

CHESTER TIMES – February 5, 1916 – ACTIVITY IN REAL ESTATE – Important Transactions During the Week in Valuable Property in This City and Points Nearby

This week will probably go down in history as the most important in the real estate market of this city. Property on Market Street, the main business thoroughfare of the town that has been in the name of well-known families for years changed hands for large sums of money. It is the first real evidence of the coming to this section of the large industries as effecting the price of land, and what may be looked forward to in the way of development in market values of property. No one can tell what the future holds for this good old city in the way of real estate and the improvement in buildings. The most noticeable change will be the one that is to take place at the southeast corner of Fifth and Market Streets, where it is planned to replace the old frame buildings on the Clyde property with a substantial eight-story structure of the latest improved pattern. This in itself will mark the first important step in giving to Chester a substantial and imposing character of building in which to do business.

The large restaurant and apartment house erected at Third and Market Square by Shober gives some idea of what a change a modern structure makes as compared with the old time structures in which business was transacted for so many years. When the other corners of Market Square are built up like the Shober corner it will make a vast difference and will change the appearance in a marked degree from present conditions. The growth of population demands larger and more imposing structures and the big prices paid for land this week indicates that investors are ready to put their money in city property to help along the promised boom for Chester.

Ordinarily at this time of the year there is little doing in the real estate and building world, but the market is more active at this period than at any time in the recollection of the oldest resident. The spring will see developments in building and exchange of property that will be the marvel of the age, is the prediction.

The sales made in this city and vicinity this week will aggregate upwards of half a million dollars.

WORSTED MILLS EXPANDING – The Griswold Worsted Mills Company at Darby has begun to feel the prosperity which has come to this county, and is finding its present plant inadequate to meet the requirements of the business. In consequence, a new building has been contracted for and ground has been broken for the foundations. The building will be of brick and reinforced concrete, two stories high, 300 by 54 feet. The contractors are George & Borsch, but the price has not been made public. The building will be used partly for manufacturing and partly as a storage warehouse. About three hundred additional workmen will be employed by the company after the plant is completed.

Collingdale, along the line of the Philadelphia and Garrettford Street Railway, is having an exceptionally healthy growth just at present, and in all parts of the borough buildings, are going up. Probably the biggest thing in point of money involved is the purchase of land for a new Catholic Church, convent and school, as the amount involved will reach \$75,000 in all probability, before the buildings are completed and ready for occupancy which will not be for some months. A tract of land fronting on a new street facing the traction company's line and extending north from Bartram Avenue, 625 feet by 200 feet in area, has been purchased by Rev. Joseph P. Monville, rector of the Church of the Holy Spirit, at Sharon Hill, and the title placed in the name of Archbishop Prendergast. A new parish will be formed and the buildings named will be erected.

A contract has been let by George L. Lewis of Philadelphia to M. Atles Ermold of Haddon Heights, N. J., for the erection of ten small houses and alterations to one house at Springfield and Florence Avenues in the same borough. The price is \$12,000.

Among the transfers of the week was one for nineteen acres of ground on Old Lancaster Road, Radnor Township, sold by Joseph W. Kirk and J. Hunter Ewing, executors to Mary Ellison Walbaum of Radnor Township. The price paid was \$19,000.

GIVEN CHURCH WINDOW CONTRACT – John P. Grey, trading as the Duke Plate Works of Philadelphia, has been awarded a contract for the leaded glass windows for the new Presbyterian Church at Lansdowne and Greenwood avenues, Lansdowne. The price is \$573.90.

Milhouse and Maker, Media contractors, have begun work on the erection of a pair of houses on State Road, Upper Providence Township, which they will occupy as residences. The houses will be worth about \$3000 each.

William Bittle of Media has purchased a plot of nearly an acre on Jackson Street near Eighth Street from the Hildebrand Estate and will build a home to cost about \$8000 upon the tract in the spring.

William H. Mille's handsome stone dwelling on North Jackson Street, Media is about ready for occupancy. Mr. Miller tore down a home valued at close to \$10,000 and erected his new home at a cost of about \$18,000. Mr. Miller is president of the First National Bank of Media.

Eugene F. Walker, a member of the county bar is about completing a fine home in Media.

Walter Rhoads White of Lansdowne during the week has awarded a contract to J. M. Beckert of Ridley Park for the construction of a new dwelling house in the borough of Lansdowne. No price is named in the notice given of the letting of the contract. The house is to be two and one-half stories high, frame and plaster, 84 by 25 feet, shingle roof. The heating and lighting parts of the contract are reserved...

Albert Wunderlich of the third Ward, who has erected a number of two-story dwellings in this city, is preparing to build several when spring opens up. These houses will be of the modern two-story character and will contain all conveniences.

GEORGE J. SEIDLER BUSY RESIDENCE – Settlement has been made by George J. Seidler for a residence in the Colonial style on Orchard Road, Haverford, recently built by Frank H. Mahan and sold through Hirst & McMullin. The property was held for sale at \$21,000. It occupies part of a tract sold two years ago by the same brokers for Frederick Sylvester to Frank H. Mahan, and is adjacent to residences recently sold to Dr. S. Louis Ziegler, Charles H. Starr, Winthrop Sargent, Jr., and William G. Sautelle.

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

Lansdowne – Clara A. Neal of Cynwyd to George P. Williams of Lansdowne, house and lot on Stewart Avenue, \$4000

Haverford Township – Emil Meuler of Philadelphia to E. Oscar Lobb off Llanerch, six lots at Brookline, \$1

Upper Darby – William Gladwin of Upper Darby to Frank Keller of same place, two lots on Bloomfield Avenue, \$475