

CHESTER TIMES – May 18, 1916 – BUILDING IS GETTING BRISK – Operations in the City and County Keeping Contractors and Workmen Very Active at Present Time

One of the important permits taken out this week was that for the erection of a stone church for the congregation of St. Hedwig's at Fourth and Hayes Streets. The present brick structure is to be replaced by a handsome church building. It will have a frontage of 62 feet 6 inches and a depth of 134 feet and will be 30 feet high.

Aside from this there were really no permits taken out for any large buildings but a number of permits for two-story houses were issued by Building Inspector T. T. Williams and many more houses of this type are promised in the near future. The building operation of General William G. Price at Twelfth and Upland Streets is being pushed along rapidly and houses of the character going up are in great demand as indicated by the large number of inquiries Mr. Price has had for these properties.

That section of the county lying between this city and Media, will, it is believed, be built up almost solid within the next two or three years, as many houses are going up between the two places and reports indicate that many more are to be built. Two hundred and fifty, it is understood, will be put up by Samuel Nemirow, and other Philadelphia capitalists this summer, and individuals will build many more.

This big thing, however, is the operation named. Seventy-seven acres of land lying back of Chester Park in Chester Township near Waterville, were recently purchased by Max Stadlen, a Philadelphia attorney, from the Cambridge Trust company, for \$40,000; and upon this the houses will be built. The place will be named Union Park and the houses to be put up will be workmen's houses. They will cost about \$3000 each.

This tract is so close that it is practically a part of the city and the development is one of the largest of those that have come with the boom that has struck Chester. The houses cannot be put up too quickly as the demand is so great that it would not be difficult to rent that many houses, or more than that number within a very short time.

ANOTHER TROLLEY MAY COME – Report has it that the Philadelphia and West Chester Traction Company is anxious to get into this city, and it might be that the Media line will be extended instead of the Collingdale line, as has been generally anticipated. If this were done it would mean a still further development of the district lying between Chester and the County Seat. It is not anticipated, however, that this extension will be made this summer.

Little has been heard from Swarthmore for some months in the real estate line, yet a walk over the streets of that borough shows that borough not far behind some of the other communities of the county. Many fine homes are being erected in the college town, while the college itself has let a contract to Pugh & Hubbard Company for the improvement of Wittier Field, the contract being let in the name of Chester Roberts. Two nice homes now in course of building are those for Samuel C. Palmer and Paul Freedley, which will cost about \$6,000 each.

Charles Gilligan & Co. of Clifton Heights, have broken ground for four two-and-one-half story houses on Broadway, Clifton Heights. These will be of the colonial type, with electric lights and other modern improvements. They will cost about \$2,500 each.

George W. Warner of this city has awarded a contract to Flounders Brothers of Media for a brick and frame dwelling at Seventh and Barclay Streets, Chester. No price is given. Thomas Speers of Philadelphia contractor, the contract for a stone and shingle dwelling on Ardmore Avenue, Observatory Hill. The price is \$2,700.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has let to R. H. Johnson Company, contractors, the contract for the excavation and Amiesite paving on the driveway at the south side of Wayne Station in Radnor Township. No price has been made public.

ENLARGING PLANTS – The Victoria Plush Mills has started work at their Swarthmore and Lenni plants upon additions to the plants made necessary by the rush of orders which have come to them because of the war. The improvements at Lenni consist of a single story stone mill, and at Swarthmore there is to be a new mill and an additional story upon one of the present buildings.

Plans are being prepared for contractor Sisag Mahjouldan of Philadelphia for five apartment houses which he plans to build near the Hotel Delaware, which he is building at Ninth and Eddystone Avenue, Eddystone. Norris Handle of Camden, N. J. is to build a department store building on Saville Avenue, Eddystone. It will be entirely of white tile brick and will be known as the Handle Building. Handle is also turning several dwellings that he recently purchased into stores.

BUILDING NEWS – A tour of the Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh wards of the city, will reveal the fact that although no new buildings are being commenced, the contractors in charge of the work which has already been commenced, are putting forth their best efforts to have their work completed at an early date if possible in order to accommodate the large number of tenants who are waiting.

The three new dwellings which are to be located at 334, 336, and 338 Norris Street, are just a little over commenced. All of the mason work about the cellar has been completed and bricked far enough up to allow the laying of the cellar joists. They will contain seven rooms and bath. It is the intention of the owner that they will be up-to-date in every respect. R. R. W. Wilgis, 1402 West Ninth Street has the contract for the building of them for Michael Mollo of Norris Street.

Samuel Hewes has finished the erection of the two homes which were under construction for Mrs. E. Merritt of Ninth and Engle Streets. They are of seven rooms, bath, and all improvements and should be ready for occupancy by the end of the next week.

T. W. Scott has completed the dwelling at 2224 West Ninth Street. This also is of late type. He will commence at once the erection of two more at 2218-20. The foundations of these have been completed, awaiting bricklayers.

A. J. Johnson has commenced the erection of two new dwellings to be located at 3016-18 West Ninth Street. They will contain eight rooms and bath and it is the intention of the owner to have them finished and ready for occupancy at the expiration of two months. The masonry is at present being completed. The three dwellings which are being erected at Hughes Avenue below Highland Avenue are also being pushed to rapidity. From all indications they should be ready at the end of three weeks for their tenants.

Six houses 2824-26-28-30-32 and 34 West Sixth Street under the supervision of George Hewes will be finished in a short time. 2824 being roofed in by David Beaumont. The second story has been reached on houses 2828-2830.

The foundation pits of the new church which is to be erected at Fourth and Hayes have been dug. Just as soon as labor is secured, masons will be placed at work on the foundations proper.

Improvements which are being made to old buildings are being pushed at rapidly as those of the newer type. The floor has been laid in the house adjoining the Lamokin House at adjoining the Lamokin House at Third and Edwards Streets. It is the intention of the proprietor,

John J. Ryan, Jr., to annex the building to his place of business in the course of two weeks. Contractor Charles Battin has charge of the work.

The new front which has been placed in the store occupied by Philip J. Downey at Third and Morton streets is about ready for the large bulk windows. It is the intention to have this place when completed one of the most up-to-date in the city. Contractor Charles Pyle of Morton Street is in charge of work there.