

CHESTER TIMES – May 30, 1914 – PRICE OF LAND ON INCREASE –

The Record so Far This Year is said to be \$22,000 paid for an Acre in Haverford

The record price for an acre of real estate in Delaware County so far this year was a sale, made a few days ago, when \$32,000 was paid for a single acre in Haverford Township, according to reports. Of course, this is not the market value of land in that section in any large quantity, but this price was no particular piece of land. The price of real estate in that section of the county, however, is in the ascendency and high prices are the rule rather than the exception. Land in all parts of the county has taken a jump this year and holders of unimproved land for several years back have found out that it paid them to hold their properties.

No large deals were reported during the week, although the market was very active in small sales, with good prices prevailing.

The weather this week has been the kind to suit the builders and workmen and good progress was made on all of the work started some time ago. Many of the operations are in the last stages of completion, but there appears to be plenty of work in sight for the mechanics.

ODD FELLOWS NEW HOME – Some of the builders of the city and outside were looking forward to the awarding of the contract for the \$25,000 home to be built at Eighth and New Market Streets by Upland Lodge of Odd Fellows, but the contract has not been awarded. The bids were opened by the committee in charge of the plans and the trustees of the lodge, and the award may be made early next week. It is understood that the prices offered exceeded what those interested thought the home could be built for and the awarding of the contract was delayed to allow a scaling of certain portions of the plans and specifications.

The City Planning Commission having approved of the plans submitted for the improving of the large tract of land adjoining Chester Park in the First Ward, it is thought that it will not be long before this property is laid out and the land offered to prospective purchasers who desire to build future homes in that section of the city. It is understood that the owners will allow nothing to be erected on the land but substantial and attractive houses and this should add much to that already desirable to the city.

NEW HIGH SCHOOL – There appears to be little opposition to the action of the Broomall School Board voting to combine with the directors of Newtown Township to erect an up-to-date high school for the children of that section. The new building will cost \$30,000 and will be built on the Newtown side of the district.

W. J. Elliott of Coatesville has been awarded the contract for the erection of a new school building at Rosemont for Radnor Township. The building will be located on a tract of land containing something over five acres and is one of the most desirable locations in this rich township.

A contract was awarded this week to Smith Hardican Company of Philadelphia for the erection of a stone and frame house at Haverford for William Bradway.

V. Mercadante of this city has been awarded the contract to build two houses at Highland Park, in Upper Darby Township for J & C. H. Schmidt of Philadelphia. The dwellings will cost \$10,000 and will be constructed of stone, two and one-half stories high and will have dimensions of 29 by 39 feet.

Plans are out for a residence to be built at Wayne, this county, for H. W. Massey to cost \$7,000. It will be built of hollow tile and plaster, two and one half stories high, 30 by 34 feet.

SHERIFF'S SALES – Among the properties sold by the sheriff yesterday at this office in the court house was the Colonial Hotel of Media. This building for years one of the best-known properties at the County Seat, was formerly known as the Chestnut Grove House and was once a popular place. The property includes the hotel and about seven acres of land. It was sold to Carlyle R. Ross, one of the attorneys representing Nicholas H. Wagner, the owner of \$1500. It is mortgaged for \$20,000. Other properties sold were: Frame house and lot on Nyack Avenue, Lansdowne, sold as the property of M. G. Nolan to Edward J. Mingey, attorney for Nolan for \$50; house and lot on Ninth Street in the Fifth Ward, Chester, sold as the property of John L. Stevenson, sold to J. Horace Witsil for \$1350. The last sale was the only one for which there was any competitive bidding.

J. G. Milbourn this week began the construction of seven houses on West Fifth Street near Pusey. The excavations were quickly made and the walls set in place. These houses will be modern in every respect, being seven-room dwellings, and will be equipped with all the latest improvements. Benjamin Bidwell is the contractor.

The large frame building at the corner of Second Street and Edgmont Avenue is being painted and other improvements made.

James Shropshire yesterday began putting the stairways into his eight houses on West Seventh Street, near Pusey. These houses will be completed in a few weeks.

George Hewes is making rapid time on his four houses at Seventh and Lincoln Streets. The workmen are now engaged in completing the interiors.

Samuel Hewes will finish the two houses at Third and Pusey Streets in a short while. The roofs will be finished next week, and the interior work started.

William Marker is making good time with his new operation on West Third Street near the bridge. The stores are three stories in height, and have a comfortable depth. They will fill up the former vacant spot between the small buildings below the bridge and James Fryer's store.

BUILDING NOTES – A new frame kitchen is being erected to the rear of the house at 721 McIlvaine Street. The house is owned by William Clough of Middletown.

The Birch houses at Thirteenth and Crosby Streets are nearing completion and will be ready for occupancy in a few weeks.

Improvements are being made to the rear of the house at 711 East Eighth Street. A new bath room and back addition is being erected.

Bricklayers have topped out the addition to the Bloom store at Sixteenth and Walnut Streets and the roof is ready to be put on. The addition gives the old building the addition of six living rooms.

The improvements being made to the Convent building on East Broad Street are under way and should be completed the latter part of June. Excavations for the basement have been made and the first floor joists will be set in a few days.

The work on the Holden property on Porter Street near Broad Street is progressing.

Contractor Horace Jackson has a force of stonemasons at work on the "Lighthouse" building at Seventh Street and Edgmont Avenue.

Plasterers are at work on the Mills house at Eighth and Crosby Streets, and the house will be ready for occupancy in a few weeks. The third story of the house has been made larger.

Nolan Brothers are pushing the work on the new Fox Building on Welsh Street, opposite the Pennsylvania Railroad station. A new front of fancy brick is being built and the first floor will be used as a store, while the two upper floors will be offices.

Contractor Samuel Lax has a force of bricklayers at work on the two-store buildings being erected by him on East Seventh Street adjoining the Imperial Hotel.

The bricklayers are preparing to top out the house being erected by Contractor William Provost for Richard Wetherill at Thirteenth and Potter Streets.

Bricklayers have finished the first story of the store and dwelling being erected by Contractor Harry J. Krotee at Sixth Street and Morton Avenue.

The Ayres building at Eighth and Welsh Streets will soon be completed. The bricklayers finished their work this week and the roof will be sheathed in early next week.

The houses being erected by J. Irvin Taylor at Twenty-Third and Madison Streets, are beginning to assume shape and will be rapidly pushed.

Contractor William Ward has eight houses at Twenty-Third and Madison Streets near completion. Three of the houses will be ready for occupancy in about a week.

The bungalow being erected at Eighteenth and Hyatt Streets for James Beaumont will be completed in a few weeks.

The Wetherill house at Twentieth and Chestnut Streets is beginning to show form as the bricklayers have commenced the second story. Carpenters have set the second story frames.

The new building for Nothnagle and Roser at Sixth and New Market Streets is nearing completion as the plasterers have commenced to put the rough coat on.

Bricklayers have commenced to erect the porch inn front of the residence of William H. Morrison of Broad and Potter Streets. A number of other improvements have been made to the property, including cement walks around the residence. The cellars of both houses and store have been cemented.

The improvements to St. Michael's parochial school on East Seventh Street have been completed as well as the cellar walls in front of the building and in the school yard. The house adjoining the school and owned by the parish has been improved and a cement walk and cement steps erected.

The Gordon houses at Seventh and Hinkson Streets have been completed and are now occupied. The houses are two-story brick with modern conveniences.

Quite a large number of houses in the eastern and northern sections of the city are being cemented on the exterior. In the Fifth Ward, alone at the present time, there are seven houses undergoing the improvement. They are at 626-28 McIlvaine Street, Ninth and McIlvaine Streets, 608 East Ninth and McIlvaine Streets, 628 Morton Avenue and two houses at Eighth and Caldwell Streets.

Improvements are being made to the Fifth ward boat house along Ridley River. A new front porch has been erected and a new slip has been installed. Painters will commence to work on the building the early part of next week

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Norwood – Augusta B. West, Rev. R. B. Green, and The Fidelity Trust Co., executors to Cornelius Vandebreggen of Norwood. Lot and buildings on Mohawk Avenue, \$2500

Norwood – A. B. West, Rev. R. B. Green and Fidelity Trust Co., executors to F. E. Heere of Norwood. Lot with buildings on Mohawk Avenue, \$2500

Chester – Samuel Palmer of Chester to Park Himelright of Chester. Two lots of Fourth Street, one on Palmer Street, \$750

Chester – Samuel Palmer of Chester to John D. Moore of Chester. Three lots at Fourth and Palmer Streets, \$750

Marple Township – Martha B. Downs of Marple Township to Orville R. Downs of same place. Four acres on Philadelphia and West Chester Pike, \$6,000

Chester – George w. Harrington of Chester to John M. Wood of Chester. House and lot on Parker Street south of Fifth Street, \$2600

Swarthmore – G. Herbert Jenkins of Swarthmore to Mary S. A. Jenkins of Montgomery County. House and three lots on Lafayette Avenue, Nominal

Radnor Township – Herbert K. George of Radnor Township to William Washington to Christopher L. Pierson of Philadelphia. Lot on St. David's Avenue, Nominal

Ridley Park – F. Erwin Swartley of Philadelphia to Franklin J. Coxey of same place. Lot on Ridley Avenue, Nominal

Radnor Township – Franklin J. Coxey of Philadelphia to John L. Simon of same place. Lot with building on Lancaster Avenue, Nominal