

CHESTER TIMES – May 6, 1916 – MARCUS HOOK IN LIMELIGHT – Viscose Company Awards Contract for Forty-five Additional Up-to-Date Houses

Marcus Hook will see this summer one of the greatest periods of growth that thriving borough along the Delaware has ever witnessed. Already the building work is well under way and each week will see something new develop. Within the last day or two ground has been broken for the first big operation of the summer. The American Viscose Company having let to Harry Brocklehurst of Philadelphia, a contract to erect forty-five houses for workmen of the plant. The contract calls for curbs and gutters, side and front walks, branch sewers and fences in addition to the houses, and the cost will average about \$2000 a house. The houses will be built on a strip of the company's land on the Philadelphia and Wilmington Post Road near Penn avenue. Brocklehurst has built many houses for the company in the past.

Plans have been prepared for ten houses to be erected by Job L. Green. These will be built on Second Street, a new street not yet physically opened, but which will be opened by the borough within a few weeks. On this same thoroughfare A. R. Fullerton will build four houses and Joseph Hinkson, will build four. These dwellings will be very similar in design and will cost about \$2500 each. An unconfirmed report says that the Sun Oil Company, which is making extensive improvements to its plant, will build between twenty and thirty houses for its employees this summer.

MANY HOUSES NEEDED – The building of houses for employees has become very necessary in Marcus Hook, as only in this way can the companies be sure of holding their men. Every house is filled up and there is a demand which it is almost impossible to meet this summer. To make matters worse, Chester's new Jitney law is hitting the borough harder than anywhere else. There were about 300 jitneys in operation when the new law went into effect last Monday, and of these more than two hundred ran to Marcus Hook. Under the new law there remain just five machines carrying passengers and as many workmen in the industries of Marcus Hook depended upon the jitneys to get to their homes in Chester, they would welcome the building of houses in the borough. This is especially true of those employed at the General Chemical Works, where more than a thousand men work, and which plant is some distance from the trolley line.

YEADON IS BOOMING – Yeadon is seeing one of the largest building operations this year it has ever seen; the operation being very similar to that of the Viscose Company of Marcus Hook, except in point of size. Theodore Presser, a well-known publisher of Philadelphia, purchased twenty acres of land in Yeadon some time ago and upon this land he will this summer erect 100 houses for employees of his firm. Work upon this operation has been started, ground having been broken this week for the houses. During the last couple of months men have been at work laying sewers, and this part of the work has been practically completed. The houses to be built will vary in value from \$2500 to \$3500, and the total sum invested will be upward of \$350,000. The old Pembroke baseball field, which is on the rear of the tract, will be converted into an athletic field for employees of the Presser publishing house.

Residents of Highland Park in Upper Darby Township are enthusiastic over the probabilities of growth in that part of Delaware County during the coming summer. It is asserted that there will be close to 200 houses put up there, and none of these will be operations, all being built by individuals. These will range in price all the way from \$3500 to \$8000. Included in Highland Park in this estimate are Observatory Hill, Kirklyn and Montrose. James Logue, Upper Darby builder is to build five houses at a cost of about \$3500 each in the Upper Keystone District of Upper Darby Township.

**KENT TO BUILD HOUSES** – The Thomas Kent Company, the new company which now owns the Kent Mills in Clifton Heights, is to add to its holdings of houses in Clifton Heights, by the addition of sixteen houses of the semi-detached type. These will be of six rooms each with modern conveniences, and will cost about \$1600 each.

John G. Brown of Media has let a contract to J. E. Worrilow of Media for a stone, brick and stucco bungalow on the Hildebrand tract, Media, plans for which were prepared by Newton Flounders, architect. The price is not given. Edgar V. Seeler of Philadelphia has awarded to Doyle & Company, Philadelphia contractors, a contract for the erection of a house at Goshen and Boot Roads, Newtown Township. The house will cost about \$6000.

**SOME CONTRACTS LET** – Gray Brothers of Rosemont have been awarded a contract by Mary Ellison Walbaum for alterations and additions to the latter's residence on Conestoga Road, Ithan

Dr. C. M. A. Stone of Woodbury, N. J. has awarded to the Arthur Machin Company, Chester contractors, a contract for a house at Twentieth and Hyatt Streets, Chester. The contractors will do the work on a commission basis.

C. Hartman Kuhn of Radnor has let to Milton W. Young, contractor, the erection of a residence on Radnor Road near Bryn Mawr, at a price that has not been made public.

**WILL BUILD NEW GARAGE** – One of the largest permits for a building that has been issued during the course of the past week has been issued to Jerome B. Hines for a one-story addition to a brick garage on the north side of Concord Avenue between Seventh and Eighth Streets. This addition in itself will be a pretty good sized building having a frontage on Concord Avenue of 40 feet and extending back for a distance of 84 feet. Work on this contract will be pushed to an early completion.

**ABOUT THE CITY** – William Rockenbeck of the Eighth Ward this week for two dwellings at Third and Pusey Streets on the northwest corner. The buildings will be two stories in height, of brick construction and will be modernly equipped.

The nine dwellings being erected at Seventh and Lloyd Streets by James Shroshire are nearing completion. The plasterers have been busy this past week and the front porches will be added this coming week.

William G. Price sees the early completion of the row of handsome dwellings across from the Chester Hospital on Ninth Street below Barclay. The finishing touches will be soon applied and there will be a section of finely equipped homes offered to home seekers. The houses complete the block running from Barclay Street to Chester River.

The small building used for a number of years as an office by Alderman James Longbotham on Third Street east of Dock, has been dismantled and it is expected a new building will take its place, greatly adding to the appearance of that particular business section.

The building being erected by Stacy G. Glauser & Sons, on the Concord Avenue side of their plant. Sixth Street and Concord Avenue is progressing nicely. The brick work is nearly completed and the carpenters will soon have full sway. The new building will increase the floor area of the plant to an appreciative degree.

**BUILDING PERMITS** – Building permits issued during the course of the week were as follows:

Charles Pyle for Phillip Downey – One-story brick addition in the rear of southwest corner of Third and Morton streets, 6 feet by 18 feet and 10 feet in height

H. Louis Morris for Michael Cronin – One-story brick garage in rear of 515 East Ninth Street, 18 feet by 20 feet and 10 feet in height

Jerome B. Hines – One-story addition to brick garage on north side of Concord Avenue between Seventh and Eighth Streets, 40 feet by 84 feet and 12 feet in height

J. Linwood Eisenberg – One-story frame building covered with corrugated iron in the rear of the northeast corner of Twenty-Third and Crosby Streets, 16 feet by 18 feet and 8 feet in height

S. A. Hewes and Son – Two two-story brick dwellings on south side of Twentieth Street between Madison and Upland Streets, 16 feet by 28 feet and 17 feet, 6 inches in height

S. A. Hewes and Son – Two two-story brick dwellings on north side of Third Street between Pusey and Lloyd Streets, 16 feet by 40 feet and 17 feet 6 inches in height

William J. Wiser for John Thompson – One-story brick garage on the north side of Twenty-Fourth Street between Edgmont Avenue and Howard Street, 30 feet by 20 feet and 10 feet in height.