

CHESTER TIMES – November 23, 1912

BUILDING AND REALTY NEWS OF THE WEEK – Hundreds of Thousands Invested in Realty Improvements – In City and County

Few new building operations have been reported in either the city or the county during the past week, although there are still many under construction. Hundreds of dollars have been invested in the improvement of real estate in this county during the past three or four months. It is estimated that fully \$250,000 of improvements are now doing on in the Third Ward of Chester alone. Few building permits have been issued recently and while the realty market is picking up a little in this section, there have not been any sales of unusual size recorded.

Contractors all over the entire county are now pushing all work in hand to completion because it is now getting late in the season and everyone is anxious to have his operations underway before the severe weather of the winter develops. Throughout the county, including the City of Chester, there are a varied assortment of buildings, to be erected – schools, fire houses, churches, abattoirs, grease factories, theatre office buildings, factories, post office annex, a court house annex, etc.

IN THE CITY – The brick foundation on the \$38,000 Post Office annex is up about three feet and the frame of a door to the basement has been set. This annex is to be 68 feet 8 inches by 34 feet and when completed will practically double the size of the present Federal building. John W. Emery of Philadelphia, is the contractor.

The brickwork was completed this week on the office building that Attorney Benjamin C. Fox is building on Welsh Street opposite the Post Office. The carpenters are now putting a roof on the structure and workmen yesterday erected one of the two 20-foot columns that will adorn the front. Nolan Brothers of this city are the contractors.

The Consolidated Engineering Company of Baltimore has started to pour the concrete foundations for the new \$20,000 beef house on East Second Street near Market for Swift and Company.

The excavation for the foundations of the new factory of the John J. Buckley Packing Company, West Second Street, West of Market Street, is about half finished. This structure is to cost about \$50,000.

The Beacon Light Company, West Second Street, West of Market, is spending thousands of dollars on its large plant at that place. Interior alterations and additions are being made, a store will be erected in the yard to form a huge coal pit and an elevated tramway 25 feet in the air is now in course of construction.

Oliver Brothers, contractors of Chester, have started to raze some of the brick work at the rear of 313 Market Street, which building in addition to the property at 311 Market Street, will be removed to make room for the new theatre that Greenberg Brothers are going to build at that place. The contemplated structure will have a frontage of 40 feet on Market Street and a depth of 120 feet.

Samuel Laz, a Chester contractor, is finishing the interior of the abattoir that he is building on the East side of Second Street, East of Market Street, for J. Jacobson, a butcher. The capacity of the abattoir will be 50 daily.

Three-fourths of the structural iron work on the new Market Street recreation pier has been erected. The pier will cost \$3,850. The Cantrell Construction Company of Baltimore is the contractor.

The Dupley Metals Company of Front and Lloyd Streets is building a corrugated iron building 100 by 100 feet in which several furnaces will be installed at a cost of approximately \$25,000.

The new vaudeville theatre being erected at the corner of Sixth and New Market Streets by Thomas Hargreaves, the well-known showman, is rapidly nearing completion. The roofers have finished their work and the application of the interior wall finish will soon begin. It is thought that the pretty play house will be ready for occupancy soon after the beginning of the year.

Work on the new addition to the Good Will firehouse has temporarily ceased, owing to the difficulty in securing delivery of needed material. So far the first courses of brick work have been completed, the stone door sills placed in position and the frames of the two main doors erected.

Mechanics in the employ of General H.C. Cochrane are making rapid progress on the addition being built to his property on Providence Avenue, above Fourteenth, and when completed it will be quite a notable addition to that already pretty thoroughfare. The building is being substantially constructed of stone and brick and when completed the walls will be rough coated. A roomy front porch will be built on this as well as the adjoining property.

The splendid new home being erected for Dr. VanKurtin at Twenty-First and Providence Avenue is rapidly nearing completion, and should be ready for occupancy not later than the early spring. The stonework has been completed and the slate roof is being placed in position, while the carpenters are pushing work on the interior. This residence, when completed, will be one of the show places of the city.

The two houses being erected on Upland Street below Twelfth by Contractor Jagers are being rapidly pushed to completion. These twin dwellings will be equipped with every known comfort and convenience and will be among the handsomest of their kind in the city.

The Federal Steel Foundry Company is having a sand storage building erected on the West side of its yard at Delaware Avenue and Reaney Street. The structure, which will be one story in height is being erected by E.J. and E.H. Oliver, general contractors, who recently completed the erection of a one-story pattern storage building at the West End industrial plant.

J. Horace Vitsil expects to have the six new dwellings he is erecting on Flower Street, north of Sixth, under roof next week. The houses will be two stories in height and each will contain all the modern conveniences. The houses will be graced with front porches.

Two of the six new houses being built on Fourth Street, east of Palmer, will be finished within a few days. The remaining four dwellings will be ready for roofing during the latter part of next week.

Several of the twelve modern dwellings being erected on Fifth Street, between Lloyd and Pennell, are under roof. The houses will be two stories high and contain all the modern improvements.

The spacious front porch being added to the extensive improvements under way at Wesley S. McDowell's residence, 2112 West Third Street, is about completed. The general improvements include seven additional rooms. Bay windows have also been attached to the front and side of the house.

The improvements have been under way at the residence of William B. Northam, 140 East Seventh Street, for several weeks, are rapidly nearing completion. The attachment of bay windows to the first and second stories, makes an attractive appearance to the property.

A force of stone masons are still at work on the foundation walls for the Sunday school building of the Bethany Presbyterian Church at Sixth and Highland Avenue. The Sunday school building will face on Sixth Street. When completed this structure will be used for the church services also until the main edifice is erected later at the corner of the lot. The church proper will face on Highland Avenue. The officials of the church have planned to erect a \$20,000 edifice.

Francis J. Moore's four new houses on Fourth Street near ward, will soon be completed. The dwellings will be of modern construction and design. Mr. Moore is building the houses to sell.

The brick addition being made to the Beacon Light Company's substation at Front and Reaney Streets, is now under roof. Contractor Sheaff expects to have the annex completed within a week or more.

BUILDING PERMITS – The following building permits have been issued by Building Inspector Terryl T. Williams:

S.A. Hewes to build a two-story brick dwelling and stable on the south side of Jeffrey Street between Seventh and Eighth Streets

Morris W. Plumley to build a one-story brick garage 40 by 30 feet in the rear of 1004 Merlin Street for V.E. Lewis

William T. Fowden to build a two-story brick stable and workshop on the East side of Concord Avenue between Second and Third Streets, 25 by 24 feet

IN THE COUNTY – Dr. B.C. Giles contemplates alterations and an addition to his residence at Haverford. The building is to be of plaster and frame, two and a half stories high, 38 by 69 feet, when completed, with hardwood floors, electric light, hot air heat, shingle roof, etc.

Architects are now taking bids on the new \$50,000 school for Llanerch. The building is to be of stone, two stories high, with slate roofs, electric lights, etc.

H.E. Grau and Company of Philadelphia, is the only bidder on the alterations and proposed addition to the Media Armory. When completed the building will be of stone, one story high, 65 by 120 feet, with a slag roof, electric light, steam heat, etc.

Miss Mary Gibbons of Swarthmore, has awarded the contract for a tenant house to be erected at that place, to J.S. Flounders of Philadelphia. The structure is to be of brick and frame, three stories high, 17 by 2 feet, with hot air heat, electric light, slag roof, etc. Newton Flounders of Media was the architect.

The members of the Collingdale Fire Company have adopted plans for a new and up-to-date firehouse. It is expected that work on the new building will be started within a few weeks. The plans adopted call for a two-story firehouse built on concrete and modern in every particular, with a meeting room, assembly room and apparatus room. The new house will be erected on the plot at the corner of Bedford and Clifton Avenues. In Clifton Heights, Arthur F. Blake, of that borough, has sold the property of Mrs. Esther Cook at Baltimore Avenue and Summit Street to Councilman John Connor. The price was \$5,500. The same broker also sold the property of Clara L. Palmer of Springfield and Madison Avenues to H.D. Prendaville for \$5,000. The property of H.D. Prendaville on Berkley

Avenue was sold to Mrs. Clara L. Palmer. The price was \$2,500. In the same borough Charles Gillian has been awarded the contract for the erection of two modern two-and-a-half-story dwellings for James McDermott. They will be erected on Walnut Street. The contract price is \$5,000.

The building operations at Marcus Hook on the many plants now being erected there, are rapidly being pushed to a finish. The construction work on the plant of the United Roofing Company has been finished and the inside work is being hurried to completion so that no time will be lost in installing the machinery and the equipment. The brick work on that part of the plant of the Sun Company, which will be used as a machine shop, has been completed.

Clarence S. Gamble of Aldan has been awarded the contract for the erection of a large one-story brick store for J. Gross Perkins of Baltimore avenue, Clifton Heights. The foundations for the new hall and fire house at Rutledge are being laid.

George B. Wilson, Jr. has purchased from Davis Gravelle, through Harkness and Stetson, real estate brokers, a farm of 60 acres on the Creek Road in Edgmont Township, Delaware County. The farm adjoins the property of Harold Ellis Yarnall, purchased about one year ago through the same brokers; also the farms of Samuel D. Riddle and Horace C. and Charles M. Yarnall.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Lansdowne Heights – G Curtis Hartel of Haddonfield to William J. Latta of Philadelphia, buildings and lot 87 ¾ by 141 feet, subject to \$6,500 in mortgages, nominal

Trainer – D. Irving Trainer of Media to George W. Gray of Trainer, brick house and lot 89.7 by 126 12 feet, \$1800

Darby Township – Charles B. Wilkinson of Philadelphia to Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Railroad Company, lot 80 by 280 feet, \$1000

Marcus Hook – George Amis and wife of Chester to Martin Amis of Marcus Hook, frame house and lot 16 by 100 feet, irregular \$1500

Swarthmore – Adelbert C. Lewis and wife of Swarthmore to Adelbert C. Lewis of same place, houses and buildings and eleven lots, \$8000

Lansdowne Heights – Patrick Mahoney of Upper Darby to Jeremiah Mahoney of same place, lots nos. 310-321-314-316-318 \$2500

Upper Darby – Frank E. Rhodes, et al of Delaware County to James H. Timperlake of Upper Darby, frame house and lot, 45 by 150 feet \$2250

Chester – Harvey J.C. Shafer and wife of Wilmington to Elizabeth Fleming of Chester, right, title and interest, etc. in frame house and lot 20 by 102 1-4 feet, on east side of Central Avenue

Nether Providence – Thomas F. Rockett of Philadelphia to Clyde J. VanHouten and wife of Springfield, frame house and lot 77 by 198 feet \$900

Chester – Daniel Coonan and wife of Chester to Francis J. Moore of same place, lot 26 by 162 feet, also lot 20 by 160 feet on east side of Ward Street \$300

Francis J. Moore of Chester to William Pierce of same place, lot 26 by 162 feet, also lot 20 by 160 feet on east side of Ward Street \$300

Leiperville – Thomas P. Dwyer of Chester to Michelle Del Vecchio and wife of Leiperville, lot 40 by 145 feet \$375

Prospect Park – John T. Gray of Prospect Park to Bertha P. Gray of same place, house and lot 50 by 150 feet, \$3500

Beechwood – John H. Storer of Yaltham to Andrew J. Weakley of Philadelphia, lots No. 513, 514 \$480

Media – Emma Y. Hazard of Chester to Frederick C. Jewell of Pottstown buildings and lot 96 by 79 feet on West side of West State Street \$7000

Radnor – Norman P. Sinclair of Wayne to Tony Baghorn of same place, house at tract of 128-1000 of an acre, subject to \$2500 mortgage, \$1500

Highland Park – Walter H. Finley of Camden to James P. Croker of same place, lots no. 292-293, nominal

Chester – John J. Cosgrove of Chester to the Catholic Literary Institute of Chester, lot 39 ½ by 68 feet at southeasterly corner of Third and Tilghman Streets, subject to \$600 mortgage, nominal

Darby Borough – Harry Tarbotton of Darby Borough to Lavinia A. Began of same place, brick house and lot 17 by 105 feet, \$2100

Marple – Lemuel Wilt of Philadelphia to Joseph Friel of same place, tract of 1 acre, subject to 700 mortgage. Nominal

Joseph Freal of Philadelphia to Owen J. Kelly of same place, tract of 1 acre, subject to \$700 mortgage, Nominal

Lansdowne – Annie M. Annely of Philadelphia to Mabel V. Edwards of Lansdowne, lot 50 by 187 feet, \$550

Swarthmore – Russell Gray and wife of Swarthmore to Charles D. Joyce of same place, buildings and lot 50 by 180 feet, subject to \$3400 in mortgages, nominal

Collingdale – Milton L. Staley of Collingdale to Jeremiah Mahoney of same place, brick house and lot 28 by 85 feet, \$2150

Radnor – David S. Brown of Philadelphia to Martha M. Johnson of same place, stone house and tract of 39 acres, 21 perches \$8000

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION