

CHESTER TIMES – August 21, 1915 – REAL ESTATE VERY ACTIVE – Many Transfers Are Being Recorded at Media and Contracts Let for Improvements

Real estate in parts of the county is booming, and the past week has seen more contracts for building work let than any other week of the year, although for the most part, the contracts have been for one or two buildings, and the sum total of the money involved is not so large as in some other weeks of the year. More real estate transfers are being recorded this summer than during any other summer in many years.

This city is getting a very large percent of the building work, but it is not, by any means, getting it all. Marcus Hook is making plans for a greatly increased population, and that town is growing with a rapidity which but for the substantial character of the buildings being erected, might be called "mushroom." The American Viscose Company, which laid out the "Model City," is still erecting houses as fast as a large force of mechanics can put them up while other owners are also busily engaged in preparing to accommodate a greatly increased population.

To a less degree, this same condition prevails in every other suburb of this city. Everywhere houses are being erected, as it is recognized that the matter of housing the 30,000 men who will be employed at the Baldwin plant in Eddystone, the 2000 additional men to be employed at the new Benzol plant in Marcus Hook, and those who will be employed at the new shipyard, work upon which has been commenced, is a serious one.

A new impetus has been given to Springfield real estate by the reported sale of the mills at Heyville to a New York syndicate, the reported purchase including two big mills and forty houses along the Darby Creek. The mills are to be used for textile manufacturing, according to the report.

BISHOP'S PARK GROWING – While conditions are constantly growing better in the industrial centers of the county, the residential sections are moving upward also. One spot which has felt the improvement to a marked extent is Bishop's Park, at Secane. Much of this tract, which lies along the Baltimore Pike, has been cut up into two-acre plots, and during the present summer, many bungalows have been erected. Gilligan & Son, contractors have been doing most of the building, and are at present engaged in erecting a two and one-half story house on the tract facing on the pike.

MARCUS HOOK'S NEW SCHOOL – Bids are being received by the Marcus Hook Board of Education for a new brick school house which will cost \$35,000. The plans call for a two-story brick structure, 45 x 104 feet, slag roof, metal lath and modern equipment throughout. The new school when completed, will fill a long-felt need in the borough, which is adding to its population by leaps and bounds with a proportionate increase in children. The present building is altogether too small in accommodations. The contracts for the new school house are expected to be let in a very short time.

The contract for the addition and improvements to the Alpha Boat Club headquarters at the foot of Welsh Street has been let to AH. Louis Morris at his bid of \$3700. The plans call for two stories, frame construction, 36 x 82 feet, a kitchen wing, 12 x 12 feet with an asbestos shingle roof. The entire interior will have electricity installed and the club house will be one of the finest on the river when Contractor Morris completes his work.

Herman Voight a Philadelphia contractor, has been awarded a contract to erect an ice storage house at Cardington for the Western Ice Manufacturing Company. The

building will be fifty by sixty feet and sixty feet high, with a small addition. The price is \$9100.

Claude A. Simpler of Lansdowne, has awarded a contract to Milton S. Grawl, a Llanerch builder, for a brick and hollow tile house on Plumstead Avenue, Lansdowne, the price being \$6100.

V. G. Robinson and F. F. Damon, promoters of Bywood in Upper Darby Township, have let a contract to Norman Foster, builder, for another house at that development. No price is made public.

James Booth of Garrettford, is building a two-story frame dwelling for Mary Wilde on Market Street, Garrettford. The contract price is \$3700.

Contractor Thomas F. Manley of Clifton Heights, is erecting two two-story brick houses on Broadway Avenue, Clifton Heights, for James Carvik, the contract price being \$5500.

Frank H. Fler of Yeadon, has let to J. Howard Roberts, a Lansdowne builder, a contract for a three-story hollow tile dwelling at Hereford Place, Yeadon. No price is given.

Robert Jordan of Philadelphia, has obtained the contract to erect a one-story brick bath house on Potter Street, south of Seventh Street, for Michael Ovitt and Ignatius Kupsis. The plans were prepared by Charles Rosser, architect, and the work will be completed by October 1. The price is \$1950.

George W. Laughead of Upper Chichester has awarded a contract to William S. Gootee of the same place, for the erection of four houses on Yates Avenue, Marcus Hook, plans for which were prepared by Doyle Brothers. The price is not given.

S. E. Walters of Llanerch, has been awarded a contract by Rev. T. J. Garland, Bishop Suffragan for the erection of a portable chapel at Garrett Road and Riverside Avenue, Drexel Hill, plans for which were prepared by George Nattress & Son. The price is \$1051.

BUILDING NOTES. The owner of the property at 500 East Eighth Street is having a number of improvements made to the front of his residence. He will also have a new brick addition built in the rear.

Progress is being made on the work at the Gas Building, Sixth and Welsh Streets, by Contractor H. Louis Morris. The tile is being placed on the roof and several improvements are being made to the interior of the top floors of the building.

It will be but a few weeks before the improvements to the Repetto store at Eighth and Welsh Streets will be completed. The workmen employed by the Parquee Company are on the premises and the glass to be inlaid will arrive next week.

Contractor Flounders is nearing completion the addition to the Gallagher Garage, on East Seventh Street. The interior of the second story addition is being completed.

The Mackin houses, at Twentieth and Hyatt Streets, are fast going up and the bricklayers have about finished their work. The lathers will probably start their end of the contract early next week.

L. B. Salmons is putting the finishing touches on the two new dwellings which he has erected at Third and Pusey Streets.

The three new buildings at Third and Pennell Streets, erected by John J. Ryan, are about completed. Painters are now painting the buildings which are two-story brick structures. The first floor is to be used for stores.

S. R. Bell who is erecting five new houses on West Fifth Street, near Pennell, is completing the structures.

With the start of operations for the new furnace building and loft at the plant of the old Roach Shipyard things are beginning to assume an air of activity about the yard. The firm, after the completion of the new structure, which will be a one story building 70 x 160 feet will commence work on renovating the office building.

At the Philadelphia Suburban Gas & Electric Company's plant, at the foot of Tilghman Street the improvements are being rushed to completion.

Harry W. Koch, real estate broker of Drexel Hill, advises that he has taken the contract for the erection of a detached hollow tile dwelling at the corner of school lane and Penn Avenue, Drexel Hill, for Dwight L. Berkey of Philadelphia.

BUILDING PERMITS GRANTED – The following building permits were issued during the week by Building Inspector Terryl T. Williams:

William H. Hewes – Two-story brick dwelling on north side of Seventeenth Street between Central Avenue and Tilghman Street for James Clayton

Rodger and Albany – One story garage in rear of 111 Market Street

Samuel Lax – One story brick addition in rear of No. 36 West Third Street for C. Riley

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS – The following transfers of real estate were yesterday recorded with Recorder of Deeds Rigby:

Darby – Mary B. Hilbert of Darby to Conrad Schaffer of same place, house and lot at 1121 Chestnut Street, \$1500

East Lansdowne – Stephen G. Humphreys of East Lansdowne to Elnora F. Knotts of Philadelphia, house and lot on Melrose Avenue; Nom

Upper Darby – George K. Holloway, Sr. of Lansdale to James A. Weaver of Haverford Township, two lots at Highland Park; Nom

Radnor Township – Hollace B. Hale of Radnor Township to T. Henry Hutchins of Bryn Mawr, lot with buildings on Bloomingdale Avenue, Wayne; Nom

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION