

CHESTER TIMES – August 16, 1913 – RUMORS OF BIG REALTY DEAL – Valuable Market Street Property Said to Have Been Purchased for Department store

Inactivity in the real estate market this week is attributed in a large measure to the vacation season, most of the real estate men being out of the city. There is a well-defined rumor that two important properties on Market Street were sold this week, or that negotiations are about to be closed for them, to be used as a large department store. The purchase, it is said, was made for one of the large business houses already established in the city, the owners of which think that Market Street will be a much more valuable business site than the present location. The details of the sale have not been made public, but it will bring many additional people to the vicinity of Market Street, between Third and Fourth Streets, if the deal goes through and the business is moved from its present location. There is some talk that the present location of this business to use may be used later as a bank site.

George D. Hewes, the West End contractor and builder, this week took out permits for the erection of three additional brick dwellings on the north side of Third Street, between North and Trainer Streets. Mr. Hewes has had great success in disposing of the class of houses he has erected in the lower part of the city, and in many instances the houses are now under roof before they are sold or some are making inquiry to purchase them.

The only other permit granted this week by Building Inspector T. T. Williams was for a one-story brick store at the southwest corner of Fifth and Lloyd Streets.

There is considerable building operation going on over the city and plenty of work for the mechanics, but not much new work starting.

Real estate men in general over the city have many inquiries for lots on the streets that are being opened up and improved by the paving contracts recently let by City Councils. The paving work has been the cause of sewers being constructed, gas and water connections and other improvements made, which has placed upon the market much desirable land for homes.

It is predicted that it will be but a short time before all of the vacant land on Concord Avenue from Ninth Street to the city line, will be built upon following in the wake of the paving of the important highway. It is the direct avenue into the city from the west and northwest of the county, but has not been traveled so much of late owing in its bad condition. There is much land that is valuable for building purposes along the one of Concord Avenue.

Henry Nacrelli, owner says that he expects his new moving picture house open by September 1 or shortly after that. It is being constructed on the plot of ground between Reaney and Morton Streets on the north side of Third Street. Mercandante and Sons, the contractors are pushing the work along as rapidly as possible and hope to have the building completed in contract time. The building when completed, will accommodate 600 people and the promoters of this play house expect it to be a paying investment from the start. It will be supplied with all of the up-to-date features contemplated in the law regarding moving picture houses.

The same contractors expect to start the work of the foundations for the new St. Anthony's church at Third and Franklin Streets the early part of next week. The new edifice will be erected on the site of the old church and will be a marked improvement that locality of the city.

Joseph S. Clark, acting for the Sunneybrook Golf Club, of which he is president, purchased from John R. Fell his farm of 108 acres on Church Road near Camp Hill and the ground will be transformed into an 18-hole golf course. The consideration paid for the property was not disclosed, but it had been held for sale at \$65,000. George S. McKinley sold to Elmer Wilker the small stone house and three and a half acre of ground at the corner at Three Tuns and Lancaster Roads, Frazer for a considerable amount, not disclosed. The property is a part of the Bartram property which was sold to Mr. McKinley recently.

William S. Rewalt purchased from the Lower Merion Realty Company a half acre of ground of Liandrillo Road, Cynwyd, adjoining the property of Joseph B. Gemberling. The purchaser intends to erect a Colonial stone house upon the ground, which he will occupy as his residence.

J. B. Flounders of Media, Pa. purchased from Kerkness & Stetson a tract of land containing seven acres on Washington Lane, Rydal, overlooking the Huntington Valley Gold Club and the residences of many prominent Philadelphians. The purchaser is having plans prepared by McIlvaine & Roberts for the immediate construction of a large Colonial residence and garage. A. C. Williams conveyed his property on Beacon Lane, opposite Supplee Lane, Merion to T. Carter for a price not disclosed. The property consists of a three-story stone residence on a lot 35 by 50 feet.

FIVE NEW BRIDGES – Bridge connection between the section in the vicinity of 84th Street and Buist Avenue and Darby Township is now assured. Plans have been prepared by the Bureau of Surveys for bridges over Darby Creek, which will cost \$60,000 and will be built jointly by the two counties.

As soon as the plans are completed bids will be invited and the contract for the work awarded. The new bridge, which replaces the historic structure which was swept away by a freshet many, many years ago, will open up a rich section in Darby Township, and will give a short cut into Philadelphia. Agitation for its bridge has been going on for several years.

Isaac Kershaw of Fifty-Second and Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, is asking bids for four bungalows at Broomall, this county. They are to be constructed of frame one and one half stories high, 25 by 38 feet with shingle roof, electric light, hot air heating. The owner is receiving sub bids for the work.

Mrs. Mabel V. Edwards of Lansdowne is asking bids for the construction of a stone and plaster residence, two and one half stories high, 28 by 40 feet, slate roof, electric light, hot water heat, hardwood floors. Bids are due to be in today. Tyas & Company of Lansdowne are figuring on the work.

BUILDING AGREEMENTS FILED – There were three building agreements filed in the office of Prothonotary Andrew J. Dalton yesterday, and each was accompanied with stipulations against liens. The first was that of Builder J. D. Kreitburg of Philadelphia, who agrees to erect a two and one-half story stone and plastered houses for F. W. Layre of the same city at the northwest corner of Lansdowne and Albermarle Avenue, Lansdowne. The price for the dwelling is \$6550. A building agreement was also filed between the Lansdowne Construction Company and Mrs. Eliza C. Hartel of Lansdowne whereby the Lansdowne Construction Company agrees to make alterations and build additions to her store at Lansdowne and Baltimore Avenue. The price for the work is \$5288.

J. D. Lengel a builder of Philadelphia, agrees to make alterations and erect additions to the house of Mrs. G. K. Reed at Louella and Pembroke Avenue Haverford Township. The price for the work is \$1312.

CITY BUILDING CHATTER – Plans have been prepared for an addition to be made to the Madeline Catholic Church property at Ridley Park and also for the erection of a parish house of stone construction at that place. A new rectory is also contemplated in the proposed improvements. Local contractors have been asked to submit bids. The architect is George Lovett of Philadelphia, who, it is understood, has also prepared plans for the erection of a stone parish school on the St. Gabriel church property at Norwood.

Porches, which will be of ornamental design are being built to the ten modern dwelling houses which have been erected on Crosby Street, between Twelfth and Thirteenth Streets, by Contractor J. Irvin Taylor. The supports for the porches, which will grace the front of the houses are being constructed of artificial stone. When completed these houses will add greatly to the architectural appearance of that locality.

The work of making alterations to Thomas Welsh's property on Seventh Street, east of Potter, is being rapidly pushed to completion by Contractor William Ward. The front portion of the building has been extended to the building line and extensive improvements are being made to the interior of the structure.

Iron girders for the second floor of the machine shop being built on Sixth Street, east of Welsh, are being put in place by Contractor William Ward, who is erecting the structure for the Harper Manufacturing Company. The building which will be two stories high, is being constructed of brick.

The three houses being built on Upland Street near Twelfth, for George Pike are nearly completed. The houses are two stories and a half high and present a cozy appearance. R. H. Jaggars has the contract.

IN THE WEST END – Contractor Francis Moore of the Eleventh ward has twelve houses in course of construction. Four at Fourth and Ward Streets and four at Fourth and Hayes Streets are ready for the finishing touches. The construction work of four at Third and Franklin Streets has been completed.

In the Eleventh ward the new buildings being erected by James McMaster and Edward Todd at Third and Hayes Street are rapidly nearing completion. The new Johnson building at Third and Wilson Streets will be completed in about two weeks. William Hewes the builder, has completed a house at Twelfth Street and Highland Avenue. Four houses being erected by John J. Ryan at Third and Edwards Streets are about completed.

Contractors and builders in the West End ARE BEING HELD UP IN THEIR WORK OWING TO THEIR INABILITY TO GET CAPABLE HELP. This is especially true of plumbers, lathers, and plasterers.

The following real estate transfers were recorded in the office of the Recorder of Deeds yesterday:

Collingdale – Frank B. Rhodes to Thomas H. Marsh of Philadelphia, brick house and lot situate in Collingdale, \$2100

Chester – Isaac Roder and wife of Philadelphia to Van Zent E. Buck of Chester, lot and building, southeast corner of Seventh and Lincoln Streets, \$2400

Radnor – Elwood de V. Marrell and wife of Philadelphia to Wayne Plumbing and Heating Company of Wayne, lot on Plant and Woodland Avenues, Wayne, \$100

Radnor – William H. Boyle of Berwyn, Chester County to William J. McCone of
Devon Chester County, lot on Conestoga Road, Wayne \$900

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION