

CHESTER TIMES – January 11, 1913

BUILDING AND REALTY NEWS – Activities of Late Season Unprecedented and Many New Operations Contemplated – In the City and the County

Building activities are still being pursued by contractors in Chester and all parts of the county despite the fact that it is now the middle of January. No new building operations have been reported in Chester during the past week, but several new ones are contemplated for the county, including some costly residences and a club house at Swarthmore.

Probably the busiest section of Chester in late season building is the Third Ward, where thousands of dollars is being expended on realty improvement, Marcus Hook and vicinity is equally as busy, while Media, with the Court House improvements, is probably next.

The realty market was normal during the past week and no transfers of any great moment were made. A number of small sales have been made. One building permit was issued in Chester by Building Inspector Terryl T. Williams during the week and it was for a theatre.

IN THE CITY – Work is now progressing more rapidly than ever on the \$38,000 annex which is being erected to the Chester Post Office by John W. Emery, a Philadelphia contractor. The interior brickwork is now done and the laying of the exterior ornamental stones nearly completed. With this ultimately accomplished the bricklayers will have a free hand to go ahead.

The interior of the Fox building, an office structure built by Nolan Brothers, of the city, for Benjamin C. Fox, opposite the post office, is being completed.

Rapid progress is also being made by the Consolidated Engineering Company of Baltimore on the new \$30,000 beef house for Swift and Company of Chicago, at 17, 19, 21 and 23 East Second street. The concrete floor is laid and the forms for pillars and the second floor laid. The brick work has also reached the second floor and the first floor frames in the rear have been set. Marcandate and Son of this city are doing the brick work.

The concrete work on the new recreation pier at the foot of Market Street is about one-fourth completed. Hay is used to cover the freshly laid concrete to prevent a possible freezing. The Cantrell Construction Company of Philadelphia is doing the work.

H. Louis Morris, a contractor, has completed the large three-story brick building at 213 Market Street, with the exception of the store front.

Oliver Brothers are making good headway on the razing of the building at 311 and 318 Market Street, upon which site a motion picture theater will be erected for Greenberg Brothers. The building is to be 38 by 120 feet and one story of 20 feet in height.

Francis J. Moore has completed the erection of four modern two-story brick dwellings on Fourth Street, west of Palmer. These houses, which are built in the twin style, are graced with front porches, and the spacious rear yards are enclosed with neat iron fences. Each house contains seven rooms and bath and is equipped with all the up-to-date conveniences.

Six of the eight new houses being built on Flower Street, north of Sixth, by J. Horace Witail, a real estate operator of the West End, are rapidly nearing completion. The dwellings, which are being constructed in the twin style, will be graced with front porches. Six of the dwellings are under roof and the two houses that are being built near Seventh Street, have reached the second story.

Work on the two-story corrugated iron building at the Federal Steel Foundry Company's plant, at Reaney Street and Delaware avenue, is being pushed rapidly to completion by Oliver Brothers, the contractors. The structure, which is now under roof, will be used for the storage of patterns.

It is expected that the basement of the Bethany Presbyterian Church's new Sunday school building, in course of construction at Sixth Street and Highland Avenue, will be completed next week. There has been a delay on the operations for several days on account of the lack of materials which have failed to arrive. The basement, when completed, will be used for holding the regular church and Sunday school services until the remaining portion of the proposed \$20,000 edifice is built.

IN THE COUNTY – Nathan Hayward, who is connected with the Bell Telephone company, accepted bids Thursday for a residence for St. David's. The building is to be plaster, three stories in height, 40 by 90 feet, with tile roof, electric lighting, hot water heating and hardwood floors.

Architects will make bids in three weeks for the \$12,000 residence and garage that E.G. Whitman of Philadelphia is going to build at Cynwyd. The residence is to be stone, two and a half stories high, shingle roof, hot water heat, electric light and hardwood floors.

John W. Converse of Rosemont, is contemplating a three story stone addition to his residence at that place. Gray Brothers of Rosemont are among the bidders.

Plans have been started for the new club house that the Delphio Literary Society of Swarthmore is going to build at that place. The building is to be of stone, one story in height, with a slate roof and electric lighting.

One of the principal things of interest to real estate men in Delaware County was the recent decision handed down by Judge Johnson, who decreed that the Board of Commissioners of Haverford Township has no right to interfere with the use of land owned by Harry G. Evans, Jr. of that township, as a cemetery. This nullified the ordinance passed by the Commissioners in February last, prohibiting the establishment of any more cemeteries within the township limits, because the township was of the first class. The owner contracted to sell his farm of 155 acres for \$87,700 on March 7 to a purchaser with the understanding that the new owner would have legal right to use the land for cemetery purpose, but title was refused because of the existence of the ordinance referred to.

There has been considerable activity in Linwood Heights during the last two years, since several of the big industrial corporations have established their plants at Marcus Hook. Three years ago Linwood Heights was farm land, but when the big manufacturing plant opened up at Marcus Hook, employing several thousand men, speculators bought land, sold building lots to mechanics and small tradesmen at attractive prices and terms, imposed no building restrictions and the result today is a thriving community with more than two hundred dwellings. There have been rumors of a trolley line coming through but so far this is the only thing that has been heard about it.

The property of M. Del Collo on West Greenwood Avenue, Lansdowne, has been sold by W.C. Shuster to Eugene Schnatz of Philadelphia, for \$7000. After extensive repairs, Mr. Schnatz will occupy the house early in the spring.

Henry M. Tomkins of Lansdowne has awarded the contract to R. Hall Anderson for the dwelling on the North side of Stratford Avenue, Lansdowne, eighty-four feet west of Runnymede Avenue for \$8400.

Plans are being considered by the trustees of the Wallingford Presbyterian Church for a new parsonage. Charles Hallan of Upland has sold his house on Eighth Street to John P. Grimson of the same place.

It was announced that the work will be begun next spring in the Statzell tract at Drexel Hill on about seventy-five houses.

Nelson Kershaw was awarded a contract to Thomas F. Manley who will begin work immediately for the erection of a three-story brick mill adjoining his present plant in Clifton Heights. The new mill will be 51 by 150 feet in dimensions, and with the machinery will cost \$100,000 and will give employment to at least one hundred additional persons.

A small building boom has also struck Lansdowne, which will add a number of houses. Builder W.C. Shuster has been awarded the contract to erect eight two-story dwellings on Greenwood Avenue, and R.E. Anderson and Company, a contract to erect six new houses in Lansdowne.

After being held up nearly all of last week by the storms and the holidays, building and contractors in Eastern Delaware County boroughs started in on their building operations in earnest making up for lost time. The improvements on the County Courthouse at Media, which are to cost more than \$180,000 are progressing nicely, while the work on the Darby firehouse and on the excavating for Company NO. 1 have been held up. As was expected, the realty market was dull, only a few transfers being recorded and no prospects made.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS – Ridley Township – Faraday Improvement Co. of Pa. to John M. Tindall of Philadelphia, lot nos. 121 and 122, \$240

Drexel Hill – Samuel Crothers of Philadelphia to Emma Strauss of same place, lot 50 by 100 feet, \$580

Samuel Crothers of Philadelphia to Adolph Gibian of same place, lots nos. 475 and 476, \$690

Garrettford – Charles H. Hays of Philadelphia to Frederick Niemeyes of township of Darby, lot 120 by 130 feet, \$1450

Chester – Robert Wetherill of Chester to Louis A. Van Keuran of same place, stone house and lot 120 by 140 feet at northeast corner, Twenty-first Street and Providence Avenue, nom.

Radnor – Mary J.B. Chew et al of Radnor to Benjamin Chew of same place, house and tract of 36 by 504 – 1,000 acres, nom

Swarthmore – Frederick M. Simos of Swarthmore to J. Archer Turner of same place, lot 105 by 239 feet, subject to \$17,000 mortgage, nom.

Beechwood – John H. Storer of Waltham to Julius Bruhns & Co. of Philadelphia, lots nos. 51-52, \$920

Morton – E. Robert Rabenold of New York to John A. Morrow of Newtown house and tract of 88 92-100 square perches, nom.

Milbourne – Barbara Haeffner of Philadelphia to Sophie LeElem of same place, house and lot 25 by 100 feet, subject to \$2500 mortgage, nom.

Radnor – Howard S. Kromes of Radnor to Anna Kromer of same place, house and tract of 3168-10,000 of an acre, \$2000

Chester – Robert E. Ross of Philadelphia to Stacy G. Glauser et al, of Chester, lot 75 by 120 feet on north side of Sixth Street, \$2140

Swarthmore – E. Irwin Scott of Swarthmore to Ralph F. Channell of same place, lot 75 by 210 feet, nom.

Wayne – George W. Chapin of Radnor to G.A. Schneebele et al, of Philadelphia, house and tract of 1 504-1004 an acre; lot 89 by 221feet, subject to \$14000 in mortgage, Nom

Drexel Hill – Samuel Crothers of Phila to Deniskane Hane and Wife of same place, lot no. 349, \$460

Samuel Crothers of Phila. to Charles Erwin of same place lots No. 962-963-964, \$1170

Haverford – Will B. Ledech of Haverford to Michael J. O'Connor of same place, building and lot 37 by 125 feet, subject to \$2000 mortgage, Nom

Observatory Hill – Joseph Rothwell of Westmont New Jersey to Theodosia Ceibe of same place, lot No. 115. \$300

Newtown – John V. Ramsden and wife of Overbrook to Anne Vanclain of Rosemont, buildings and tract of 7 714-1000 acres, Nom.

Chester – William Crush of Chester to Dominco Vadiro and wife of same place, brick house and lot 17 2-3 by 120 feet, on Northwest corner Sixth and Butler Streets, \$1525

Prospect Park – Stanley B. Smullen of Prospect Park to William P. Green and wife, buildings and lot 37 1-2 by 149 feet, subject \$2500 mortgage

Middletown – Frederick L. Gallup of Chester to Alfred C. Mason of Philadelphia, buildings and tract of 5 7895-10000 Nom.

Ridley Park Heights – Alfred G. Walker et al, of Philadelphia to Ernest Schmidt of Scranton, lots No. 52, 53, Nom.

Chester – Frank R. Holcroft of Chester to John J. Williams of same place, buildings and lot 19 1-2 by 130 feet on Easterly side of Pennell street, \$2400

Phineas Baker et al, of Chester to John J. Williams of same place, brick house and lot 19 1-2 by 120 feet, \$2400

Colwyn – Richard H. Thatoner of Philadelphia to Thomas B. Sipple of Darby Borough lot 15 by 65 feet, \$200

Nether Providence – T. Ellwood Allison of Nether Providence to the Philadelphia and Baltimore Central R.R. Co. of Pa., buildings and tract of 388-1000 of an acre, \$957

Essington – Joseph Duncan of Philadelphia to Joseph Duncan, Jr. and wife of same place, lot 25 by 125 feet, nom

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION