

CHESTER TIMES – October 2, 1915 – NEW SCHOOL FOR CLIFTON – Increase in Population Has Made Necessary Another Educational Institution in the Borough

Following the lead taken by many other communities of the county, Clifton Heights is about to build a new school house, and on November 2, the voters of that borough will be asked to sanction a loan of \$35,000 for this new school. The present year has been the biggest the county has ever known in the number of school houses erected, and close to a half million dollars have been spent in the county for schools. The new building in Clifton Heights comes, as do practically all of the others erected this year, because of the growth in population which is overcrowding the schools and compelling the erection of new buildings. Clifton school directions had contemplated the erection of an addition with six rooms to the present school building, but after much deliberation, it was decided that the borough would save money in the long run by putting up a new building.

The borough has grown this year faster than any year in a decade. Despite the troubles of the Thomas Kent Manufacturing Company, which is the principal industry of the town, that plant has been busy at all times. With order aggregating more than a million and a half dollars, that plant has work enough for two years to come, and this prosperity is inducing the building of many homes in the borough.

REALTY MARKET GOOD – Builders and real estate men of the county have been looking for some time for a dropping off in the number of sales of properties and the letting of contracts; but so far, they have been pleasantly disappointed, and every indication is of a continued boom. The cool weather which heralds the approach of the winter season, has had no apparent effect upon business, and the present week has been aw banner one in the number of real estate transfers recorded. Some of these transfers have been of big properties.

Fairman R. Furness, who at the death of his father, Walter Roger Furness, inherited a fine farm and handsome new stone housed near the Rose Tree, is not satisfied with the elegance which surrounds him in this new home, and he has purchased a property along Ridley Creek, just outside of Media, where he will erect a comfortable country home. His new property possesses a wealth of wild beauty and this beauty is being enhanced by improvements being made by Mr. Furness, who prior to the death of his parents, who died within a few months of each other, was connected with the diplomatic corps of the government and was stationed at St. Petersburg, Russia.

Samuel Lax of this city, has been awarded a contract to build two two-story houses at Sixth and Fulton Streets, Chester for Thomas Birch also of this city. The houses are to be completed by December 10 and the contract price is \$2350.

Isabella Frazier Scott of St. David's, has awarded a contract to Elfret and Wood, Philadelphia contractors for a residence and garage at St. David's. No price has been made public.

The Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Railroad Company has awarded a contract to William D. Haddock & Company of Wilmington, for the erection of a concrete Electro-Mechanical signal tower to be located about 1000 feet north of North Eddystone Station. The price is not given.

Wadas & Jones, who are to build twenty-seven houses and two stores at Keystone, Upper Darby Township, have let sub-contracts to George Elliott & Son for the bricklaying; to the Haney White Company, for lumber; to William Sonway for the furnishing of brick; to William A. Neilson for the carpenter work; to William H. Yorke, for the iron work; to Thomas P. Lee, for

stone work; and to Harry Paguch for painting. The only bulk prices given are for the carpenter work, \$2500; iron work, \$811; stone work, \$3075; and, painting \$1615.

PERMITS GRANTED – Four permits were issued during the past week by Building Inspector Terryl T. Williams. They were to the following:

E. J. Oliver – Addition to the rear of the buildings at 313-15 Market Street

Mrs. Mary Craig – Brick addition to 215-17 East Fifth Street

Nolan Brothers – Two two-story brick dwellings with attic on the north side of Twentieth Street, between Upland and Potter Streets

John Pryxylvis – Two two-story brick dwellings on the north side of Seventh Street between Wilson and Hayes Streets

BUILDING NOTES – The improvements to the store and dwelling at Broad and Crosby Streets, owned by Samuel Oglesby are progressing. A new front will be placed in the store and the second and third stories while the building will contain all modern conveniences when completed.

The cellar for the building to be erected on Seventh street, adjoining the Washburn Theatre by R. Brooks, is nearly excavated and the middle of next week the stonemasons will begin their work.

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

Ridley Township – Faraday Improvement Company to Salome Donlan of Shamokin, three lots at Faraday Park, \$475

Upper Darby – Samuel Crothers of Philadelphia to George W. Steinmetz of Upper Darby, two lots at Clover Hill, \$700

Tinicum Township – John J. Guilfooy of Philadelphia to Ferdinand Loren of LeArrangements. But there is as much in the domestic situation to become cheerful about as there is in the foreign situation to become distressed over. Every dollar expended these days by the railroads is being efficiently used. The average industrial corporation is being conducted on a plane of strict integrity and economy. The political outlook is clearing. There is less unrest and business men are getting their affairs in shape to handle larger projects in the autumn.

In some industries there is a great dearth of skilled labor. The steel mills are still doing a rushing business and plants engaged with “war orders” are giving more attention to regular lines, so as to benefit from genuine recovery when it comes later on. The average price of finished products is now the highest that has prevailed for two years. Export buying is heavy and orders for railroad equipment are enlarging. Plans equipped to handle domestic business only are less active. Country merchants are in good shape and those favorably located in the agricultural sections are doing a better business than they did a year ago. There is a broad buying of automobiles, which is probably the most intelligent that the country has ever seen, the inquiry being chiefly for trustworthy moderate-priced cars. The industry as a whole is enjoying wonderful prosperity, and is likely to show record production for the year. Foreign orders are so heavy that some companies are experiencing difficulty in keeping up with the demand even when operating their plants “at capacity” in night and day shifts.

As a result of the craze to buy “war stocks,” bank clearings of late have shown material gains over the corresponding weeks last year. Speculation in these shares has reached extravagant proportions, being based on expectations of immense profits to be cleared from contracts for army supplies for the account of belligerent governments. The movement has been spectacular, and very high prices have been reached for many of the shares. Aside from this

inquiry, which has been highly speculative, there has been an increased demand for high grade bonds, which investors are taking for income producing purposes. This inquiry will be certain to broaden as the season advances and business conditions improve. The violent break in foreign exchange rates showed that the rest of the world was withdrawing its reserve balances from London to deposit them with the banks of the United States. This action was based on the theory that the balances were safer here than anywhere else in the world, since they could be quickly withdrawn whenever the owners needed ready cash.

When hostilities cease abroad a trade war will probably follow in which the nations of Europe will seek to regain the business lost to the United States. This country now holds the whip-hand in the world's markets, and will in all probability retain a large portion of the foreign business which formerly went to other centers. It is certain, therefore, that American producers and manufacturers will control a large share of world trade after peace has been restored. As soon as the war is over there will be a rush of immigration to this country, both for purposes of employment and to escape the frightful taxation which will be imposed to pay for the waste which the war caused. The sharp fall in the price of London exchange made it imperative that Great Britain and France should send a commission over here to consider the best means of re-establishing exchange rates and bringing about normal conditions. The United States is fast changing from a debtor nation to a creditor nation. Our currency is practically the only currency that has not depreciated. This is attracting world-wide attention.