Wichita City — 5335 population, including 873 families

The railroad bonds carried by a majority of nearly 2500 votes.

Track laying on the Wichita extension will begin about the first of June.

There will be a prize shooting match at Shuman's Park, on Thursday afternoon, under the management of the Wichita Gun Club.

Maj. John W. Bear has just completed an elaborate map of the proposed city of Caldwell, in Sumner County.

Work began on the foundation of the new Turnverein Hall last Monday. Seating capacity about 1200.

School board meeting last Friday decided to ask the city for special election to vote \$14,000 in bonds to erect two ward school houses of brick in 1st and 4th wards. Details.

Article discusses the need for a fire department.

Report of first service at the new Episcopal Church last Sunday. Details and description.

Butler County townships have voted aid to the St. Louis, Wichita, and Western Railroad. Details.

The German Methodist Episcopal Church was dedicated last Sunday afternoon. The debt of the church has been reduced to the small sum of \$172. Details.

Mr. Thomas H. Lynch moved his large stock of goods last Friday evening into his new store room, three doors east from Main Street, north side of Douglas Avenue.

Wednesday, June 4, 1879

page

2. Legal publication of election proclamation on Tuesday, June 17th, 1879 to vote on \$15,000 of school bonds to build four room brick school buildings in the 1st and 4th wards, etc. Details.
3. Result of the vote on bonds in support of St. Louis, Wichita and Western Railroad was 3021 for and 546 against with a majority of 2475 (vote shown by township and by wards in Wichita).

Report of commencement exercises of the public schools at Russell Hall last Friday night. Details. Says this was the first "commencement" exercises to be held in Wichita. The graduating class had four members: Miss Clemmie Davidson, Miss May Throckmorton, Miss Grace Pope, and Mr. Will Throckmorton.

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad has accumulated on immense quantity of rails and ties for the extension. They have laid about a mile of new sidetrack and a short distance of main track.

Report of proceedings of City Council on May 27th.

Mrs. W. D. Russell is moving her hardware stock and building to the south side of Douglas Avenue east of Topeka Avenue.

The Turners are determined to have a building of solid foundation. The first course consists of stone four feet long, 12 inches wide, and ten inches thick.

Report of death last Saturday of Mr. William Hunt, one of the proprietors of the Wichita City Mills, after a short illness. He had lived here for the past two years and was about 40 years old. Survived by a wife and a child. Remains taken to Decatur, Illinois. Details.

Report of marriage on June 2nd in Wichita by W. G. Hobbs, Justice of the Peace, of Mr. Martin Ruesz and Mrs. Emma Ille, both of Wichita.

Wednesday, June 11, 1879**page**

3. Miss Persis Ball, Mrs. W. D. Russell's sister, was married in Milan, Italy on April 26th to Signore Leandro Campanari. The couple left the same day for America and arrived in Boston the last of May. Mrs. Russell anticipates a visit from them in August or early in the fall.

Charges of damaging character are being made against the action of school superintendent G. H. Woodward in reference to the text book to be introduced in the city schools next year and will have to be considered by the School Board at their next meeting.

Mr. Fechheimer is going to build a brick on the vacated lots, corner of Market Street and

Douglas Avenue.

Mike Zimmerly moved his stock and building last week from the corner of Market Street and Douglas Avenue to his lot near the Oriental Stables.

Building of the railroad makes El Paso pretty lively. There is a considerable force in the neighborhood. The difficulty in regard to the right-of-way has been compromised, and the work is being prosecuted with vigor.

Letter from H. L. Jackson, engineer, about the inaccuracy of the original city survey of Wichita. "Much has been said of late with reference to the corners of lots and blocks in Wichita. During the last session of the legislature, a bill passed allowing a correct survey of Wichita. The question naturally arises as to the cause of dissatisfaction now existing, and what would be the best remedy out of the difficulty. ¶ In the first place, the city of Wichita was hurriedly and very unacceptably surveyed, without regard to accuracy either in measurements or bearings. Consequently the measurements found between boundary lines do not agree with plats and explanations found on records and many of the permanent buildings have been located from stakes and corners known to have been set when the first survey was made, and still other surveys made for the same points, without going back to the boundary lines of additions. Since that time all trace of original stakes have been lost and the only starting points known are the section and half section lines, and by correct measurement the distance from Central Avenue to Douglas Avenue is 2650.5 feet, instead of 2640 ft, or half a mile, as is represented by plats. I believe the excess is about the same on lines measured east and west." ¶ He goes on to suggest correcting this by accurately measuring the distance and then apportioning the excess equally to each block, making the blocks between Douglas Avenue and Central Avenue 602.4 feet long instead of 600 feet, and each lot 25.1 feet instead of 25 feet, etc. Details.

Report on the Old Settlers' meeting at Eagle Hall regarding preparations for July 4th celebration. Details. Committees appointed.

Wednesday, June 18, 1879

page

3. St. John's Episcopal Church will be consecrated next Sunday morning by the Rt. Rev. T. H. Vail. Details.

Report of the recent invention of a "railroad velocipede" by Mr. George B. Lake, superintendent of the Middle and Western divisions of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. Details.

Work on the railroad extension south to Winfield is progressing at a rapid rate. The grading between Wichita and El Paso is finished and three or four miles of track laid.

Loads of buffalo bones are brought into Wichita every day. They are gathered in Harper and Barber counties and hauled from 50 to 100 miles to market.

Rev. S. D. Storrs, Congregationalist, will hold services in Russell Hall next Sunday morning. The Congregationalists of this city are about perfecting an organization, and to that end have engaged Russell Hall as a place of worship for the ensuing year.

Report of proceedings of City Council on June 12th. The City Engineer was instructed to complete at once the survey of the City, as per plat, and in accordance with the act passed by the legislature.

Wednesday, June 25, 1879

page

3. The Methodist congregation during the building of their new church, will meet in Eagle Hall. The contract for building of the new church was awarded last week to C. H. Abbott and work of removing the old building commenced on Friday. The building is to be completed by the first of September.

Report of accidental death last Tuesday of Allen Lawrence, 15 year old son of Mr. Henry Lawrence, of West Wichita, when he fell from a ladder onto the wagon while loading wheat and the frightened mules ran away and eventually the wagon ran over him when he could not hold on and fell. Details. Funeral today from Presbyterian Church.

D. Hays and Company have purchased lot on southeast corner of Douglas Avenue and Water Street and erect a two-story building 25 by 100 feet for their hide and leather business. Details.

School board met Wednesday and canvassed the vote on school bonds at election the previous Tuesday, which passed by majority of 213. Committee appointed to secure plans and specifications for building two brick school houses of four rooms each, one in 1st Ward and one in 4th Ward, to cost not over \$6,000 each.

Report of Congregational church service last Sunday at Russell Hall, with Dr. Storrs, of Topeka, preaching. Details.

Report of a large house being built by the notorious George Woods on Wichita Street for use as a den of infamy and a harbor for vice. Details. (The name Woods is spelled "Wood" in the July 16, 1879 issue of the *Beacon*.)

N. A. English left for New Mexico last Saturday and will be absent several months.

Report of proceedings of the City Council on June 23rd.

Auction of lots in Col. Taylor's addition to Wichita was held Saturday. The plot contained 48 lots, each 50 by 140 feet, and all were sold for an average of \$43.

M. R. Moser has moved his blacksmith wagon shop to Market Street, in the rear of Hess' grocery store.

Wednesday, July 2, 1879**page**

3. The foundations are laid for the new Methodist Episcopal Church and the frame work will soon begin to rise.

Alexander and York expected to complete their contract of grading to El Paso by last Monday. The track layers crossed Chisholm Creek last Saturday and are laying about one and a half miles a day.

The contractors for the Opera House have been awaiting the arrival of the door and window casements. These have arrived, and the brick work was begun last Monday.

Article about the anticipated resignation soon of Mayor Sol H. Kohn. Details.

Fraker and Humble have the foundation for their new flour mill completed. The main building will be 24 by 40 feet, two stories above the basement with four run of stones. There will be an addition on the rear, 16 by 24 feet, for engine and boiler, and another on the side, 16 by 40 feet, for storage room.

Mr. A. N. Deming has purchased the interest of A. A. Glenn in the Tremont House, corner of Emporia Avenue and Douglas Avenue, and has become the sole proprietor.

William Heller has bought the old "Blue Front," one of the historic buildings of Wichita, and has moved it onto his lot on Main Street, near his meat market.

Mr. Holschneider has secured the agency for the "Bell" Telephone, for this city. The apparatus arrived last Saturday. The Bell and the Edison telephones are extensively used in all the cities. In Kansas City they have two central offices for the transmission of messages. A man rents a wire connecting with the central office and he can be put in communication with any part of the city having communication with the central office.

Wednesday, July 9, 1879**page**

3. The corner stone of the new Methodist Church will be laid at 7:00 p.m. today. Details.

The Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad ran two construction trains on the Wichita extension.

Wednesday, July 16, 1879**page**

3. The Maison de Joie, owned and operated by George Wood, (on Wichita Street), was opened for business on Monday, we understand. The proprietor paid into the city treasury the stipulated assessment the same day. (Editor's note: The name Wood is spelled "Woods" in the June 25, 1879 issue of the *Beacon*.)

Mr. A. N. Deming has purchased the interest of A. A. Glenn in the Tremont House and has become the sole proprietor.

Bruce and Company have lately finished a number one lightning rod job on Tremont House. There are 11 points with a complete circuit between all. There are ten balls and two large weather vanes, and nearly 700 feet of rod.

Report of a visit to the Wichita Brewery, of Wiegand and Murphy, proprietors. The capacity is 400 kegs a week.

Report of proceedings of City Council on July 14th.

Quarterly city financial report.

Report of laying of corner stone of new Methodist Church last Wednesday. Details.

3. A new brick building, 25 by 60 feet, is being erected by Mr. Fechheimer on northeast corner of Market Street and Douglas Avenue. He will move his clothing store into it.

Wednesday, July 23, 1879

page

3. Fraker and Humble have the frame work of their flour and grist mill up.

Mr. J. G. Evans, the photographer, has taken over 100 stereoscopic views in and around Wichita, including street and sidewalk views, public buildings, business blocks, private residences, Indian groups, landscape views, railroads, mills, elevators, lumber yards, etc. He has sold nearly 2000 copies.

Reports of long interview with an elderly Negro near the depot asking about his reasons for leaving the South and coming to Kansas, route of transport, etc. Details.

Article reports on progress on the East and West Railroad west from Oswego. Active grading is going on into Labette County, with hundreds of men at work. Details.

Article discusses the shipment of Exodus Negroes from Topeka to Wichita and other points without consulting these cities, by the relief committee in Topeka, and says this practice should be stopped. Details.

Long letter about the Cowley, Sumner, and Ft. Smith Railroad. Says they climbed aboard on engine No. 31 of the construction train at the Wichita round house at 6:30 a.m. Mr. D. D. Myers was the conductor. They passed heaps of piles and ties, all brought from Michigan. Seven miles from Wichita, standing on a side track were the boarding cars of the employees — cars fitted up like steerages of ocean steamers, transmogrified into kitchens, dining rooms, stove and officers quarters. Beds laid above and beneath this hostelry on wheels told of the hot season now in full blast. At an open door we recognized

our old and popular hosts, Mr. J. Hassig, erstwhile of the Douglas Avenue Hotel and Daily House, and his partner, Mr. Manuel, late of the Ocean Restaurant on Main Street. Together they are the genial hosts of the caravansary, and their experience as public caterers is answered with patronage and appreciation. Full and plenty and three dollars a week are the golden rules observed by about 100 hearty boarders. ¶ Nearly two miles farther on and we arrive at the end of the track, within a few yards of bridge No. 21 and within a few hundred feet of nine miles from Wichita. Here piles are being driven, cars are unloading material to be carried to the front by horse and mule teams; the graders are being followed up by the gauge gang, with the tie men at their heels, pursued in turn by the fillers who have the "iron men" rushing in their wake, all being superintended and directed by Mr. A. D. Wolf, the head foreman of the works. ¶ Further details. Fifty-one bridges in first 20 miles from Wichita. About 180 men employed. Forty-eight pound Cambria iron rails are used. To be completed by the end of September. ("The Cowley, Sumner, and Ft. Smith Railroad.")

3. Report on progress on the St. Louis, Wichita and Western Railroad. H. B. Harding and Company have the contract for grading ten miles, commencing five miles west of Oswego, and they have 150 teams and over 300 men at work, who will complete the ten miles this week, when they will move their entire force to a contract of 30 miles, extending westward from Neodesha into Greenwood County. ¶ Mr. Slatterly, working near Cherryvale, has something over 300 men at work, including some 150 with teams. ¶ Edward Burgess, contractor on the work west of Harding and Company, in Labette County, has 300 men at work of which nearly 200 are with teams. ¶ Mr. Davis, for himself, and Mr. Dickerson, have 200 men and teams at work on the five miles immediately west of Oswego. ¶ Mr. John Farr has 50 men and teams at work. ¶ John McCarthy, contractor for masonry, has over 200 men at work (about 100 with teams). Mr. McCarthy also has the contract for grading 40 miles through Butler and Sedgwick counties, and will put a large force at work just as soon as the line has been located and right-of-way disposed of. (Editor's note: The name McCarthy is spelled "McCarty" in the February 25, 1880 issue of the Beacon.) ¶ In addition to the parties named there are others having small contracts who are working many men — probably 200 in the aggregate — hence it is entirely within bounds to say that there are over 1500 men at work on the road, and that by the middle of August — when the first steel rails will be received — fully 50 miles of the track will be ready for the superstructure.

Wednesday, July 30, 1879

page

3. Messrs. Ozanne and Carter are building a mill structure on corner of 1st Street and Railroad Avenue, 30 by 40 feet, three stories high, fronting on 1st Street, also a one story warehouse 30 by 40 feet. There will be four run of stone. W. W. Carter, one of the firm, has lately come to Wichita with his family, from Mobile. Details.

H. W. Lewis has put up a handsome iron fence around his residence property at the corner of Topeka Avenue and 2nd Street.

The city of Mulvane has been laid out by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad on the line between Sedgwick and Sumner counties.

The resignation of Mayor Kohn was presented to the city council Monday night and accepted by an unanimous vote, to take effect on August 1st.

Proceedings of city council meeting on July 28, included the resignation of Mayor Kohn.

Wednesday, August 6, 1879

page

3. Report of a ride to the end of the track last Wednesday, then within one-half mile or so of Dog Creek, about 17 miles distant. The track on the Wellington branch is laid from the junction to the river, about one mile distant. Details.

The work on the Opera House has been delayed for the past four days, for the want of brick. On Monday we were informed that the brick were made but that they were not sufficiently cooled to handle.

Smith and McComb Brothers, Bissantz and Butler, and H. Bolte have let the contract for the building of a second story to their brick buildings on Douglas Avenue. Mr. Sullivan has the contract for Smith and McComb Brothers, and Mr. Fisk for the other two buildings.

Article mentioning several houses under construction in Wichita. Messrs. Bittner and Quino are building residences on Emporia Avenue, near M. M. Murdock's, in the north of the city. Details.

N. A. English returned last Wednesday from New Mexico, where he has been for about two months.

Article describes progress on Wichita Opera House. Details.

Wednesday, August 13, 1879

page

3. Mr. Edward Woodman of Jacksonville, Illinois, is making his first visit to this brother, Mr. W. C. Woodman.

M. M. Fechheimer will move his stock of clothing into his new brick, corner of Market Street and Douglas Avenue, on or about the first of September.

Mr. J. M. Allen left yesterday for his old home in Indiana and will be gone several weeks.

Report of proceedings of the City Council on August 11th

Wednesday, August 20, 1879

page

3. Mr. Blickensderfer, the locating engineer of the St. Louis, Wichita, and Western Railroad has been in the city several days making several preliminary lines of possible location of the railroad. Details.

U. Ozanne is making good progress on his new flouring mill. The frame work is up, roofed in, and sheeting on. Work began on the wareroom yesterday. He has bought out the interest of his partner, Mr. Carter, who left last week for the East. The Arkansas Valley Mill and Elevator will be a valuable acquisition to the interests of Wichita.

Special election is to be held September 4th to elect a mayor to fill the unexpired term of Mayor Kohn.

Wednesday, August 27, 1879**page**

3. Report of fatal quarrel in Sherman Township last Thursday in which Charles Anderson, a young farmer 23 or 24, nephew of George A. Anderson, was stabbed to death with a pitchfork by Leon Fouquet in argument over division of wheat raised by Anderson on farm owned by Fouquet. Details.

Mr. Nereus Baldwin is prepared to enlarge photographs to life size, having received a large sun camera for that purpose.

Mr. Mulvey, we understand, has bought Mr. Hellar's artificial stone yard.

The engineers of the St. Louis, Wichita and Western Railroad have for the past week been engaged in surveying lines to this city from Augusta.

Grade on the St. Louis, Wichita, and Western Railroad reported completed about half the distance from Oswego to Wichita.

Mr. C. F. Manuel informs us that the track on the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad extension is laid within four miles of Winfield. Bridge across Arkansas River is about completed and the force of men will be transferred to the Wellington branch.

Mr. S. L. Davidson and wife returned last week after nearly two months in the East. They visited Chicago, New York, and Boston, and spent some time in New Hampshire, Niagara Falls, and Michigan.

Bissantz and Butler are adding a second story to their store room.

Wednesday, September 3, 1879**page**

2. Editorial about the *Daily Beacon*, which was inaugurated on September 1st.

3. Proceedings of city council meeting on August 26th.

Report of School Board for the year ending July 31, 1879.

Number of pupils enrolled: 916 (401 males and 512 females).

Number of teachers required: 11

Average monthly salary: Male teachers \$77

Female teachers \$45

Salary of principal or superintendent: \$1000 per annum

Total expenditures \$11,320.80

Schools graded as follows:

Primary grade — 435 pupils

Intermediate — 343 pupils

Advanced and High School — 128 pupils

The crowning glory of the Opera House is a magnificent dome, somewhat smaller than that of St. Peter's or the Capitol at Washington. It is for the purpose of ventilation and is 12 to 15 feet in diameter. The opening in the ceiling of the main hall will be three feet in diameter. The sheeting on the roof is ready for the outside covering, which is to be of heavy tin.

Mr. D. G. Millison, with his son Ralph, arrived from Leavenworth last Saturday. He expects to move his family down in a few weeks and will make Wichita his future home. We have engaged Mr. Millison to take charge of our job office.

Report of meeting of Republican County Convention last Saturday. Names of delegates listed.

Fifteen men working on the railroad struck for higher wages yesterday and were discharged. They were getting \$1.50 per day, but wanted \$1.75.

Daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Milo B. Kellogg last Thursday.

Mr. James Davidson, brother of S. L. Davidson, is now in Wichita, having arrived last week.

The Wichita Red Stockings will play the Topeka club at the Fair Grounds on Saturday.

Mr. H. G. Toler, well known in Wichita, as the representative of a large wholesale grocery house in Kansas City, has selected Wichita as his place of residence. He has moved his family to the house on corner of Topeka Avenue and 3rd Street.

Wednesday, September 10, 1879**page**

2. Editorial about inability of getting telegraphic dispatches early enough in the day to continue publishing the *Daily Beacon*. Details.

3. Messrs. Fraker and Humble have ordered an engine for their steam flour mill from the Buckeye Works of Keokuk, Iowa. Details.

From the *Daily Beacon* of September 3rd: Mr. Frank Barclay, who put in the gas works for the New York Store and for Houck Brothers, is now in the city from Winfield, looking after the Opera House contract. Article urges the adoption of gas for the Opera House.

Report of Democratic County Convention last Saturday. Delegates named.

From the *Daily Beacon* of Thursday, September 4th: Hon. Art Glenn has rented the Daily House and takes possession on the 22nd of this month. Sam Lohman has moved his store on the north side of Douglas Avenue, next to Smith and Keating. (The name Lohman is spelled "Lowman" in the September 8, 1880 issue of the *Beacon*.)

From the *Daily Beacon* of Saturday, September 6: After next Tuesday the mail will be carried direct to Wellington by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad.

Long letter to editor defending Leon Fouquet, of Sherman Township in the recent killing of Charles Anderson. Details.

Report of baseball game Saturday between the Topeka Shawnees and the Wichita Red Stockings. (Dr. Tihen's note: Location of the baseball grounds not stated.)

Report of city election yesterday in which William Greiffenstein was elected mayor over M. Zimmerly by 488 to 284 votes.

Report of proceedings of City Council on September 6th. William Greiffenstein took his seat as the newly elected mayor, replacing Sol Kohn.

The Methodist congregation will hold services each Sunday in Eagle Hall until the new building is completed

Wednesday, September 17, 1879

page

3. Report of trip to Wellington on a special train on September 9th, which was the first to run to the depot at Wellington. The foundation was ready for the El Paso depot. At Belle Plaine, we found the boarding cars, but nothing done on the depot. The Wellington depot was about half done, located north of town on the extension of the main street, one-half to three-fourths mile from the main business section. Details.

Mr. P. I. Murphy, representing the Sherwood School Furniture Company of Chicago has taken the contract for furnishing the Methodist Church with seats.

Mr. H. H. Allen is about erecting a residence on the corner of Lawrence Avenue and 2nd Street.

Report of the proceedings of the Democratic County Convention with details and names of delegates. Frank Dale was a delegate from Sherman Township and on organization of the meeting was appointed secretary, and was nominated by acclamation for county clerk.

The plasterers will begin work this week on the Opera House.

Topeka Avenue from Central Avenue north, has been graded. This is the first street in this section that has received any attention.

The Sedgwick County Fair opened yesterday. Details.

The Presbyterian Sunday School had a picnic at Shuman's Park last Wednesday.

Report of another special train to Wellington at 9:00 a.m. last Saturday, with three coaches filled with Wichitans, Mr. Rodgers as conductor, and Mr. W. D. Brittain as general superintendent, to formally celebrate the completion of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad to Wellington.

The *Daily Beacon* has been suspended. Details.

Wichita City Mills has adopted code of signals on its steam whistle:

Fire in the mill — one long continued blow.

For the engineer — two short sounds.

For the miller — one long and one short.

For 6:00 a.m. — one long blow.

For fire in the city — a rapid succession of staccato notes.

3. Note about baseball game between the Wichita Red Stockings and the Hutchinson Coyotes last Friday, played at the Fair Grounds.

The street commissioner is grading the south half of Douglas Avenue from Main Street to Market Street up to the grade established for the curbing and guttering of the south side of the street. Twelve to 14 inches of dirt are being deposited.

Wednesday, September 24, 1879

page

2. Proceedings of city council meeting on September 22nd.

Proceedings of Board of Education meeting last Friday. Professor B. D. Hammond elected superintendent, replacing late superintendent, G. H. Woodward.

Report of the Sedgwick County Agricultural fair last week. Details.

The city schools opened Monday with 550 pupils.

David M. Dale, of Earlville, Illinois, brother of Frank Dale, of Sherman Township, is visiting the county. Mr. Dale is a talented attorney, and thinks some of locating in this city.

The condition of the bridge across the river is becoming daily more dangerous. A great many, fearing to risk it, cross at the ford below the bridge.

Report of invitation from Mr. W. D. Brittain to accompany an excursion train to Winfield on September 30. On Wednesday, October 1, Mr. Brittain will turn over the road to the company.

Wednesday, October 1, 1879

page

3. The Opera House has been lathed and the plasterers began work yesterday. The gas pipes and fixtures are being put in.

The free train for Winfield left the depot yesterday morning.

The Sedgwick County Map, compiled from the government records on file in the county clerk's office, by John W. Bear, city engineer, is the largest and most complete map of its kind in the state, its size being six by seven feet. It is painted in oil colors on canvas. The map was compiled expressly for John M. Steele, the veteran of real estate agent of the Southwest.

Bids for the new school building were opened by the board last week. Low bidder is to appear before the board with his bonds.

Wednesday, October 8, 1879

page

3. Report of the special excursion train trip to Winfield on September 30th. The train was made up of three coaches, ten flat cars, and two box cars, and was met by a train from Wellington at the junction at Mulvane. Details.

Proceedings of Board of Education meeting on Monday, with letter sent to previous superintendent, Mr. G. H. Woodward, saying the reason he was not re-employed was "that the members of the board were convinced, during vacation, that your moral character was not what should be expected in a superintendent."

The Hoover Bridge (over Chisholm Creek), on the Eldorado Road, within two miles of town, is in a very unsafe condition.

Wednesday, October 15, 1879

page

2. Proceedings of city council meeting on October 13th.

3. Mr. H. Bolte has his second story finished, giving a store room 50 feet deep and two fine rooms in front.

Wednesday, October 22, 1879

page

3. The Catholic Church has purchased an Estey Chapel Organ of Mr. Perrine. The church has also bought a bell weighing 775 pounds, which will soon be put up.

The Sedgwick County Board last Friday appropriated \$1000 for the El Paso Bridge across the river. A bridge is also to be built across the slough on the Jamesburg road.

Wednesday, October 29, 1879

page

3. The Wichita Packing House will resume operations at once at the old stand near the bridge, under the proprietorship of Stewart and Company.

The new depot at Mulvane is almost completed.

Report of death on Wednesday, October 22nd, of Mrs. Sallie S. Ross, wife of Finlay Ross and daughter of T. G. and E. W. Parham, at age 21 yrs., 11 months and 25 days, of puerperal peritonitis. She came here with her parents in the spring of 1874, and was married to Finlay Ross November 17th, 1878.

3. The Opera House will be opened on November 6th with addresses followed by a grand ball. Details.

The civil engineers of the East and West Railroad are making the final surveys into and through this city to the banks of the Arkansas River. It seems probable that the main line will run not far from Central Avenue.

The Catholics have built a tall bell tower on the north side of their church building.

Mrs. Finlay Ross is survived by an infant daughter.

Wednesday, November 5, 1879

page

3. Report that the *Wichita Herald* newspaper has been placed in the hands of a receiver.

Col. M. Stewart began the pork packing season last Thursday.

Messrs. Fraker and Humble started the Excelsior Mills a grinding last Thursday week. They have four run of stone, with power furnished by a 50 horsepower Sample, McElroy, and Company's upright engine (from Keokuk, Iowa).

The Shuman Driving Park track has been put in good condition and seats erected for the

Horse Fair which opens today for three days. Admission is 25 cents.

Although the finishing touches will hardly be made by then, the Wichita Opera House will be formally opened tomorrow night.

Wednesday, November 12, 1879

page

3. Proceedings of School Board meeting November 3rd. Professor D. B. Hammond was confirmed as superintendent for the current year.

Report of the official opening of the Turner Opera House last Thursday evening, although the gas tank failed to arrive in time and the building had to be lighted with lamps. Details. Building is 58 feet wide and 130 feet deep, and 31 feet from floor to ceiling. The auditorium is 54 by 83 feet, with a gallery circling nearly two-thirds of the room. Stage is 27 feet deep. The drop curtain is a copy of Conway Castle. Brick work was under management of Mr. N. Hartle. Carpentering was done by Reese and Sawyer.

3. The East and West Railroad, as surveyed, enters Sedgwick County one and a half mile south of the north line of Minneha Township, and runs in an air line west to the west line of Section 12, Wichita Township. Thence it runs southwest to the southwest corner of Section 14, Wichita Township. At this point the line branches, one running southwest to Kellogg Street in English's Addition. The other runs nearly due west to Pine Street, the 2nd street north of

Central Avenue. Also a line running south from the north line to the elevators. The question of location of the depot is yet one of those things no one can find out.

The new Methodist Church will be dedicated next Sunday morning.

Work on the 1st Ward school house has been hindered by the delay in getting material. The first story is about half up.

Wednesday, November 19, 1879

page

3. Proceedings of city council meeting on November 17th. Contract let for curbing and guttering of north side of Douglas Avenue from Main Street to Market Street.

Report of arrival in Wichita last Friday of Signore and Signora Leandro Campanari, of Milan, Italy, musicians. She is better known to many of our citizens as Miss Persis Bell, sister of Mrs. W. D. Russell, and was in our city for some months in 1874 and gave exquisite performances on the violin. They arrived in America last June, at Boston, and are now here to visit Mrs. W. D. Russell and will remain for some time. They will give a concert at the Opera House on Friday next week.

The bell for the Presbyterian Church has arrived.

A substantial sidewalk has been lately put down on the west side of Topeka Avenue from Douglas Avenue to Kellogg Street.

Wednesday, November 26, 1879

page

3. The Great Western Restaurant, sometimes called the Schnitzville, has passed into the hands of Mr. Ed Knoblauch, son-in-law of Fritz Schnitzler.

The Lawrence Avenue Road, leading south on the west side of the river, has been graded for over two miles.

The Kimmerly (sic) and Adams stone building on Main Street is about completed.

Material is being placed on the street preparatory to curbing and guttering the north side of Douglas Avenue from Main Street to Market Street.

3. Every freight train leaving this city consists of from 27 to 30 cars, of which five to ten cars are loaded with fine, fat hogs for the Kansas City market.

Wednesday, December 3, 1879

page

2. Quote of article the *St. Louis Republican* saying the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad is to get control of the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad by guaranteeing six percent interest to the holders of the \$7,194,500 of old South Pacific Bonds.
3. Announcement by Leandro Campanari that he plans to remain in Wichita and organize a choral society, which will meet every Monday in Russell Hall, give instructions to pupils, etc. Details.

Article about visit to Augusta (trip over by highway took about three hours, including stoppages at way stations) with report on activities grading the new East and West Railroad on both sides of Augusta. Details.

Wednesday, December 10, 1879

page

3. Report of death on Friday, December 5th, of D. S. Munger, early Wichita pioneer. Darius S. Munger was born August 21st, 1812 in Chautauqua County, New York, moved to Chicago in 1835, then to Wisconsin in 1837, to Ohio in 1848, to Missouri in 1850, to Topeka in 1860, and to Wichita in May 1868. Long obituary.

Report that the location of the new railroad has been completed to the Arkansas River. It runs through Pine Street, second street north of Central Avenue, to a point half way between Water Street and Wichita Street when it curves to the south at an angle of about 40 degrees until it reaches the river bank several hundred yards below the mouth of the Little Arkansas River. The passenger depot is located on the southwest corner of Main

Street and Pine Street and the freight depot one square west on Water Street. The round house and car yards are west and south of the freight depot.

Wednesday, December 17, 1879

page

3. The fire engine house was moved yesterday from the Packer lots to lots owned by the city, on Market Street near the calaboose, between 1st Street and 2nd Street. The building will be repaired and fitted up in good shape for accommodation of the firemen and the apparatus we now have.

Wednesday, December 24, 1879

page

3. Report of trial of Leon Fouquet on charge of manslaughter. Details.

Wednesday, December 31, 1879

page

3. Report of birth of a daughter on December 25th to Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Lawrence, in West Wichita.

Report of excellent harvest of ice the past week by the ice men. Details.