

CHESTER TIMES – August 23, 1913 – LOCAL THEATER MUCH IMPROVED –
Seating Capacity Increased Four Hundred and the Lobby Brought Down Even with
Sidewalk

It is expected that the extensive improvements being made to the interior of the Washburn Theater on Seventh Street, which have been under way for several weeks, will be completed in time for the re-opening of the play house on Monday, September 1. The theater is being practically remodeled and enlarged and when the improvements are completed there will be an additional seating capacity of 400 people and the entire seating capacity will be 1650.

The entrance to the building will be on a level with the sidewalk. Half the space occupied by the old lobby will be used for seating purposes and the new slope to the floor will give every person a good view of the stage. Even those sitting on the rear seats will be given a clear view.

New boxes are being built and the gallery is being extended to them. A fireproof wall has been built nearly to the roof, separating the stage from the auditorium. New dressing rooms of modern design are being constructed and an additional boiler will be placed in the basement for emergency purposes. In case of extreme cold weather fires will be built in both boilers.

The ladies' toilet will be removed to the first floor. There will be the ticket offices, one at each end of the lobby. The office at the east end will only be opened in case of a rush. The floor of the lobby will be of tile, laid on a cement foundation. This will add to the fireproof qualities of the improvements being made.

Proprietor Leon Washburn is also having all the old scenery replaced with new scenic designs. The improvements to the building are being made by Contractor William Provost, Jr.

Mr. Washburn has practically made a new theater out of the building site he purchased the play house a few years ago, and when the improvements now being made are completed the theater will be one of the most modern play houses to be found in any city the size of Chester. The improvements will cost several thousand dollars.

POST OFFICE NEARING COMPETITION – Postmaster James M. Hamilton who is also custodian of the post office building at Fifth and Welsh Streets, says that the new addition to the Federal building will be completed in about three weeks. It will be finished and ready for occupancy well ahead of the times cited in the contract. The current quarters are much crowded and the large addition will allow much additional room for the working force of Uncle Sam, and will greatly facilitate in the handle of the heavy mails. Just as soon as the new building is ready for occupancy and accepted by the government, the work of toning up the old building will begin. A government inspector, who was in this city a few days ago, agreed with Mr. Hamilton that the interior of the present post office needs some attention.

MORE NEW HOUSES – Permits were taken out this week in this city for the construction of nine new brick dwellings. J. Irvin Taylor, the local builder, who has erected many houses in different parts of the city, secured a permit to build four two-story up-to-dates dwellings on Maple Avenue, between Kerlin and Butler Streets. There is a demand for this class of house.

George D. Hewes of the West End took out a permit to build three two-story brick houses on the south side of Third Street between Booth and Trainer Streets. Mr. Hewes has built many houses in that section of the city and has found a ready market for them all.

Howard D. Taylor, one of the youngest builders of the city, was granted a permit to erect two two-story brick dwellings at Twentieth and Upland Streets.

Work upon all of these houses will begin at once and the owners hope to have them roofed in before the cold weather comes on.

J. L. F. Frazier secured a permit to construct a one-story brick store at the corner of Fifth and Lloyd Streets and John H. White secured permission to erect a one story frame building to be covered with iron in the rear of the property at 319 Tilghman Street.

IN THE COUNTY – A. L. Flounders, the well-known Media contractor has been awarded the contract for the erection of certain new buildings for the Rose Tree Fox Hunting Club. This contract was awarded this week and Mr. Flounders was successful over a number of competitors. The contract includes an addition to the club house to be built of stone, two and one half stories high, 20 by 25 feet, stable two stories high 30 by 70 feet; tack house 15 by 15 feet, shingle roof.

Wilson, Eyre & McIlvaine architects are preparing plans for a two and one-half stone house to be erected at Radnor for John B. Townsend. This residence is to be constructed of stone with all the latest modern improvements.

Charles W. Bolton & Son are preparing plans and specifications for a one-story stone church to be built at Morton, this county, for the First Presbyterian Church. Bids will be asked just as soon as the specifications are prepared.

Gray Brothers of Rosemont have been awarded the contract for extensive alterations to be made to the two and one-half story stone residence at Haverford for A. W. Robinson. The plans for the work also call for an addition to the house.

TRANSACTIONS IN WEST END – Work has been started on four new modern dwellings to be erected at Seventh and Wilson Street, by William L. Deveney, the West End contractor. Contractor Francis Moore has completed the erection of four dwellings at Fourth and Hayes Street and four at Fourth and Ward Streets. H. L. Witsil has started the erection of two dwellings at Third and Clayton streets. The four houses being erected by J. J. Ryan at Third and Edward Street are nearing completion.

The new stores and dwellings being erected on West Third Street, between Hayes Street and Highland Avenue, for William F. Ryan. Edward Todd and James McMaster are completed with the exception of the bulk windows and doors in the front. The new Johnson building at Third and Wilson Streets has been completed with the exception of the front.

Work is progressing on the erection of the new moving picture theater being built on West Third Street, between Flower and Reaney Streets. The greater part of the interior work is done and the front exterior work will be started in a few days. The owners expect to open shortly after the first of the month.

Seven new houses built by Samuel A. Hewes at Third and Townsend Streets with the exception of a few minor details, are complete and will be ready for occupancy in a short time. William Hewes has two houses in course of construction at Twelfth Street and Highland Avenue.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Darby – Gustave E. Neil of Phoenix, Arizona to Rittenhouse Realty Company.
Brick house and lot on Columbia Avenue, nom
Haverford Township – Suburbs Holding Company to Rosa Flanon of Philadelphia.
Two lots at Ardmore Park, \$580
Marcus Hook – Smith Smith of Marcus Hook to Valentine Tenderman, same place.
Lot on Marshall Avenue, \$592
Marcus Hook – Mary a. Marshall of Marcus Hook to Smith Smith of Marcus Hook.
Lot on Marshall Avenue, \$592
Clifton Heights – Worthington E. Dotts of Philadelphia to Charles A. Wannet, Jr.
of same place, house and lot on Broadway Avenue \$1700
Chester – Stenly Rapisis of Chester to Joseph Lipiensi of Ridley Township, house
and lot on East Third Street, \$1850
Nether Providence – John W. Willis of St. Paul, Minn. to T. Wilson Woy, all of
Nether Providence, house and 5 acres of land, nom
Marple Township – Hamilton Trust Company to Isaac Kershaw of Philadelphia,
eight lots at Broomall Park, nom
Ridley Park – Alfred G. Walker of Philadelphia and Daniel F. Deal of Glenolden to
Michael Takacs of Ridley Park, house and lot at Ridley Park Heights, nom
Collingdale – Delaware County Trust Company to Mary E. Hanna of Philadelphia,
three lots on Collingdale Avenue, nom
Delaware County Trust Company to W. J. Brennan of Philadelphia, twenty-three
lots, nom
Darby – Albert Tarbottom of Lansdowne to Anselm L. Loll of Philadelphia, house
and lot on Twelfth Street, nom
Frank Chain of Darby to David Cornman of Philadelphia, house and lot on Chestnut
Street, nom
Tinicum Township – A. W. Jones, trustee, to Andrew Krampen of Tinicum
Township, lot on Wandotte Street, \$65
Chester – Daniel Strain of Chester to Stanislaw Marhocki of Chester, house and lot
on Caldwell Street, \$2400
Collingdale – Isaac H. Redford of Philadelphia to James Van Schouhaven of
Collingdale, lot on Collingdale Avenue \$750
Chester – Taylor C. Buke of Chester to Walter G. Chew of same place. Seven
houses on Jeffrey Street between Sixth and Seventh Street, \$1250
Chester – H. G. Chadwick of Chester to Elizabeth K. Pettit of Rancocas, N. J.,
house on East Eleventh Street, \$750
Chester – H. G. Chadwick to Minnie Butterworth of Pobstown, N. J., house on East
Eleventh Street, \$750
Chester – H. G. Chadwick to Joel H. Phipps of Chester, lot on alley between
Madison and Upland Streets, nom
Upper Darby – George W. Statzell of Upper Darby to Harry G. Malloy of
Philadelphia, lot at Drexel Hill, \$1400
Colwyn – Joseph McGregor of Colwyn to Mary McCarthy of Philadelphia. House
and lot of Walnut Streets, nom
Prospect Park – Frank Moore of Philadelphia to Francis Gallagher of same place,
three lots on Ninth Avenue, nom

Ridley Park – W. A. Macan of Ridley Park to Thomas O. Haydock, Jr. and E. J. Turner of same place, house and lots on Swarthmore Avenue, nom

Radnor Township – Mary D. Betty of Philadelphia to C. H. S. Howell of Radnor Township, two lots on Midland Avenue, nom

Chester – Casper Urban of Chester to Lawrence Blumberg of same place house on Highland Avenue, \$750

Edgmont Township – Rebecca S. Thorp of Ardmore to G. S. Wilson of Philadelphia, farm of thirty-five acres, \$2500

J. Albin Thorpe of Media, to G. S. Wilson of Philadelphia, two farms containing 48 acres, \$7031.70

Haverford Township – Charles S. Taylor of Haverford to M. S. Grawl of Highland Park, lot at Llanerch, \$2500

Chester – Franklin Building and Loan Association to Charles Palmer of Chester, house and lot on central avenue \$850

Aldan – George H. Custer of Collingdale, to C. F. VanHorn of Aldan house and lot at Township Line \$4600

Chester – Julia A. Weber of Chester to Charles Palmer of Chester, house on West Fourth Street, \$1600

Collingdale – Frederick Behrens of Philadelphia to Augusta E. Behrens of same place, two lots on Spruce Street, nom

Lower Chichester – Mary E. Barry of Philadelphia to Ida M. Magraw of Lower Chichester, two houses at Tramer, \$1600

Collingdale – H. D. Denny of Pittsburgh to Frederick Behrens of Philadelphia, lot on Spruce Street, \$150

Upper Darby – Florence E. Longacre of Upper Darby to Howard Longacre of same place, two lots at Observatory Hill, nom

Haverford Township – William J. Swan of Bryn Mawr to James Walsh of Ardmore, two lots at South Ardmore, \$267.50

Haverford Township – John L. Gray of Rosemont to Fanny V. Cook of Philadelphia, two lots at Llanerch, nom

Darby – Harry Tachotom of Darby to Adam J. Gotshall of same place, six houses on Popular Street, nom

Chester – Anna R. Black of Chester to Frank Culbertson of Chester, house and lot on Franklin Street nom

Swarthmore – C. Edgar Ogden, Media to Gordon B. Jones of Swarthmore, lot on Ogden Avenue nom

Swarthmore – C. Edgar Ogden of Media to George A. Zimmer of Colwyn lot on Ogden Avenue nom