

CHESTER TIMES – June 26, 1915 – WILLING TO BUILD HOMES – Outside Real Estate Man Ready to Erect Two Hundred Houses if Back by Local Financiers

A statement was given out this morning that an outside real estate man came to this city yesterday who is ready to build two hundred houses in this city if he can receive anything like decent financial support at the hands of the money interests here. This man, it is stated, is willing to put up forty per cent. He was attracted here from New York through the news being sent out over the country of the great increase in population that is promised Chester if proper housing conditions can be secured for the skilled mechanics who will come to the Baldwin plant at Eddystone and the shipyard and other new industries.

Real estate men report many deals in progress to bring about the building of the two thousand or more houses needed in this city, but as yet none of them have taken definite shape. General William G. Price, who has built some fine homes in this city, stated to the representatives of the Baldwin Locomotive Works and the Remington Arms Company at a meeting in this city a few days ago that the drawback in building operations in this city was the inability of securing the proper financial aid. Since that time a large number of real estate men, builders and investors, have come here from outside places and the prospects are reported bright for some few large operations being started in the near future so that they can be completed by November 1, the time stated that work is to begin in earnest at Eddystone.

BOROUGHS TO BENEFIT – Eddystone and Ridley Township will come in for a large part of the proposed improvements, with points along the Chester and Darby Pike, including Ridley Park and Prospect Park, getting a big share. Real estate developments have already been started in Eddystone. Samuel A. Hewes & Son, leading with a project to build about twenty houses at a cost of approximately \$2500 each. Other contractors have planned for smaller numbers of buildings, the aggregate being over a hundred.

Providence Heights, a high class residential section, is experiencing the first real activity since the farm land was cut into building lots four or five years ago. Some fine homes have been erected, but not until the last few months has there been any real progress made.

Within the last few days contracts have been awarded for three houses on this tract, all being let to the Arthur Machin Company, builders. William A. Dyer awarded a contract for a home at Twentieth and Chestnut Streets. This is to be completed by October 31st and will cost \$6000. Kingsley Montgomery has let a contract to the same firm for a house on Twentieth Street near Chestnut Street to cost \$4864.55; and Arthur Machin has let a contract for a house adjoining the Montgomery house to cost \$4500.

DESHONG PARK IMPROVEMENTS – The improvements to the A.O. Deshong Memorial Park are going along more satisfactory speed to the trustees than at any time since the late benefactor left this at a splendid site to the people of this city. During the present week good progress has been made by the contractors, John Hanna & Sons to the driveway which circles the park from Eleventh and Crosby Streets, skirting Chester River and running into Ninth Street at Welsh. In a few days this will have been completed when the contractors will turn their attention to laying out the walk to be constructed beside the driveway. The top dressing of the driveway is Tarvia and it looks as though it will make a splendid job when completed.

In addition to this during the week, work has been well advanced on the cement sidewalk along Eleventh Street, from Edgmont Avenue to Crosby Street. This work would have been finished but the contractors are waiting for two poles to be removed so that the sidewalk will be clear of any obstructions adjoining that portion of the park.

Work has also been started on the tennis court. This is located directly back of the barn which is just in the rear of the old Deshong homestead. A court of good size is being laid out and the players will have a commanding view of the city from this point with lots of shade in close proximity to the grounds during rest periods while play is in progress. The fine trees will also make it pleasant for the people who desire to watch the games.

PLANS FOR NEW MANSE – Plans are out for a new manse in connection with the Tully Memorial Presbyterian Church at Sharon Hill. It will be constructed of stone, hollow tile and plaster and will be two and one-half stories high, with slate roof, electric lights, hot water heating, oak floors and tile works. The architect will receive bids in a few days for this new improvement in this rapidly growing borough.

J. Milton Lutz, secretary of the Upper Darby School Board is having plans prepared for a new public school building at Highland Park to cost \$50,000. It will be in keeping with the modern school buildings which Upper Darby School Board has erected it will be constructed out of stone, two and one-half stories high, 100 by 127 feet, slate roof. Bids for this building will be asked in a few days according to reliable information.

Miss Anne Vauclain is asking bids for the erection of a new barn at her property at Newtown Square this county. It will be built out of stone and frame, two stories high, shingle roof, corkbrick floors.

SILK MILL IMPROVEMENTS – Plans are also out for some additions to the plant of the American Viscose Company, at Marcus Hook, and contractors of Philadelphia and this city are bidding on the work. One of the proposed additions is a brick and reinforced weave shed, one and two stories high, 153 by 423 feet and carpenter shop, two stories high, 47 by 73 feet, slag roof, metal frames and sash, steam heating and electric work reserved. Bids are due to be in by June 29. William Provost, Jr. of this city, who has built most of the buildings at this important plant, is bidding on the new additions.

DARBY IMPROVEMENTS – Wadas & Jones of Observatory Hill, this county, have plans out for twenty-nine new dwellings in the borough of Darby for which bids will be asked in two weeks. These will be brick structure, two stories high, 16 by 234 feet each, slag roof, steam heating and hardwood floors.

CONTRACT LET – Flounders Brothers of Media, have been awarded the contract for alterations and additions to the Mary Lyon School at Swarthmore. The addition will consist of a stone building two stories high, slag roof, metal lath, damp proofing. The steam heating, plumbing, electric work and metal locker are reserved.

Concord Grange is to build a new Grange Hall, but the project has not yet progressed to the point of giving out contracts. The grange purchased a plot of ground some years ago, and now has a substantial sum of money on hand for the building work. A committee consisting of Francis H. Williamson, Horace Darlington and Howard H. Cloud has been appointed for the purpose of preparing plans. The committee is working in conjunction with W. Edwin Cheyney, master of the grange. The building will cost approximately \$20,000.

George B. Turner, a Highland Park builder, has been awarded the contract to erect a two and one-half story stone and rough cast house at Oakmont for J. Howard Freeman. The price is \$4750. George T. Weaver of Prospect Park has awarded a contract for a two and one-half story stone and frame house on Eleventh Avenue, Prospect Park to Chas. B. Harper, a Crum Lynne builder. The price is \$3935. Flounders Brothers, of Media, have received the contract for alterations and additions to a house on Harvard Avenue, Swarthmore, owned by H. M. Crist. Horace W. Sellers is the architect. The price is \$4200.

E. W. Smith, real estate broker of Morton, has sold the mansion and five acres of land, the property of the Harry Ward Estate, fronting on Darby Creek, Prospect Park, at present occupied by the Country Club to James Freeman of West Philadelphia, consideration, \$5000. Mr. Smith has also sold a nine-room house and six lots, the property of J. E. Lentz to Robert G. Davies and George E. Evans of West Philadelphia, Consideration is \$2,150. The property of Hon. Theodore F. Jenkins of 235 Franklin Avenue, Ridley Township, has been purchased by E. V. Heuckroth of Philadelphia. No price given.

BUILDING PERMITS – Building Inspector Terryl T. Williams issued the following building permits during the week.

William Ward, one-story frame garage covered with corrugated iron in rear of the property of 1730 Edgmont Avenue

Arthur Machin Co., three two-story brick houses with attics on Twentieth Street between Chestnut and Hyatt Streets

Charles Battin, one two-story brick dwelling on the west side of Flower Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets

William Provost, Jr., one-story brick building and an addition to a two-story brick building and an addition to a two-story building for the Aberfoyle Manufacturing Company on Third Street between McIlvaine Street and Morton Avenue.

BUILDING NOTES – With the completion of the eight houses on Twenty-Second Street comes the announcement that the Arthur Machin Company will erect more houses of a different design. Ground has been broken on the south side of Twentieth Street for three two and a half story brick houses. The dwellings are being erected in the lot between Chestnut and Hyatt Street.

W. B Bunaw of 1730 Edgmont Avenue is having a one-story frame garage covered with corrugated iron erected in the rest of his home. Contractor William Ward is doing the work and will finish up the early part of the week.

Work on the erection and repairs of the buildings of the Commercial Box and Envelope Company at the old Roach Shipyards is about complete. The buildings have been renovated and repaired and the machinery is about installed.

The three store buildings have erected for John J. Ryan at Third and Pennell Streets are to be increased another story. It was first planned to erect but one story buildings.

Frasier Brothers are rapidly completing the erection of the new home at Second and Edwards Streets for Dr. Hulme Miller.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS – These real estate transfers were recorded in the office of Recorder of Deeds J. Lord Rigby, yesterday.

Haverford – William G. Perkins of Cape May, N.J. to Samuel Boreaskey of Ardmore, house and hot in Ardmore Park, Nominal

Ridley Township – Elizabeth Sharpless of Lansdowne, executrix for the estate of Mary S. Clark lot with buildings, \$2,000