

CHESTER TIMES – November 9, 1912

BUILDING AND REALTY NEWS OF THE WEEK – Few New Operations But Much Activity on Work Underway – In City and county

Building in this city is still progressing. Occasional rains interfere with the work but just as soon as the weather will permit, the contractors go at it again with renewed vigor. While few new operations have been reported in this city during the past several days, there are many under construction at this time. Several large operations are in progress in the Third Ward alone, the central ward of this municipality, including the post office annex, the Fox office building, an abattoir, a large beef house, a large vaudeville theater, a tallow and grease factory, store and apartment house, etc.

Work is progressing in the county although few new operations have been reported. Ground was broken this week for the new fire house of the Darby Fire Company at Chester Pike and Quarry Street, Darby. The actual transfer of a corner property in Media to the United States Government for a new post office has been consummated.

IN THE CITY – The foundation excavation has been completed for the new \$40,000 annex to the Chester post office. This same work has now been done several times and each time a heavy rain has washed considerable earth back into the big “hole,” which is 68 feet 8 inches by 34 feet in size. The foundations will soon be begun. The building will be of buff brick and stone and will be built in conformity with the present structure. Contractor Emery of Philadelphia has charge of the work.

The first story frames have been set in the operation of Benjamin C Fox on Welsh Street opposite the post office, which is an office building. The building is to be of fancy brick and stone, with an ornamental front, bearing an old Colonial architecture. Peter J. Nolan of this city is the architect and builder.

Oliver Brothers, local contractors, have started work in the rear of the store properties at 311 and 313 Market Street, which will be torn down and replaced with a modern two story brick theatre, 120 feet by 40 feet frontage on Market Street. Greenberg Brothers will be the proprietors of the new amusement venture.

Contractor H. Louis Morris has the flooring laid and the studding set in the three story brick operation he had underway at 213 Market Street. The property is to be a store on the first floor and apartments on the second and third floors.

Samuel Lax, contractor, is completing the interior of an abattoir that he is building on East Second Street, east of Market Street for J. Jacobson, a Hebrew butcher. The abattoir will have a capacity of fifty beeves daily.

The Consolidated Engineering Company of Baltimore, Md. Started work this week on the new \$30,000 beef house that Swift and Company of Chicago, Ill. Is going to erect on East Second Street, opposite the Jacobson abattoir. The new beef house is to be of concrete and brick, two stories in height, 74 by 90 feet. It will replace the frame dwellings at 17, 19, 21 and 23 East Second Street. The work of razing these four buildings will be completed by the contractors this morning.

The large brick building that stood at the eastern entrance to the yards of the pork packing plant of the J.J. Buckley Company, West Second Street, west of Market, has been razed to the stone foundations. This is done to make room for the \$25,000 addition to the Buckley plant. The proposed building, which will be of brick and of a goodly size, will be used in the manufacture of non-edibles, as tallow, greases, etc.

A new brick chimney has been erected on the two and a half story frame dwelling at 215 Market Street.

George E. Macklem and Brother have had a one-story stable erected in the rear of their place of business at 2215 West Third Street. The building is covered with corrugated iron. The stable was built by Robert J. Macklem.

The stable in the rear of Daniel Blumswain's store at Second and Townsend Streets which was almost totally destroyed by fire several weeks ago, has been rebuilt.

The large new dwelling house being built by Wesley S. McDowell at 2112 West Third Street is gradually nearing completion. A spacious front portico with stone foundation walls extending several feet above the surface of the ground, is being added to the building. Bay windows are also being attached to the front and side of the house.

Two of the four 2-story dwellings being erected on Fourth Street, near Ward, are about completed, and Francis J. Moore, the builder, expects to have the remaining two finished in about another week. He is building the houses to sell and anticipates early buyers. He declares that there is a great need for two thousand more houses in this city and vicinity on account of the establishment of the big industries in Marcus Hook and Eddystone during recent years.

William Henry, a West End contractor, is constructing the foundation walls for the new Bethany Presbyterian Church which is to be erected at Sixth Street and Highland Avenue.

The exterior improvements, including bay windows attached to the first and second stories, being made to the residence of William R. Northam at 140 East Seventh Street, are nearly completed.

William L. Devinney has just completed six houses on W. 4th Street, near Palmer. At Eleventh and Highland Avenue, William J. Hewes is finishing four; Samuel A. Hewes has ten new houses ready for occupancy at Sixth and Jeffrey Streets, and at Second and Pusey, ten have been completed by George D. Hewes. Samuel R. Bell has six dwellings ready for roofs at Fifth and Lloyd Streets, and in the same vicinity James A. Shropshire has four under roof and two more nearly ready.

Work on the new Franklin Street School on Franklin Street is progressing as rapidly as can be expected, much having been accomplished during the past week. Cabot's new three-story building located at Third and Franklin Streets has reached the first story and just as soon as all of the joists have been placed in position, the force of bricklayers will proceed with their work of building the two additional stories.

The First Italian Presbyterian Church, Third and Fulton Streets, is finished and it is expected that services will be held in the near future. The store at Third and Parker Streets, next to Keakne's is also finished, and workmen are now placing the fixtures, which will add much to the appearance of the place.

The new houses on the East side of Lloyd Street facing on Fifth are progressing as are the twelve on the West side of Lloyd. Six of the latter have had the roofs placed on them.

Lathers have commenced their work on the large house being constructed by Contractor William L. Devinney for Mr. Stokes at Seventh and Lloyd Streets. It is expected that it will be completed in five weeks or possibly sooner.

BUILDING PERMITS – The following building permits have been issued during the past week by Building Inspector Terryl T. Williams:

To David Christy to build a one-story frame kitchen, 11 by 12 feet on north side of Twenty-Fifth Street between Madison and Lindsay Streets.

To Samuel a. Hewes to build a back kitchen, 14 by 12 feet in rear of 629 East Sixteenth Street.

IN THE COUNTY – With the actual transfer of the plot of ground 95 by 125 feet, on the northwest corner of State and Jackson Streets, Media, from F. Edgar Pennington of Upper Providence to the United States Government for a consideration of \$10,000, the proposed Media Post Office building is now really assured. During the last session of Congress, Mr. Butler Congressman of the seventh Congressional district, representing Chester and Delaware Counties, succeeded in having the Appropriation Committee agree to set aside \$75,000 for a new Post Office and Federal Building at the county seat.

Mr. Butler expects to have Congress act favorably and to appropriate the necessary sum of money within two weeks after convening next session.

The property sold to the government is one of the best sites in Media and is used as a livery stable for many years. It is within close proximity of the imposing borough hall. It is too early to even consider just what kind of a structure the government will erect, but it is understood that it will be an architectural adornment to the borough.

Plans are in progress for the proposed new telephone exchange at Swarthmore for the Bell Telephone Company. The building is to be of brick and is to be two stories high. J.T. Windrim of Philadelphia is the architect.

Ground was broken for the new firehouse of Darby Fire Company No. 1 at Darby by A.P. Appleton, a fireman, this week. The new building is to be two stories in height and of concrete blocks. The plans provided for an apparatus room, 40 by 50 feet, directors room, etc. on the first floor and a large assembly room on the second floor. A stage and the necessary dressing rooms are also provided. The cost of the structure is to be \$3440. The Hall Concrete Products Company has the contracts.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Ridley Park – Henry C. Nell of Ridley Park to Robert E. Napier of same place, house and lot 40 by 125 feet, \$2,150

Marcus Hook – Caroline G. Rebman of Marcus Hook to Lewis N. Wood of Linwood, buildings and lot 40 by 120 feet, \$3,000

Bethel and Brandywine Hundred – Rachel A. Ebright et al extx., of Brandywine Hundred to Mary McCormick of same place, farm and tract of 43 2-1 acres in Bethel also tract of 55 acres 56 perches in Brandywine Hundred, \$5000

Ridnor Township – Oliver Trill of Haverford to Philip Harrison, et al of Bryn Mawr, houses and lot, 46 by 138 feet, \$1,100

Collingdale – Ava Wilson of Collingdale to Helen S. Hurst of same place, lot 41 by 107 feet, \$442

Chester – James McGill of Chester to Adam Rupazis and wife of same place, brick house and lot 22 by 110 1-2 feet on South side of Fourth Street, \$3500

Marcus Hook – Valentine Lenderman of Marcus Hook to John H. Pew et al of Lower Merion, lot 50 by 225 feet, lot 50 by 29 1-2 feet, \$4000

Darby Borough – Harry E. Hess and wife of Philadelphia to Sylvester S. Deegan of Colwyn, brick house and lot 14 1-4 by 110 feet, \$1750

Middletown – Clara E. Webster of Philadelphia to Sarah D. Fiske of Glen Riddle, tract of 7 acres, 3 rods 25 9-10 perchs, tract of 7 acres, 2 rods, 9 perchs, nom

Chester – Clara Lockman of Chester to Charles Palmer of same place, frame house and lot 36 3-4 by 91 feet on West side of Ulrich Street, \$450

Alden – William J. McFadden of Philadelphia to Margaret Lear of Aldan, lot 27 by 160 feet, \$195

William J. McFadden of Philadelphia to Edward H. Rhodes of Aldan, lot 26, 160 feet, \$195

Yeadon Frederick J. Siebrecht of Yeadon to Elfriede Siebrecht of same place, lot 60 by 153 feet nom

Elfriede Siebrecht of Yeadon to Frederick J. Siebrecht of same place lot 58 by 153 feet, nom

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION