

CHESTER TIMES – September 21, 1912

BUILDING AND REALTY NEWS OF THE WEEK – Twenty New Dwellings for the Eighth Ward – In City and County

Twenty new houses all for the Eighth Ward and all within a stone's throw of each other is the latest announcement in building activity in this city. The announcement in the Times of Thursday that Benjamin C. Fox would build an office building on Welsh Street will also materially add to that location and help to increase the valuation of Chester realty. Work in progressing on other operations in both city and county. Few new operations are reported for the county and these are limited to residences. The realty market remains about the same, several transfers have been recorded at Media.

The twenty new dwellings will be built in Middle Western section of Chester. James A. Shropshire of 2124 West Third Street will erect ten or twelve residences on West Fifth Street between Lloyd and Penn Street. Samuel R. Bell of Eleventh Street and Edgmont Avenue, another well-known builder, will erect eight or ten dwellings on a piece of ground that he owns at Fifth and Lloyd Streets.

The new office building, which Lawyer Fox contemplates, will have a frontage of thirty-five feet on Welsh Street and will extend back a good depth. It will be two stories in height and will be built of a dark brown brick. Two columns 20 feet in height supporting a large clock will add greatly to the exterior appearance. Nolan Brothers are the contractors. Ground will be broken soon.

Amos P. Sheaff who has many operations under way in Chester at this time, has broken ground for the addition to the sub-station of the Beacon Light Company at Front and Reaney streets. The addition is designed to care for increased business. It will be pushed for completion.

George Riley will build a residence for T.M. Longscope at Lansdowne. Charles S. Walton of Philadelphia contemplates a home at St. Davids. Powell Stackhouse is going to build at Wallingford. Operations under way throughout the county are progressing nicely.

IN THE CITY – James Shropshire, an enterprising resident of the West End, has purchased a plot of ground on West Fifth Street, between Lloyd and Pennell Streets on which he intends to erect ten or twelve modern little homes. The houses will be of bricks, two stories high with bath and other desirable conveniences, front yards and porches. The plans have been prepared and the contract will be awarded in a few days, so that operations will begin on the improvement in a short time. These houses will adjoin the pretty little residence owned and occupied by William G. Shields, corner of Fifth and Lloyd Streets.

Contractor H. Louis Morris has about completed the work of demolishing the old Franklin Street school building and the excavations are being made for the proposed new school building. The improvement will be pushed along with vigor as long as the good weather lasts. There will be entrances on Concord Avenue and on Franklin Street and plenty of room for playground purposes according to the plans prepared. The improvement is expected to be well advanced before winter arrives.

The plasterers have almost completed their part of the contract on the new First Italian Presbyterian Church, corner of Third and Fulton Streets and the structure is fast assuming a finished appearance. A new wooden cross has been erected on the roof in front of the building and the windows and doors will soon be in position and ready for the painters. The church will soon be ready for religious services. One of the new cement

houses built by Lake Salmon at Third and Pusey Streets, is already occupied and the second one is nearly ready for a tenant.

The bricklayers have about completed the first story on the new store property of W.C. Phillips, Third and Parker Streets and the carpenters are preparing to lay the joists. The building is expected to be completed in a few weeks.

Samuel R. Bell, the contractor and builder, is going ahead with his building enterprises and has switched his operations to Fifth and Lloyd Streets. He has secured ground on the north side of Fifth Street where he is preparing to erect eight or ten houses similar in size and construction to those he has just completed on Lloyd Street between Second and Third Streets. They will be built in blocks of two with front porches and all the interior conveniences found in houses of that size. Ground is now being cleared of trees and shrubbery and the work of excavating the cellars will be commenced immediately. Mr. Bell's experience has been that he cannot build houses too fast for applicants and they are occupied as soon as they are completed. All the new houses just built by him on Lloyd Street are occupied and the paint is hardly dry.

Progress is being made on the work at the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Station at Twelfth Street. About a foot and a half of the roof edge of the station building and waiting shed is being removed in order to facilitate the passing of the mammoth locomotives now coming into use. The old platform has been torn up on the waiting shed side and a new brick sidewalk is being laid. A force of about thirty artisans and laborers is doing the work.

The new store building that has been under the course of construction at the rear of the Imperial Hotel, on East Seventh Street, for some time past is now about completed. Two large bulk windows have been installed and after some necessary cleaning is done the store will be ready for occupancy.

The contractor in charge of the construction of the magnificent home, Robert Wetherill, a local manufacturer, is building for his son-in-law. Dr. J.P. VanKeuren at Twentieth Street and Providence Avenue is pushing along with the work as rapidly as possible. The walls of the dwelling have been raised to the window frames of the first story, while the foundation has been finished on the garage recently started.

Contractor William J. Hewes of 1102 Highland Avenue who is building six modern two-story brick dwellings on Highland Avenue, is progressing nicely with the work.

The brick work has been completed and the interior work commenced on the ten new two-story brick dwellings Contractor Samuel A. Hewes of Nineteenth and Hyatt Streets is building on West Sixth Street between Ward and Wilson Streets.

Francis J. Moore of Marcus Hook is progressing nicely with the brick work on two two-story brick residences that he is building on the North side of West Fourth Street, West of Palmer Streets.

William L. Devinney, a contractor of 2519 West Third Street is progressing nicely with his operation of eight dwellings on West Fourth Street between Palmer and Townsend Streets. The brick work is about completed on six and the builder expects to break ground for the remaining pair in the near future.

Ground has been broken for the addition to the sub-station at Front and Reaney Streets of the Beacon Light Company. Amos P. Sheaff, a contractor of this city, was awarded the contract recently, and is doing the work. The new structure is to be of brick

about 70 by 30 feet and one story high. It will be built in conformity with the present building.

IN THE COUNTY – George Riley, a contractor of Lansdowne, has been awarded the contract for the building of a three-story plaster house for Thomas M. Longscope of Lansdowne, in that borough. The dwelling will be 30 by 50 feet with a shingle roof, electric lighting, hardwood floors and hot air heat.

A large number of contractors are bidding on the stone residence that Charles S. Walton of Philadelphia contemplates building at St. David's. The architect, D.K. Boyd of Philadelphia has been taking bids, which are due today. The structure is to be of stone, two and a half stories in height, 125 by 60 feet, with a tile roof, electric light, hardwood floors and atmospheric heat.

Powell Stackhouse of Wallingford, is going to build a residence at that place. The building is to be of stone, two and a half stories in height, 47 by 45 feet, with a shingle roof and electric light.

The Upland Athletic Association's hall at Castle Avenue and Main Street is beginning to take form. The brick work has been completed and the stone front steps have been laid. Workmen are now putting on the roof. The building is a two-story brick one.

The foundations have been completed for the two houses that are being erected by Joseph Hulmes on Upland Avenue. Both residences will be pushed to completion.

Both of the two new homes, one for William Glatts and the other for Henry Crothers, a contractor, are nearing completion. In both instances the plasterers have finished their work and the builders are awaiting the arrival of the plumbers. The Glatts operation is on Eighth Street and the house that is being built by Crothers is at Ninth and Church Streets.

George Hurdy has broken ground on Fairview Road, Leiperville for two houses, which he is going to build for William Hulmes. One of the structures is to be of brick and the other one of frame.

J.F. Dougherty, proprietor of the Colonial Hotel at Leiperville, has about completed the extensive improvements to his hostelry. The bar has been extended several feet. The upper floors have also been renovated. The new part of the hotel will be opened to the public on Monday morning.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Chester – David H. McCray and wife of Miami Florida to William T. Taylor and wife of Chester, brick house and lot, 32 by 108 feet on northerly side of Eighteenth Street, \$2500

Norwood – John P. Green of Philadelphia to Helena M.L. Vertigern of Norwood, buildings and lot, 50 by 125 feet, \$4200

Chester – Edmund J. Oliver, et al of Chester to John R. Likens of Chester, brick house at lot, 19 by 100 feet, southerly side of Fourth Street, \$2400

Llanerch – Edward H. Giles of Philadelphia to J. Lynford Beaver of same place, buildings at lot, 114 by 180 feet, subject to \$5000 mortgage, nominal

Drexel Hill – Samuel Crothers of Philadelphia to John M. Kyle of same place, lot 50 by 100 feet, \$775

Drexel Heights – Samuel Crothers of Philadelphia to Effie W. Lane of same place, lot 50 by 100 feet, \$500

Chester – F. Otis Bryant of Chester to Alice J. Larkin of same place, house and lot 16 by 132 feet on North side of Twenty-First Street, \$1800

Nether Providence – Anna M. Meade of Philadelphia to Joseph Pilkington and wife of Nether Providence, frame house and tract of 70.6 perches, \$1,000

Lower Chichester – Jesse W. Rawcliffe and wife of Lower Chichester to Charles A. Ernst of Ridley Park, buildings and lot 8 by 23 perches, \$11,500

Radnor – John Burns and wife of Radnor to Louis Harrison of Lower Merion, lot 36 by 110 feet, \$400

Glenolden – Charles H. Marshall of Sharon Hill to Mary A. Holt of Glenolden, house and lot, 50 by 145 feet, \$2500

Swarthmore – Frank L. Bassett of Philadelphia to Marie V. Geyer of same place, buildings and lot 200 by 240 feet. Nominal

Chester – Joel R. Phipps and wife of Chester to Peter Skodis and wife of same place, brick house and lot 16 1-2 by 30 feet on south side of Third Street. \$1550

Aston – Alexander Little of Aston to George Wood of same place, buildings and tract of 10 acres. \$1000

Chester – William Walley of Chester to Thomas M. Thomas of same place, two frame houses and lot 42 by 52 feet on northerly side of a fifteen feet alley. \$550

Cambridge Trust Co. of Chester to Henry S. Gilman of Chester, brick house and lot 20 by 120 feet on north side of Third Street. \$3200

Media – First National Bank of Chester to Charles H. Schoff of Media, buildings and lot at corner of Washington Street and Providence Road. Nominal

Marcus Hook – John M. Broomall of Media to John A. McIsaac of Marcus Hook two brick houses and lot 50 by 110 feet. \$2500

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION