

CHESTER TIMES – December 6, 1913 – FAIR GROUNDS COMPANY
FORMED – Chester Fair Grounds Association Organized with a Capital Stock of
\$300,000 at \$10 Per Share

There is apparently nothing in the way of Chester having an up-to-date fair grounds within a short time, to be controlled in a very large degree by Chester city and Delaware County people. Years ago when the fair grounds were in operation at Elwyn and later at Sunnyside on the outskirts of the city, thousands of people flocked to these annual events. Many changes have taken place in the plan of operating fair grounds, since those days, as many of the people of this city and county are acquainted with having attended each year the fairs at Trenton, New Jersey, Allentown, Wilmington and other places.

It is the intention of the promoters of the fair to be held in this city, to have the exhibits up to date on every detail. It is to be operated the Chester Fair Grounds Association.

The plan has advanced so far that those at the head of it will open an office in this city early in the week and begin the work of disposing of stock in the association. Five of the leading men of the city and county have connected themselves with the association as officers and directors and their names attached to the project should insure its success. The directors will be increased to twenty-five in a short time.

The association has been capitalized at \$300,000 with the shares at \$10 per value. The shares of stock are placed at a low figure so that everybody can become interested in the new enterprise. As stated in the Times a few weeks ago, it is the intention to get as many people to become members of the association as possible, the more members, the greater the success of the enterprise, is the plan upon which the promoters are working. Many leading citizens have been spoken to on the subject, and all have given the movement encouragement by subscribing liberally for the stock.

FINE LOCATION SECURED – The sixty-six acres of land purchased from the Maddock's estate in the western section of the city, is one of the most central sites that could be obtained. It is within easy reach of both the Pennsylvania and B & O Railroads and the trolley cars running between Darby and Wilmington passing through the city on Ninth and Seventh streets.

It is predicted that this new amusement enterprise will fill a long felt necessity in this community. The grounds will be fitted up for horse racing and exhibits of various kinds; for amusements of all kinds, such as moving pictures and the great midway; it will be suitable for our home week, and events which usually occur on holidays; there will be a fine club house on the grounds; the buildings for exhibits during the fair week and of other homes will be up-to-date and commodious in their character. There will be frequent racing; athletic sports of all kinds will be encouraged. The entire show will run on a larger scale than ever before attempting within the confines of the county. A feasible plan has been mapped out by the promoters and this shows a paying ingredient.

PUBLIC MEETING TO BE HELD – A public meeting will be held in the armory or some other public building about town, within a short time, when well-informed men will tell of the plans and explain the different sources of income and approximately what it will cost to run the association each year. In addition to the other buildings there will be a number of fine stables for the accommodation of horses both during the fair and for other events as well as any time during the year. The big farm is to be enclosed with an iron fence and all of the buildings will be substantial in their character.

Those who are back of the movement have the assurance of the two railroads and the trolley company that they will do their part in furnishing proper transportation facilities, which means a great deal to the public and the success of the new Fair Grounds Association.

KEITH LOCKHART COLLECTION