

CHESTER TIMES – June 22, 1912

BUILDING AND REALTY NEWS OF THE WEEK – Packing House and Meat Depot for Heart of Chester – In City and In County

While but few large operations have been reported during the past week, there have been several new buildings, of minor importance, commenced. This activity is limited mostly to the county districts, although there is quite a little building underway in Chester at the present time. The Chester operations are progressing nicely.

The John J. Buckley Company has secured an architect to draft plans for the new 70 by 70 three-story packing house, Swift and company have announced that they will erect a meat distributing depot on East Second Street East of Market. Bids for the new addition to the Chester post office, for which Congress has appropriated \$40,000, will be closed at 3 o'clock on Thursday afternoon of next week.

The operations underway in the various boroughs and townships of the county are being rapidly pushed to completion. Many new operations are reported herewith. There seems to be a building boom of no mean size just over the county line in Merion. The builders in the upper end of Delaware County are watching the situation with interest.

IN THE CITY – The United States Government Treasury department is taking bids for the rebuilding and enlarging of the Chester post office up to 3 o'clock on Thursday of next week. The building is to be of stone and brick and the new half will be built in conformity with the present building.

No new operations have been started in the West End this week. Work is progressing nicely on those underway, however, Martin J. Dwyer has completed to the roof the pair of houses he is erecting on West Second Street, West of Reaney Street. Francis J. Moore has about completed the two dwellings he is building on West Fourth Street, West of Palmer Street. William L. Deviney is getting along nicely with his operations at Third and Booth Streets. William Hewes, another contractor, is erecting several residences at Twelfth Street and Highland Avenue.

With the exception of one the six bungalows being erected at Twenty-third and Howard Streets by William Ward, a local builder, have been completed and are ready for occupancy. The houses are modern in every detail and are unique in architecture. The houses are being built for several people and are the first of many that will spring up in that section during the next two years.

Work commenced yesterday on the projected annex to the Lincoln school, Eighth and Lincoln Streets. A four-room addition will be constructed at the rear of the building for the purpose of eliminating the crowded condition that has existed there for some time. The work is being done by William Ward, a local contractor.

Howard Brothers, real estate operators, have for sale, several attractive bungalow homes at Twenty-third and Howard Streets. The houses were erected by William Ward, a local contractor and are located in one of the beauty spots of Chester.

The proposed improvement of Swift and Company on East Second Street, where the erection of a modern office building and meat depot will be commenced shortly, will be an enterprising step in the business development of that section of the city. The plans, which are now in the hands of contractors, it is understood, provide for an investment of \$40,000 and the company will not only have a fine office building, but a refrigerator for the storage of meats that will be one of the best equipped in the city or county. Before the improvement is commenced the three tenement houses acquired on the site will have to be

demolished and it is expected that the new plant will be ready for occupancy early in the fall.

Councils have approved the plans and recommendations of the Public Property Committee for the new shelter shed and recreation pier on the Market Street wharf and it is quite probable that proposals will be received for this public improvement at the next regular meeting of Councils. It will be late in the season before the work is finished, as the specifications prepared by the Consulting Engineer call for first-class material and workmanship that will be under his supervision in conjunction with the committee.

Two of the new concrete houses in course of construction for Lake H. Salmone at Third and Pusey Streets are nearing the top and will soon be ready for roofing.

Bricklayers have been busy this week on the row of new two-story houses of Samuel R. Bell on Lloyd Street between Second and Third Streets and the good weather has been marked by rapid progress.

Two more of the eight houses in course of erection on Pusey Street, near Second, by Builder George D. Hewes, and almost completed and the two finished houses are about ready for occupancy.

With the closing of the public schools next week, the Board of Education will begin the erection of the new school building on Franklin Street as well as to the Lincoln school building. These extensive improvements will furnish employment for a number of workmen during the summer and it is expected to have the buildings completed late in the fall.

Plans for the new packing house of the John J. Buckley Company, West Second Street, West of Market, are now in the hands of the architect and engineer, P.S. Liew of Philadelphia. The packing house is to be 70 by 70 feet and three stories in height. It is to be of brick and frame, have a slag roof, lighted with electricity and be equipped with elevators.

IN THE COUNTY – McIlvane and Roberts of Philadelphia, architects, are about to begin plans for a \$20,000 residence to be erected at Haverford, this county. Greenville D. Montgomery is the owner. The building is to be of stone and timber and is to be two and a half stories in height.

Bids closed Thursday for the new addition to the plant of the American Viscose Company, Marcus Hook. William Provost, Jr., of Chester and several Philadelphia contractors, are bidding on the work. Ballinger and Perrott of Philadelphia are the architects. The building is to be concrete and brick and one story in height.

The Board of Education of East Lansdowne is receiving bids for a proposed new school building in that borough. The structure is to be of stone, two stories in height with a shingle roof, electric lights and steam heat. The architect is W.W. Cochran of East Lansdowne.

The contract for the building of an addition to and altering the dining room at Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, has been awarded to William Provost, Jr., of Chester. Bunting and Shrigley of Philadelphia were the architects.

W. Southerland of Bala, Pa., has awarded the contract for a new residence at Cynwyd to Mowrer Brothers of Merion. The building is to be of stone and timber, two and a half stories in height, shingle roof, hot water heat, electric light, hardwood floors, etc. Frank Dhaeburger of Philadelphia is the contractor.

Mary J. Chew and N.M. Brown of Radnor will erect four new residences at that place. The buildings are to be of stone and frame, two and a half stories high, shingle roof, electric light and hot water heat. They will be 26 by 35 feet. The contract has been awarded to J.F. McCloskey of Philadelphia.

Representatives of the firm of architects of Brazer and Robb who will supervise the alterations and additions to the Media Court House came from New York yesterday to consult with the County Commissioners. The Commissioners are preparing to advertise for bids for the work, so that the building can be begun at an early date.

Thomas Meehan has broken ground for a frame house on the new road, Rockdale, opposite his residence. The new house will be completed about September 1.

Tyas and Company of East Lansdowne has secured the contract for the erection of a handsome residence at Merion, Pa. for a Philadelphia lawyer. Work has been started.

Good progress is being made on the dwelling for Augustus Hoffman of Philadelphia, which is being erected to Tyas and Company on Greenwood Avenue, East Lansdowne.

James F. Dougherty, proprietor of the Colonial Hotel, along the Chester Avenue in Leiperville, is having the first story of his holster extended one hundred and fifty feet in the rear. The enlargement, Mr. Dougherty says, is made necessary on account of the marked increase in the patronage his house is receiving from the hundreds of employees of the Eddystone plant of the Baldwin Locomotive Works and the other industrial plants in that area.

Mr. Pearce of Rutledge, reports the following sales: 120 Sylvan Avenue, the property of Harry F. Matter to George B. Caldwell of Philadelphia; 218 Sylvan Avenue, the property of Paul T. Stackhouse to Anna G. Caldwell of Philadelphia.

E.W. Smith, real estate agent of Morton has sold the following properties: lot 59 ably 171 feet at the southeast corner of Morton and Mitchell Avenues, Morton to Samuel C. Lawrence, the Morton druggist house owned by estate of Hannah C. Levis in Springfield, just west of Morton to Mary E. Smithers of Springfield.

The old Bunting homestead at 1311 Main Street, Darby, acquired by Mrs. Mary P. Killion, a few years ago, has been sold by the Yocum and Powers Company to Charles F. Eggleston, president of Glenolden Borough Council. The sale was consummated a few days ago. The tract which consists of four and one-half acres, contains a fine old farm house and stables, etc. It adjoins the property formerly the summer home of the late Joel J. Baily and was held for sale at \$12,000. It is understood that the purchaser will remodel the residence possibly converting it into a two family house, and build dwellings on a portion of the site. The property for years was in the Bunting family, Joseph Bunting, Jr., who now resides at Swarthmore being the last of that family to occupy it.

LANSDOWNE, CLIFTON AND VICINITY – One of the beautiful places in Delaware County at this time is what is commonly known as Griffith Park in Lansdowne. It is situated in the Northern section of Lansdowne, not far from Lansdowne station on the Philadelphia and Garrettford Street Railway Company's line. Several years ago Mr. Griffith came to Lansdowne and purchased all of the vacant farm land and woodland in the Northern section of the borough and began to develop the property. Mr. Griffith at first cut the place up into building lots, and then he laid out streets, built sewers and sidewalks. His last effort was to make the place into a park and in this he has succeeded. In this park is located a beautiful lake, and the streets are lined with beautiful shade trees while many of

the lots are also dotted with trees. The sight is one of beauty and splendor and hundreds of persons have been attracted to the place.

J.V. Kane, a real estate man of Clifton Heights, has sold Jeanette Cummings four lots in Lansdowne to Edward Read of that place, who it is said will soon erect several buildings on the ground. Mr. Kane also sold Dr. J.S. Stanton's lot in Griffith Park, Lansdowne to H.F. Griffith.

Jordan Brothers of Clifton Heights, who are building five houses for James Gordon and daughters in that borough have the operation greatly under way.

Real estate doings in the Eastern section of the county during the past week have been somewhat quiet that is as far as new contracts for houses is concerned. There are, however, many houses which were begun early in the spring and which are now receiving their finishing touches. Here and there property owners and owners of large country estates are making improvements to their places, but these are only minor to what is termed real estate boom.

At this time there is a quiet movement going on among real estate men and individuals to purchase as much land as possible along the new extension of the Philadelphia and West Chester Traction Company from Drexel Hill to Media. Persons who are experts in the real estate business are realizing that before many months what was once known as cheap farm lands, through which this new trolley road will operate, will be as costly as property in many other select places in the Eastern part of Delaware County.

This new trolley line will run through one of the most beautiful sections of the county and many persons have never seen its beauty because of the inaccessibility to get to some of the districts through which the road will operate. The time between Media and Sixty-ninth Street by way of the new extension will be 20 minutes and with only 15 minutes from the terminal to Fifteenth and Market Streets, it can readily be seen why many persons will be seeking land along the new trolley which will be close to Philadelphia at the same time in the country.

**OVER THE COUNTY LINE**— There seems to be considerable business in the building line at Merion, Montgomery County, which is just over the Delaware County line. The contractors and builders of Chester and of the northern end of Delaware County especially are more or less interested in these operations.

The largest of the present day activities at Merion is the proposed \$100,000 residence for Percival Edward Foerderer of Philadelphia, for which plans are now being prepared by Architect James Russell Harris, also of Philadelphia. It is to be of stone and a three story building. The plans have about been completed and the architect will be ready for bids within about ten days.

DeArmond, Ashmead and Bicley, Philadelphia architects, have received bids for the \$10,000 residence for William B. Tracy of Philadelphia. Plans specify terra cotta, tile and plaster, two and a half stories, electric light, etc. The building will be 28 by 50 feet.

Three other operations at Merion follow: M.J. McMenamin, Philadelphia, taking sub bids for stable and coachman's house 50 by 60 feet; contemplated residence, owner's name withheld, 25 by 52 feet with a wing 25 by 25 feet, all brick building; two and a half story stone dwelling for E.B. Wilford of Merion, who has awarded the contract to F.B. Davis of Philadelphia.

**REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS**— Norwood— Annie Calhoun of Norwood to Annie E. Bottomley of same place, building and lot, 124 by 189 feet, \$3900

Glenolden – David C. Biller of Glenolden to Julius C. Ripka, Jr. of Chester, buildings and lot, 50 by 145 feet, \$2650

Darby Borough – John H. Scott and wife of Philadelphia to Dennis Obey of Darby Borough, brick house and lot, 28 by 84 feet, \$2400

Chester – James J. Clark and wife of Chester to Mary McGinn of same place, brick house and lot, 20 by 140 feet, on east side of Thurlow Street, \$1600

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION