

CHESTER TIMES – September 28, 1912

BUILDING AND REALTY NEWS OF THE WEEK – West End Hotel Proprietor to Erect Nine Houses – In City and County

Four new operations were begun in building in this city during the past week. Ground was broken for the \$40,000 addition to the Chester post office. Excavations were also started on the proposed Fox Building on Welsh Street, opposite the post office. James A. Shropshire and Samuel R. Bell, builders of this city, have commenced operations in the Eighth Ward, which will aggregate about twenty modern brick dwellings. John McGlinn, a West End hotelman, will build nine dwellings at Third and Wilson Streets.

Building throughout the county has been brisk during the past week, many new operations having been reported. Twenty new houses will be built at St. David's. The operations under way in both city and county are progressing nicely and contractors are working to get everything under roof before the severe weather of the winter is upon them. The realty market has been steady but there have been no large or unusual sales during the past week. Real estate brokers have quite a little property for sale at this time.

The Glen Mills Paper Company is contemplating an addition to its boiler house. Charles Sim of Rosemont, is planning to build a large residence at that place. At Merion, just across the county line, Van Court Carwithin of Philadelphia, received bids up until yesterday for a new residence. The building is to 55 by 30 feet of stone, two and a half stories high, and with all modern improvements.

IN THE CITY – The excavations have been about half completed for the addition to the Chester post office. John W. Emery, a Philadelphia builder, has contracted to erect the building and turn it over to the government for \$35,870 by September 1, 1913. The structure is to be of buff brick with granite trimmings, two and a half stories in height, 88 feet, 8 inches, by 34 feet, with slate roof, fireproof floors, electric light, steam heat, and all modern conveniences.

Francis J. Moore, a builder of Marcus Hook who is erecting four two-story brick dwellings on West Fourth Street, West of Palmer Street, has the brick work completed on two of them and these are now ready for the roof. The bricklayers have started work on the second pair.

William L. Devinney, a contractor of 2509 West Third Street, has the brick work completed on two of the eight houses he contemplates for West Fourth Street, East of Palmer. On a second pair the bricklayers are up to the second-story frames and are also working upon the third pair. The remaining two will be commenced in the near future.

James J. Farnan, architect is making plans for nine dwellings to be erected at Third and Wilson Streets for John McGlinn, proprietor of the Franklin House. The buildings are to be erected in blocks and will contain all the very latest improvements. They will be built back from the building lines for porches and front yards, the corner block will be three stories in height for a store and apartments. The plans will be sent to local contractors for bids when they are completed.

Work on the new William Penn Theatre, which is situated on the spacious strip of ground between the rear of the present structure and New Market Street, is rapidly progressing. The walls, which are being constructed of stone, are almost finished and are expected to be ready for the roofs to commence work in several days. When completed the new theatre will be the largest and most modern motion picture house in the city. The present theatre building owned by the William Penn Company, which faces on Edgmont

Avenue, will be used as an entrance and lobby to the new one, which will seat in the neighborhood of five hundred persons. The new building will mark an epoch in local theatre building.

H. Louis Morris, the contractor in charge of the construction, the store and apartment house on Edgmont Avenue, below Tenth Street, has a force of men putting the finishing touches to the structure, which is three stories high. A decorating firm has leased the store and will assume possession as soon as everything has been completed.

Ground has been broken for the cellars of the twelve new houses to be erected on West Fifth Street, between Lloyd and Pennell Streets, and with no interference on the part of the weather, the improvement will progress rapidly, as the builder is desirous of having the houses completed this fall. The houses will be two stories high, with front porches and provided with all modern conveniences to be found in small homes.

Operations have also been commenced on the row of proposed new dwellings for Contractor and Builder Samuel R. Bell on the North side of Fifth Street, between Pusey and Lloyd Streets. The cellars are being dug and no time will be lost in pushing the erection of the houses to completion, as there is a demand for this class of cozy homes in all sections of the city. The plans are similar in design to the many houses built by Mr. Bell in various parts of Chester and already applications have been made by prospective tenants. The location is most desirable and the improvement will add greatly to the general appearance of that neighborhood of attractive homes.

All the work in connection with the addition to the Lincoln public school has not been finished and the carpenters are busy outside of school hours in completing the contract. They work before and after the sessions in order not to interfere with the routine of school regulations. The general arrangement of the halls, closets and rooms used by the several grades is most convenient and commodious and there is plenty of light and ventilation for teachers and pupils. The assembly room on the second floor is well adapted to general purposes and can be converted into two rooms when necessary for study purposes or used as a whole for entertainments. Miss Ella P. Smith, principal of the building, and the corps of teachers associated with her in the school work are very well pleased with the arrangement and think they have one of the best school buildings in the city.

J.H. Barber, who conducts a store at Sixth and Kerlin Streets, has leased the store on West Third Street, below Penn, recently vacated and occupied for years by William H. Fredale where he will conduct a branch store as soon as some alterations are made to the interior.

Robert Boyle is making some improvements to his store property at the corner of Third Street and Concord Avenue.

The buildings at Fourth Street and Concord Avenue recently purchased by the School Board for the improvement of the Franklin School property have been practically demolished and workmen are busy in clearing the premises of tree trunks and other debris. Work has been commenced also on the foundations for the new school building and Contractor H. Louis Morris is daily on the ground pushing the good work along. The enterprise is expected to be well advanced before winter sets in.

The basement for the three story store building in course of erection by Contractor H. Louis Morris, the contracting builder and contractor, is about completed. The building, when completed, will add greatly to the architectural beauty of the neighborhood.

The abattoir being built for J. Jacobson, the butcher, of West Third Street, at Second and Bevan Streets, will soon be completed. Sam Lax has the contract.

The Beacon Light Company is making rapid progress in the work of excavating a canal between Market Street wharf and the plant of the Consumers Ice Company in preparation for the construction of a canal to extend to the line of Front Street, in preparation for the construction of a canal to be used in connection with a conveyor to be utilized for the conveyance of coal overhead from barges to the plant of the company.

The Delaware County National Bank has had an iron railing erected in around the front steps to the entrance to the building. The railing is being repainted.

A.E. Lessy proprietor of a department store at Third and Hayes Streets, is having the interior of his store remodeled. A wall is being removed so that floor space may be gained. William Pierce, a West End contractor, is doing the work.

Samuel A. Hewes, a contractor, of Nineteenth and Hyatt Streets, who recently built ten dwelling on Jeffrey Streets, near Seventh, is putting the finishing touches to the block of ten modern two story brick dwellings that he is erecting on West Sixth Street between ward and Wilson Streets.

William J. Hewes of 1102 Highland Avenue, a contractor, who is building six houses on Highland Avenue near Twelfth Street, is progressing nicely with the undertaking and has bricklayers at work. The residences are to be brick two stories high, with tin roof, front porches, gas light, hot air heat and modern in detail.

John A. Jones, a decorator of Second Street and Highland Avenue, is repainting the dwelling at 2517 West Fourth Street.

The block of eight houses on the North side of West Third Street between Central Avenue and Edwards Streets, have been repainted.

The frame work on the proposed garage for Dr. George W. Thomas has been erected. This garage is to be of corrugated iron and will at the rear of his residence, 1422 West Third Street.

IN THE COUNTY – Harris and Richards of Philadelphia are taking bids, due Monday, on a stone and plaster residence at Rosemont for Charles Sims of that place. The dwellings is to be 50 by 20 feet, two and a half stories in height, with a shingle roof, electric light, hardwood floors and hot water heat. Worrell and Walters of Llanerch, Gray Brothers and George L. Croll, both of Rosemont, are among the bidders figuring.

The Glen Mills Paper Company is planning an addition to the boiler house of its plant at Glen Mills. The structure is to be of brick, one story in height, with a slag roof. The owners took bids on the work up until Thursday. The contract has not been awarded as yet.

A tract of two acres adjoining St. David's Station, on the Main Line of the Pennsylvania Railroad, has been sold by Harbert and Claghorn for Robert F. Williams of Paris, France, to a purchaser who will develop it by the erection of twenty houses to cost about \$100,000. The purchaser, who has made settlement for the tract, has his plans all prepared, and work upon the houses will be started shortly, it is believed.

The month of August was particularly slow as far as new buildings getting underway was concerned, and very little was done in the building line in this borough. But few permits were passed upon last meeting of council.

Work on the new Episcopal Parish House is going ahead rapidly. The question of erecting a new edifice for the African M.E. Church has been held in abeyance for the time being.

The Darby Friends Monthly Meeting have decided to have the interior of the historic old house of worship renovated. The walls will be re-papered and the woodwork which has been painted previously, will be touched up, but the plain unpainted benches will be left in their natural condition.

In Darby the new operation that was started by Harry Tarbotton of Darby at Pine and Poplar Streets, a few months ago, has been so successfully terminated that he started to erect six more houses this week. These houses were sold by Joseph Hallas, Jr., of Darby before they were actually completed. Two of the six houses, for which ground was broken on Thursday, have been sold by Hallas, which indicates the great demand for moderately-priced houses with all modern conveniences in good locations.

In Leiperville and in Eddystone similar conditions exist. There is usually such a demand for houses that they are snapped up long before they are completed. An operation of four houses being erected in Darby by Thomas Sipple is being held by him for investment purposes. Every one of the four has been rented, although they will not be ready for occupancy until the beginning of October.

As soon as these are completed the builder will start immediately to erect four more dwellings of the same type. There is considerable building activity in Collingdale, one of the largest tracts of ground there being sold this week by Joseph Hallas, Jr., for improvement purposes. The tract of Clifton and Hibberd Avenues, Collingdale, consisting of six large lots and four lots on Hibberd Avenue, near Felton Avenue, has been sold to John Congleton of Collingdale, who has started the erection of a handsome dwelling on Clifton Avenue. In the same borough Joseph Toogood has purchased one of the new houses on Lafayette near Andrews Avenue.

H. Blair Cooke of Collingdale reports the following sales: 209 Lincoln Avenue, three-story stone and shingle house to William A.D. Hurlbrink of Darby; dwelling at 207 Lincoln Avenue and a lot, 41 by 27 feet 6 inches to Dr. J.W. Harrigan, store and dwelling at 5 Main Street, Darby.

IMPROVE 60-ACRE FARMS – In Lansdowne, George Riley has broken ground for the erection of a handsome new house in Lansdowne Court for Thomas M. Longcope. Dr. George F. Baier of Norwood who recently purchased the residence and 60-acre farm of Thomas S. Halsey, at Boothwyn, has made extensive alterations and improvements to the place for the purpose of taking up his residence there in the spring. There has been a considerable movement in farm lands, the following having been sold by Benjamin T. Levis of Media; Frank F. Yarnall of Boothwyn, farm of 40 acres in Chichester Township to Joseph Quinn of Upper Providence; farm of Levis Register of Middletown Road to Isaac J. Tetter; old Worrell mansion at the corner of Providence Road and Washington Street, Media to T.E. Allison; lot in Village View for Wesley C. Wilkins to Katherine Barr of Philadelphia who contemplates erecting a handsome dwelling on the site.

George Hardy of Leiperville has obtained the contract for the erection of two houses in that borough for William Wilkins. Hardy has just completed two houses for John J. McCoy. The new dwellings will be two stories in height, will have all modern conveniences, and will be started at once. One will be of frame and the other of brick. Considerable building work is being done on the estate of Mrs. S.D. Riddle at Rockadie,

which will be the scene of many social and hunt events this coming season. The foundation for the training shed has been completed and the structure is being raised. It is the intention of the contractor to have the work on the training shed or the Casino, as it is called, completed by November 1, 2h2n the annual hunt, breakfast will be given. This building is being erected on the old baseball grounds. At the other end of the ball field, two houses are being erected and will be occupied by the attendants to the kennels and the stables. Twelve box stalls are being erected near the station for some of the prize horses.

A handsome eleven-room house will be built in Garrettford by James Booth of same place, for G.A. Lethe. The first story will be stone and the second will be dashed. The price will be \$5500. The handsome new school building being erected at a cost of \$15,000 in East Lansdowne will be completed by November 1. The McClintic Construction Company has received the contract for the construction of a steel super-construction at Eddystone for the Baldwin Locomotive Works. R.H. Anderson and Company of Lansdowne have received the contract for the erection of a house for Herman Claude Berry, on the north side of Plumstead Avenue, Lansdowne. A building agreement has been filed in the Prothonotary's office between W. Harry Roberts of Haverford Township, builder, and Robert L. Montgomery, owner, of Haverford for the erection of a farm house dairy house and additions and alterations to two other buildings. The price will be \$7704.

W. Harry Coberts has been awarded the contract for making alterations and additions to two properties in Radnor belonging to Robert L. Montgomery of Haverford. The work is to be completed by November 1. The price will be \$7704.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Norwood – Assembly Building Association of Philadelphia to T. Frank Sentman of Norwood, house and lot 45 by 91 feet. \$1250

Lower Chichester – Emma Penell of Philadelphia to William J. Watkins and wife of Lower Chichester, two frame house and lot, 60 by 100 feet. \$2500

Wayne – Isidore H.B. Spier of Wayne to Lena DeMarse of same place, house and lot 14 by 230 feet, subject to \$200 mortgage, \$2250

Chester – George B. Harvey of Chester to Isaac Woodfaulk and wife of same place, frame house and lot, 50 by 108 feet, east side of Townsend Street. \$1250

Isaac Woodfaulk and wife of Chester to George B. Harvey of same place, frame house at lot 50 by 108 feet on east side of Townsend Street, nominal

Collingdale – Milton L. Staley of Collingdale to Arthur B. Robertshaw and wife of Aston, two brick houses and lot 36 by 96 feet. \$4000

Chester – Charles P. Perkins, et al, of United States to David F. Starts of Chester, lot 20 by 120 feet on southerly side of Seventh Street. \$400

Alexander Ross of Chester to Albert Ilg of same place, lot 73 by 132 1-3 feet, on south side of Twenty-Second Street. \$3000

Samuel R. Bell of Chester to John H. Farley and wife of Chester, house and lot 17 1-2 by 85 feet on south side of Second Street. \$2200

Sharon Hill – J. Franklin Winner of Philadelphia to Walter Webb of Swarthmore, lot 40 by 100 feet. \$650

Clifton Heights – Harry H. Hasselman and wife of Clifton Heights to Nathan B. Bartleson of same place, house and lot 22 1-2 by 130 feet. \$2900

Marcus Hook – Joseph S. Gross of Marcus Hook to Mary E. Stevenson of same place, brick house and lot 35 by 120 feet \$2212.50

Secane Highlands – Alvin C. Young of Lansdowne to Sarah J. Wheat of Philadelphia, lots 394-295. \$560

Ridley Township – Emma C. Stockton of Philadelphia to Dorothy Miller of same place lot No. 225. \$300

Curwen A. Yoder of Philadelphia to Dorothy Miller of same place, lot, 40 by 124. \$200

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION